

# Opens ₹750Cr Cement Plant In Etah District

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**Lucknow:** Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Thursday accused the Congress and the Samajwadi Party of pushing the country into an identity crisis after centuries of Mughal loot and British exploitation.

Speaking at the inauguration of the Rs 750-crore Shree cement plant in Etah, he said the two parties never worked for inclusive development, serving only their families while leaving traders and women unsafe. In contrast, he said, the double-engine govt's clear policies and zero tolerance for crime have taken UP to new heights of development.

The Etah cement plant will generate 500 direct jobs in the area, a sign of progress in a region which, before 2017, was only known for crime and mafia, the CM said. Yogi said when Congress was in govt at the Centre, even cement was rationed and could only be procured thro-



CM Yogi Adityanath waters a sapling during an event in Etah on Thursday

ugh connections, which made a huge dent in the construction sector.

"How could development happen with such intent and policies? Contrasting this with today's growth, India, which fell to the 11th place in the world economy by 2014 due to Congress and SP policies, has now risen to the 4th place under PM Modi and is set to become the

third-largest economy within two years," he said. He alleged that the two opposition parties only worked for their families and never thought about inclusive development, leaving traders and women highly unsafe in the state. Etah district, once synonymous with crime and mafia, land encroachment, and harassment of the poor, is now a hub of investment and industry, he added.

Yogi outlined that the Jawaharpur thermal power plant near the new cement plant generates 1,500MW of power, while Shree Cement's unit created 500 direct jobs and more than 3,000 indirect jobs. He called this the real foundation of an Atmanirbhar and Viksit Bharat, where investment was leading to not just jobs but also strengthening trade, transport, and distribution networks. He credited this turnaround to strict action against mafia and rioters, which restored investor confidence in the state. "UP has received investment proposals worth Rs 45 lakh crore, out of which Rs 15 lakh crore have already been grounded, creating employment for 60 lakh youth. In addition to this, 60,244 youths, including many from Etah, were recruited into the police on merit. Under Mukhyamantri Yuva Yojana, 70,000 young entrepreneurs have received interest-free, gu-

arantee-free loans to establish their own enterprises," he said.

The CM highlighted Etah's traditional craft, praising the bell and 'ghunguru' industry for remaining an integral part of temple worship and music gatherings. He linked this cultural heritage with modern development, stating how this would become the basis of a Viksit UP-2047. "In the Assembly and Legislative Council, a 24-hour discussion was held on key sectors, and experts will now visit every district to train youth and prepare district-level roadmaps with public participation," he said.

The CM assured full cooperation from govt to investors, adding: "The state will honour every promise made under its industrial policy. With modern infrastructure, four-lane connectivity, and welfare schemes, Etah will soon scale new heights of development."

Praising Shree Cement, Yogi said the company was not only generating employment but also fulfilling its social responsibility. The Etah unit has so far provided free cement to 183 families of martyrs. "When our soldiers showed courage in Operation Sindoor, it was possible because the nation stood united. Shree Cement's contribution strengthens this national spirit," he noted.