91km-long Gorakhpur link expressway to open soon

Infra Project Will Benefit Four Districts

Shalabh@timesofindia.com

Lucknow: The Gorakhpur link expressway, a flagship infrastructure project of the UP govt, is on the verge of completion with 98% of construction work finished. The 91.35-km expressway, built at a cost of Rs 7,283.28 crore, is ready for vehicular movement and awaits formal inauguration in the New Year.

The expressway, which connects Gorakhpur to Azamgarh while passing through four districts, represents a significant engineering achievement, particularly given the challenging lowlying terrain in the Gorakhpur region, officials said. Starting



AWAITS INAUGURATION

from Gorakhpur Bypass NH-27 near Jaitpur village and ending at Salarpur in Azamgarh, it will facilitate vehicular movement via Purvanchal Expressway, enabling faster travel to Lucknow, Agra and Delhi.

According to the UP expressway industrial development authority (UPEIDA), the main carriageway's clearing and earthwork are 100% complete. Of the 343 proposed structures, 337 have been constructed, with the remaining works progressing rapidly.

"The expressway will reduce travel time from Gorakhpur to Lucknow to just 3.5 hours via the Purvanchal Expressway," said a senior UPEIDA official, adding, "This connectivity will significantly boost regional development." The project benefits four districts — Gorakhpur, Ambedkarnagar, Sant Kabir Nagar and Azamgarh — and is expected to drive social and economic development in the region. The controlled-access highway will help reduce fuel consumption and environmental pollution while improving travel efficiency.

The UP govt is also developing an industrial corridor along both sides of the expressway, which is expected to boost agriculture, commerce, tourism and industrial growth. The expressway will serve as a crucial link between various production units, development centres and agricultural zones to the national capital. "This project showcases our govt's commitment to infrastructure development," said the officer.