**Lucknow to benefit from rapid infrastructure development in Uttar Pradesh**

The inauguration of Purvanchal Expressway, foundation laying of Noida International Airport and the global tendering for Rs 10,000 cr Film City in Greater Noida have brought the attention of investors and big corporates to Uttar Pradesh. These are amongst the many infrastructure projects in the pipeline. The State will soon have 5 international airports – Lucknow, Varanasi, Noida, Ayodhya and Kushinagar – and a proposed High Speed Rail between Delhi-Agra-Lucknow-Ayodhya-Varanasi. These infrastructure projects in Uttar Pradesh, India’s most populous State, will fulfil the State’s quest of not just becoming a USD one trillion economy but also creating massive opportunities for investment, employment, ease of living and doing business. Lucknow, the Capital city, is at the centre stage of the massive developments in the State.

The State has 8% of the nation's purchasing power. Also, it has seen a quantum jump from rank 12 to 2 in ease of doing business in the past 4 years by creating a conducive business ecosystem for growth. Opening its doors for investments and opportunities, it is constantly creating attractive policies, land banks and industrial parks to pave the way for an investor-friendly ecosystem for various sectors including real estate.

The State has experienced speedy progress in terms of excellent connectivity. Ambitious projects like development of Outer Ring Road, expansion of international airports with 11 new airports in the pipeline, metro rail etc., proposed Lucknow-Kanpur Elevated Expressway, Noida-Agra Expressway and the Agra-Lucknow Expressway are providing seamless connectivity in the state. The Ganga & Bundelkhand Expressways are infrastructure behemoths that will create lot of opportunities in several parts of the State. The initiation of global tender for Rs 10,000 cr Film City project, Uttar Pradesh’s first and country’s third, in Greater Noida will also bring new industries and create job opportunities. Such major projects hold the potential to raise the state's growth rate by unlocking the existing possibilities here.

The focus towards State's development from all stakeholders is also creating a domino effect in cities like the capital Lucknow which is setting up of world-class infrastructure, good governance, better standard of living, improved access to social infrastructures and others. The significance of Lucknow alone can be gauged from the fact that it is the second largest city of North India, capital of the second-strongest state economy in the country and contributes 3.85% to the state’s GDP. Also, world-class educational and healthcare facilities and a slew of industrial projects by private companies have brought Lucknow at the epicentre of growth and employment. The city also enjoys excellent connectivity with all major cities, including Prayagraj, Varanasi, Kanpur, Agra, Jhansi, Delhi, and others. The International Airport helps the city connect to several parts of India and the world. Several proposed and existing expressways and highways like Purvanchal Expressway, Agra-Lucknow Expressway, Lucknow-Kanpur elevated expressways etc. are the many connectivity projects that will strengthen access to Lucknow.

Moreover, the city is emerging as a hub for manufacturing, food processing, electronics, banking, IT, and real estate. It is also a part of many planned growth corridors and upscale developmental projects. After completion, the Outer Ring Road would connect 104 villages, five national highways, and 6 state highways with Lucknow. With Lucknow Metro rapidly expanding, the city is becoming more convenient and environment-friendly. It is now emerging as the most sought-after destination of young professionals who are thinking of owning a home in the city. Since Lucknow is an integral part of the massive infrastructure development in the State, the continuous inflow of business executives, both domestic and foreign, government officials, tourists among others in the city will drive demand for the hospitality industry.

The city also serves as a second home for those who come here from neighboring cities to avail education, investments, business, job opportunities, health services, etc. It enjoys a lively presence of malls, multiplexes, several modes of entertainment etc. The Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Park, Janeshwar Mishra Park, National Botanical Research Institute among others have emerged as the city’s meeting points for rejuvenation and recreation. Owing to these factors, the residential demand in the city is growing at a rapid pace.

The great positive shift from the investment point of view has brought Uttar Pradesh at the cusp of economic transformation and Lucknow is at the center stage of this. The City has the potential to increase the existing infrastructure capacity and expedite development in order to cater to this huge influx of people, businesses and services. With endless possibilities for investors, all the sectors including real estate are emerging as winners involved in transforming the dream of making the state a 1 trillion dollar economy a reality.

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Dec 6:

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