

# Big plans for KMP Expressway

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Kundli/Gurgaon, October 25

TO PROMOTE planned development for the new townships at the proposed Global Corridor along Kundli-Manesar-Palwal (KMP) Expressway, the Haryana Government has decided to build 7 to 8 "theme cities".

The themes include Education City, IT City, Bio-Science City, Fashion City, Leisure City among others, in addition to Industrial Model Townships (IMTs) and special economic zones (SEZs). The state government has planned the townships along a 135-km stretch off the KMP Expressway (also known as Western Peripheral Expressway).

The state government is also exploring the possibility of laying a Ring Rail network parallel to the Western and Eastern Expressway to improve transportation facilities. The railway network would link the NCR towns.

The state government has planned to develop the 62000-hectare land near the Delhi-Haryana border for the proposed Global Corridor.

"Besides, we have decided to improve civic infrastructure in NCR towns like Kundli, Faridabad, Bahadurgarh and Gurgaon. The emphasis would also be to promote social infrastructure such as educational and commercial facilities. To facilitate this, the Haryana government has decided to float 7 to 8 theme cities in the Global Corridor," S.S. Dhillon, director of Town & Country Planning Department (DTCP) told HT.

The DTCP said that the Education City would be built in Kundli (Sonapat), the IMT at Kharkhoda (between Kundli and Sampla), the Bio-Science City in Sampla, the IT City in Badli Jagirpur, the Fashion/Leather City in Sohna, the Law University in Manesar and the Freight

City in Palwal (Faridabad).

"We hired a consultancy firm for Rs 65 lakh to conduct a feasibility study for the proposed Rajiv Gandhi Education City spread over 5000 acres of land. Work on the 2000 acres acquired for the purpose has started and we are in the process of acquiring an additional 3000 acres," Dhillon said.

The government has also sanctioned theme SEZs and IMTs, including an Engineering SEZ by the Raheja's in Manesar, Technology parks comprising IT parks and Bio-Technology parks and the R&D hubs at Manesar. The 500-acre European Technology Park (ETP) is set to come up in Palwal along the expressway.

(Arun Anand, CEO of TDI Group, said the Haryana government's plan to add social infrastructure along the KMP Expressway would ensure a better environment to residents.)

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