

Amritsar-Delhi-Kolkata Industrial Corridor gains momentum

Uttar Pradesh govt submits concept paper in inter-ministerial group meeting

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The initiative taken by **Chief Minister, Akhilesh Yadav** to develop an industrial corridor on Eastern Dedicated Freight Corridor (EDFC) on the lines of Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor on Western Dedicated Freight Corridor has gained momentum. Envisaged industrial corridor has been aptly christened as **Amritsar-Delhi-Kolkata Industrial Corridor (ADKIC)** by Government of India.

Inter-ministerial group (IMG), constituted by Government of India to examine the feasibility along with structural and financing arrangements for proposed industrial corridor, met in Udyog Bhawan, New Delhi today. States concerned with EDFC were invited to participate in this meeting with envisaged details of project development.

On behalf of the U.P. Government, Infrastructure & Industrial Development Commissioner (**IIDC**), **Alok Ranjan** presented a detailed **concept paper** in this meeting. The concept paper highlights the potential of junctions along the corridor of being developed into Industrial/Investment Zones and trans-shipment hub. It is proposed to develop **two National Investment & Manufacturing Zones (NIMZs) and five Industrial Zones** along the U.P. section of the industrial corridor. Proposed **NIMZs include** Auraiya National Investment & Manufacturing Zone (6043 hectares) and Jhansi National Investment & Manufacturing Zone (5567 hectares), while **industrial zones** have been proposed at Pashchimanchal Industrial Zone (2000 hectares), Braj Industrial Zone(2000 hectares), Kanpur Logistics hub (6000 hectares), Allahabad-Naini-Bara Investment Zone (3000 hectares), Mughalsari-Varansai-Mirjapur Investment Zone (3000 hectares).

IIDC, Alok Ranjan informed that Uttar Pradesh was the only state which was well prepared with detailed concept paper and other documents. **He further informed that the Inter-ministerial group assured that the proposals in concept paper of U.P. would be included in its prospective report.** The IMG will submit its response to Government of India within 10 days, after which further action would be taken.

It may be noted that proposed alignment of 1840 Km long EDFC, starting from Punjab, includes mainly Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand and West Bengal. **Uttar Pradesh is the biggest beneficiary** of Eastern Dedicated Freight Corridor project with the share of **nearly 57 percent** measuring 1049 Kms dissecting the state through.

According to the concept paper of U.P., ADKIC is proposed to be developed in two phases. **Under first phase**, along with project planning and development perspective plans, development of at least two Industrial Zones in U.P. should be taken up. Based on the recommendations of the perspective plans, development of remaining Industrial/Investment Zones should be undertaken in the second phase.

State government has nominated Managing Director, U.P. State Industrial Development Corporation (UPSIDC) as the Nodal Officer and UPSIDC as the Nodal agency for this ambitious project, which promises to revolutionise the industrial scenario in Uttar Pradesh.
