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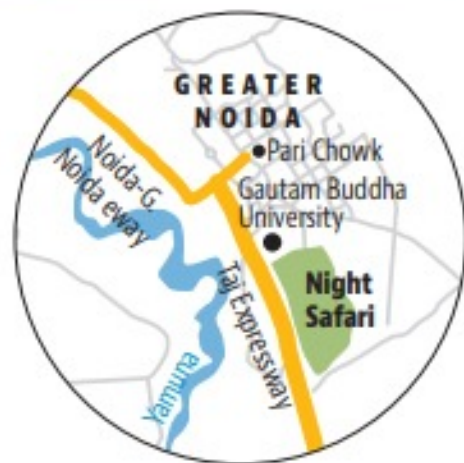
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WE RAISED THE ISSUE OF THEFTS IN A RECENT MEETING WITH POLICE OFFICERS, BUT THEFTS IN HIGH-RISES HAVE CONTINUED.

> ALOK KUMAR, Indrapuram AOA

State govt revives night safari project

G NOIDA THEME PARK



- The entire project will be built over 250 acres
- Will have a theme entertainment park, modelled along the lines of Disneyland
- The project was first mooted in 2005 by then chief minister Mulayam Singh Yadav
- Was stalled in 2017 due to funds crunch

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GREATER NOIDA: The Greater Noida authority on Wednesday said that it has decided to develop a mega recreational project that includes a night safari, which will be the first-of-its-kind in the country.

The recreational project, which will also have an entertainment theme park like Disneyland, is proposed to spread over 250 acres of land located near Gautam Budh University along the Yamuna Expressway, officials said. The area for night safari will be around 200 acres. It is going to be India's first and the world's fourth such site.

In 2005, the then Uttar Pradesh chief minister Mulayam Singh Yadav had envisioned the recreational project, but it could not be developed so far due to fund crisis. The Greater Noida authority had sanctioned ₹700 crore for night safari in 2012. But the project was stalled in 2017 citing fund crisis. Now, the Yogi Adityanath government wants to develop it as it will boost local

The state government has called a meeting in Lucknow on Jan 11 to discuss the terms and conditions to select the developer.

NARENDRA BHOOSHAN, CEO, Greater Noida authority

economy, said the officials.

"We have decided to start the tender process with an aim to select a developer, who will develop the mega recreational project of which night safari is one of the components. The state government has called a meeting in Lucknow on January 11 to discuss the terms and conditions for selection of the developer," Narendra Bhooshan, chief executive officer of Greater Noida authority, said.

The UP infrastructure and industrial development department is likely to finalise request for proposal (RFP) draft that is used to invite bids from inter-

ested developers. Once the government finalises RFP, the Greater Noida authority will float a global tender to hire a developer.

"It is a big recreational project, which will have night safari, an amusement and entertainment park, which will be the first of its kind in the country. The developers, which have international exposure, will be able to develop the project. We hope the work on this project will be started at the earliest after following laid down procedures," Bhooshan said.

In 2005, renowned zoologist and natural planner Bernard Harrison's Singapore-based firm, Bernard Harrison & Company, had prepared the plan when Mulayam Singh Yadav was chief minister. Harrison has been instrumental in setting up night safaris in Singapore and China. But during the Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) regime (2007 to 2012), the project remained shelved. Between 2012 and 2017, the state government kept issuing tenders but no developer came forward to develop it.