

## Three hectare biotech park coming up in Uttar Pradesh

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The proposed park that is reported to have been given green signal by Uttar Prdesh government, is expected to be constructed on an area of three hectares by the state science and technology department.

The chief minister is likely to lay the foundation stone of the proposed park during August. The park will also be linked to the already existing biotechnology park in Lucknow and other scientific institutions.

The district administration is said to have identified the land in Waisapur village situated on the Etawah-Kannauj road. The thrust of the biotechnology park will to improve the quality and yield of crops, horticulture and forest tree species, biopesticides, bio-fertilizers and processed foods. It will include state-of-the-art laboratories where banana saplings will be developed based on tissue culture technique. Production of bio-fertilizers (which are cost-effective than the chemical fertilizers), Rhizobium, Blue Green Algae, Azatobacter, among other things, will be developed and provided at subsidised rates to farmers.

The aim is to reduce the dependence of farmers on chemical fertilizers. Since Kannauj is a major centre for the perfume industry, latest technology will be implemented after undergoing trials at a perfume centre in the biotechnology park. New techniques for developing high-yielding varieties of potato, which is a major cash crop in the area, through tissue culture will also be developed. Centres for floriculture will also be developed as cultivation of flowers is fast picking up in the area.

Facility for a glass house to protect and maintain the plants in temperate climate and later multiplying them in large scale during off season will also be provided at the proposed park.