

Surplus sub-tropical fruits on mind, UP offers incentives to set up wine industry

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Lucknow: To promote manufacture of [wine](#) in the state, senior officials of the excise department met the wine manufacturers association on Monday to discuss ways of establishing a wine industry in UP while taking a cue from the Nashik model of wine manufacturing.

UP now boasts of surplus produce of sub-tropical fruits which are now increasingly being used in wine making.

Nashik in Maharashtra has emerged as the centre of Indian wine production. UP, which has a policy for wine manufacturing, does not have a single unit so far. Additional chief secretary, excise, Sanjay Bhoosreddy told the association members about the various incentives given by the government to encourage wine manufacturing in the state.

"Several sub-tropical fruits like mango, jamun, jackfruit, guava, grapes, litchi, amla and papaya are grown in UP and the huge quantities produced are not even fully utilised. A lot of the produce gets wasted due to lack of proper storage facilities for fruits," Bhoosreddy added.

"If wineries are set up here, then the industry will get a boost though incentives, farmers will get the right price for their produce and the state will earn revenue through sale of wine. All the fruits will also be used," he said.

Excise commissioner Senthil Pandiyan C said, "Under the one-district-one product scheme, the excise department will identify districts where fruit cultivation is high, and the produce is not used fully so that wineries can be established in such areas."

All India Wine Producers Association president Jagdish Holkar assured the UP government that he would apprise potential investors about the incentives being offered by the UP government for setting up wineries in the state.