

CM Yogi sets target to bureaucrats to achieve \$1trillion economy goal

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Lucknow: Kick-starting his second innings as chief minister, a day after he was sworn in, Yogi Adityanath held a meeting with senior officials and briefed them on the government's agenda. And the message was clear — do your homework to achieve \$1 trillion economy for Uttar Pradesh. For a GDP upturn from the current \$280 billion to \$1 trillion, officials were told to swiftly hammer out a plan and 10 primary growth sectors need to be identified for a four-fold jump in economy, the CM said.

Only senior government officials were called to the meeting at the planning department building and they were told to transform UP into India's top performing state within five years. Yogi asked bureaucrats to memorise BJP's poll manifesto and achieve goals by setting deadlines. "The mandate was clear. Perform or perish. While those who live up expectations would be safe, non-performers will be shunted out to less important departments," said an additional chief secretary, who participated in the meeting.

Providing free power for agriculture, improving water supply resources for farms, setting up cooperative sugar factories, food parks and modern fish markets, modernising 30,000 primary schools, free coaching for students appearing for competitive exams, establishing medical facility with dialysis unit in districts, eradicating tuberculosis by 2025, promoting industrial development topped the agenda at the meeting.

All department heads were asked to draw up a 100-day, six-month and yearly action plans to implement schemes, services and projects promised ahead of election.

Chief secretary D S Mishra will carry out weekly reviews of action plans. Revving up the economy is top priority, the CM said. He also gave a commitment to scrutinise compiled reports every fortnight. Similarly, all ministers heading crucial departments will regularly carry out reviews to ensure milestones were set and achieved.

At the meeting, Yogi said, "It is important to memorise points mentioned in Lok Kalyan Sankalp Patra and work towards achieving goals. Officers have made sincere efforts to implement promises in the 2017 manifesto and people have experienced a positive change after several decades."

To ensure transparency and efficiency, Yogi asked officials to work on inter-departmental coordination and take help of technology for better results. Farmers, women and youth will be at the centre of every policy rolled out by the government, said officials.

The CM reiterated that officials must raise the bar to deliver on promises since people's expectations have risen manifold. "We need to compete with ourselves and the work done in the first term," he said, while reminding bureaucrats that government will continue to follow zero-tolerance to corruption. Also, the budget for the upcoming fiscal shall focus on enhancing revenue collection since more funds will be required to deliver public welfare schemes, said Yogi.