

# 'Better law and order has helped change perception about UP'

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Just as India aims to establish a USD 5 trillion economy, UP aims to contribute to it by becoming a USD 1 trillion economy," he said. The CM added that in the past six years, we have succeeded in doubling UP's GDP and per capita income, despite the challenge posed by the Covid-19 pandemic.

He added that better law and order and security in the state has helped to change the perception about UP.

On the impact of improved law and order in the state, the CM said that UP had become a prime destination for investment. He gave the example of the Global Investors Summit through which UP received investment proposals of Rs 36 lakh crore, the government recruitment process which had become "fair and transparent", and massive influx of tourists as UP was working towards improving tourism in every aspect.

"The number of tourists visiting major religious sites in UP has increased significantly. Varanasi is receiving the maximum number of devotees from both India and abroad. UP is emerging as a popular tourist destination for people from across the world. The journey that started with the 2019 Prayagraj Kumbh is increasing employment opportunities in areas like Kashi Vishwanath Dham, Braj region, Ayodhya-Vindhyavasini Dham, heritage and eco-tourism si-

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tes," he said. The CM, who hoisted the national flag at the Vidhan Bhavan, also honoured soldiers and their families, and administered the Paanch Pran oath to people of the state.

He recalled the beginning of the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav programme on March 12, 2021 by the PM from Sabarmati in Gujarat. The event, he said, encouraged people to participate in India's development over the next 25 years.

People, he said, were witnessing the vision of a New India where Indians respected earth as 'Mata' or mother and not just a piece of land. "This is why we find the essence of unity in diversity within India. Every Indian, whether from east, west, north, or south, regardless of religion or belief, considers Mother India above all. Nationality comes before caste or creed," he said.

India's remarkable journey over these nine years, he said, encompasses areas like infrastructure, internal and external security, and heritage. Programmes for the welfare of the poor aligns with the idea of a developed India, and the state that can play the most significant role in boosting this progress is UP, he said, adding that four cities of UP were hosting various programmes of the G-20 Summit this year.