

UP will aim for top rank in ease of business: Yogi

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LUCKNOW : Chief minister Yogi Adityanath has said every effort should be made for the state to get the top position after it jumped from 12th to second spot in the national ease of business rankings.

Describing the state as the new investment destination, he said it will have a thriving economy as well as the magnificent Ram temple. In an interview, he spoke at length on his own dreams for the state.

"The state has the potential,

and we know how to work hard. Our ranking stood at 16th in 2016. We have reached the second position, and we will strive for the top position next year," he said.

Asked about some states still raising questions on the methodology adopted this year in the rankings, he said, "The Business Reform Action Plan (Brap) had listed 187 reforms and we, in one year, implemented 186 of them, spread across

multiple areas such as labour, land allotment, registration, environment clearances etc. However, our online single window portal, Nivesh Mitra, became a game-changer. From submission of applications and fee, the entrepreneur could download digitally-signed approvals/NOCs and licences. It also helped in ensuring a transparent licensing system."

Countering allegations of 'poor law and order' and bureaucratic red-tapism, he said, "Where is the red-tapism now? No

one is complaining. Besides reforms, we are improving air connectivity, constructing expressways and ensuring time-bound disposal of complaints and grievances."

Explaining how he changed the state bureaucracy, which was infamous for red-tapism, he said, "We are doing team work. Accountability has been fixed. So, there is no escape from responsibilities."

He also said the entrepreneurs' confidence was high "as my officers are in regular contact with the investors."

→FULL INTERVIEW ON PAGE 6

