

Investment in education never goes in vain, CM tells heads of universities

Urges Them To Set Up Campus In The State

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Lucknow: Stating that investments made in education never go in vain, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Wednesday invited private universities and higher education institutions to capitalize on UP's youth power and establish universities in unserved districts.

Interacting with the heads of private universities and higher educational institutions from southern and central India, the CM said, "Investment in education never goes in vain. UP is a state with endless possibilities in the field of education. The government will extend full support in setting up new universities in unserved areas."

"UP represents the country's spiritual and cultural heritage. In ancient times, UP was the centre of education and Kashi is its best example. Kashi, Ayodhya and Mathura have been the centres of ancient civilisation. However, in the last few decades, alienation towards education is observed," the CM said.

Hailing Prime Minister Narendra Modi for instilling positivity among the people towards education, Yogi said, "We now have a better infrastructure and inter-state connectivity. Before 2017, there were 12 medical colleges in the state but today the number has increased to 45. Another 16 are under construction and 16 more medical colleges are being established on PPP mode."

The CM apprised the academics from 22 states and three central universities

operating in the state that three state universities were under construction while 36 private universities, two AI-IMS, two IITs and one IIMs were operational. "UP is also home to over 2,000 polytechnics and vocational institutes," he said.

"Keeping in view the aspirations of the youth, the state government implemented a new policy to encourage establishment of private universities, which has yielded promising results. Recently, educational institutions of

Shahjahanpur, Baghpat and Chitrakoot districts have shown interest. UP has made efforts in the direction of excellent universities and several educational institutions in the private sector have set standards of excellence," the CM said.

Discussing the possibilities of expansion of higher education in the private sector, Yogi said: "It would sound surprising but we have 1.9 crore children enrolled in primary schools. Today itself, Rs 1,200 has been trans-

ferred to everyone's bank account for uniform. Around 56 lakh students appeared for our state board examination. These figures are bigger than the population of a few states." "The state can set a new benchmark in education with the support of private players. The government will take care of the safety and security of private investors," Yogi said.

"If one goes to a health centre or an educational institution in any district of eastern Uttar Pradesh, one

finds people from Nepal, Bihar, Chhattisgarh and Uttarakhand. It shows that Uttar Pradesh has immense potential for private sector universities," he added.

Citing the latest report of NITI Aayog, the CM said that in the last six years, 5.5 crore people were freed from the clutches of poverty. "We are working in almost all important sectors, including education, health, skill development and employment generation, and the results are in front of everyone," he said.