

Cabinet Approves 12 Industrial Smart Cities Worth ₹28,602 cr

Projects may attract investment of ₹1.5 lakh crore and offer potential of 1 M direct jobs

Our Bureau

New Delhi: The union cabinet Wednesday approved setting up 12 industrial smart cities with an outlay of Rs 28,602 crore, with an investment potential of Rs 1.5 lakh crore and employment potential of 1 million direct jobs and up to 3 million indirect jobs.

"The industrial parks will form a golden quadrilateral. There are 20 industrial smart cities and townships of which 12 will start soon," said commerce and industry minister Piyush Goyal.

These 12 cities are in addition to the existing ones in Greater Noida in Uttar Pradesh and Dholera in Gujarat to boost domestic manufacturing.

These cities will span across 10 states such as Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Kerala, and Telangana and six major industrial corridors, and would come up by 2027, and are aimed at driving "balanced" regional development.

These industrial cities will function more like industrial cities, where residential and commercial setups would co-exist. These would have plug and play infrastructure with potable drinking water, 24 hours electricity, and will be based on the 'walk-to-work' concept. "We hope investors get land in India easily. We have given environmental clearance for all these 12 projects, which makes it easier for investors," he said, adding that the single window clearance will help in the process.

To be set up under the National Industrial Corridor Development Programme (NICDP), this grand necklace of industrial smart cities will be the backbone of Golden Quadrilateral, according to a statement issued by the commerce and industry ministry.

In her budget speech last month, finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman

Mission to Transform

INDUSTRIAL EXPANSION

12 industrial smart cities in 10 states across 6 corridors

₹28,602 cr project cost | ₹1.52 lakh cr investment potential



9.39 lakh job employment potential

₹11,000 cr land costs

₹2,000 cr debt component by Centre, to be repaid in 10 yrs

NEW SMART CITIES

City	State
Khurpia	Uttarakhand
Rajpura-Patiala	Punjab
Dighi	Maharashtra
Palakkad	Kerala
Agra & Prayagraj	UP
Gaya	Bihar
Zaheerabad	Telangana
Orvakal, Koppurthy	AP
Jodhpur-Pali	Rajasthan

EXISTING SMART CITIES

4 cities ready for allotment: 320 plots ready, 80 units operational
4 projects under construction | ₹1.7 lakh cr of investment till now

BENEFITS

Plug & play infra, 24 hours power supply
Effluent treatment plants, e-land management
Gas pipeline, environment clearance



INFRA BOOST



These 12 cities are in addition to the existing ones in Greater Noida in UP and Dholera in Gujarat to boost domestic manufacturing

had announced 12 industrial parks under the National Industrial Corridor Development Programme (NICDP).

"Anchor investors will get land at discounted rates with flexible and tailor-made payment terms. The plot sizes are also tailor-made," Goyal said.

Singapore and Switzerland have shown interest in having dedicated industrial space. The government plans to tie up with Invest India for the marketing of these projects.

Kushal Kumar Singh, Partner, Deloitte India, said the announcement indicates the determination of the government to give a big thrust to the manufacturing ecosystem in the

country and represents a progressive approach towards attracting investments. He said the industrial cities that "offer world-class infrastructure facilities will be key to positioning India as a global manufacturing powerhouse and are expected to boost the manufacturing sector's contribution to India's GDP and generate employment opportunities."

A Special Purpose Vehicle will be created to implement the hubs, which would see development of industries like technical textiles, fabrication, electric vehicles, aero logistics and food processing.

"It will take us three years to complete the projects provided the states cooperate," he said.

STATES' CONTRIBUTION

Of the ₹28,602 crore cost, the land cost is ₹11,000 crore, officials said. The equity component is ₹12,000 crore. "The debt given for infrastructure can be repaid over 10 years," said an official.

Earlier the Odisha government didn't give land, while West Bengal had sent a proposal which they withdrew. "Wherever states support us, the centre is bound to provide them with these parks," Goyal said.

AIF Scheme worth ₹1 L cr Expanded



New Delhi: The Centre expanded the scope of ₹1 lakh crore-Agricultural Infrastructure Fund

(AIF) scheme to make it more attractive, as part of its objective to strengthen farm-related infrastructure facilities in the country. These initiatives aim at expanding the scope of eligible projects and integrate additional supportive measures to foster a robust agricultural infrastructure ecosystem, said the government in a statement. —Our Bureau

234 New Cities set to Get Pvt FM Radio

New Delhi: The Cabinet, approved a proposal to hold the third batch of ascending e-auctions for 730 channels in 234 new towns and cities, with an estimated reserve price of ₹784.87 crore under the Private FM Radio Phase III policy. The cabinet also accepted a plan to levy FM channels' Annual Licence Fee (ALF) at 4% of gross income, excluding Goods and Services Tax. —Our Bureau