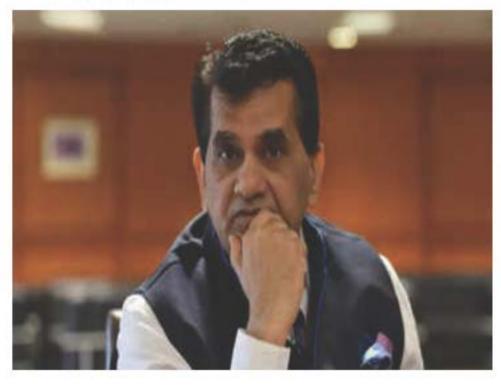
THE TIMES OF INDIA

Uttar Pradesh primary mover of India's progress: Kant

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LUCKNOW: Calling Uttar Pradesh the primary mover of India's progress, Niti Aayog CEO Amitabh Kant said on Monday that over the past five years, the state had recorded incredible improvement in law and order, ease of living and ease of doing business, and the development was possible because of the honesty and integrity of the current government.

"Niti Aayog carried out an analysis of the state and found that the biggest impact of this government had been on law and order. In the past four to five years, they have systematically demolished the mafia and allowed development to take place," he said at the concluding session of The Times of India Destination Uttar Pradesh Conclave.

Kant said UP had 28% of the country's entire network of expressways, with the government having given infrastructure development a massive push.

Kant said UP had a huge role to play in realising PM Modi's vision of a \$5 trillion economy. "UP is on its way to become the second largest economy in the country. Its contribution to India's GDP is 8.5%, a result of its about 11% growth over the past few years. This, it achieved by implementing over 500 reforms," he said.