

State moving up in ease of doing business: Birla

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Lucknow: Hailing Uttar Pradesh as one of the most attractive destinations for investors in the country, chairman of Aditya Birla Group, Kumar Mangalam Birla, said the BJP governments at the Centre and in UP have accelerated the pace of development.

Speaking at the third groundbreaking ceremony, Birla said: “UP has become one of the most sought after destinations for investors. As they say, ‘Double engine ki sarkar ke chalte vikas ko mili nayi raftar’.”

Speaking about his future plans for UP, Birla announced an investment of Rs 5,000 crore and said that it would be largely used in cement branding capacities, particularly in Shahjahanpur and near Lucknow.

“Birla group started setting up its first integrated aluminium facility in Renukoot, Sonbhadra, in the late 1950s. Since then, the Renukoot factory has grown almost 100 times,” he said. “Over the years, the group has invested about Rs 40,000 crore in UP and offers direct or indirect employment to 35,000 people,” he added.

“Our community initiatives span over 450 villages and meaningfully touch the lives of over one million people. We run 11 schools in UP that provide quality education to 10,000 students. Through our connect with the government and ongoing Nai Pahal project, we have helped transform 180 government schools in eight districts,” he said.

“UP has made significant strides in terms of ease of doing business. Foreign investors have also shown confidence in Yogi’s leadership and infrastructure has been upgraded at a rapid pace,” he said. Birla concluded his address with a couplet: “Jab hausala bana liya hai oonchi udaan ka, phir dekhna fizul hai kad aasmaan ka”.