## Japan to help UP improve agri research in B'khand

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Lucknow: A delegation from Japan was in the state on Monday to help the government improve its agriculture research and development. To upgrade the agricultural universities in Bundelkhand and provide them the latest technology and resources, Japan's former information and technology minister Naokazu Takemoto along with junior defence minister Fujimaru Satoshi visited a village in Hamirpur on Monday.

To forge better ties with the state government, a relation camp office was set up on Monday in Ajgain, Unnao, by the delegates and UP-based coordinators. Before heading to Unnao, the delegates also had a meeting with deputy chief minister Keshav Maurya at his residence on Monday.



The Japanese delegation with DyCM Keshav Prasad Maurya

Satoshi said that in view of the state's law and order, the government will invest in the state through its separate committee. A native of Lucknow and a consultant to the government in Japan for 30 years, Mohd Javed Khan is the India Coordinator and Rajesh Dube will oversee the entire work of this committee in the state.

Senior members of the Japanese parliament are part of the committee and former IT minister Naokazu Takemoto is its chairman. said Dube. The delegates will conduct an aerial survey of the Bundelkhand region and provide inputs to the agriculture department on introducing the latest technologies to improve income of farmers in the educational and training modules being taught at Banda agriculture university.

"We have had an old friendship with India. Now instead of China, we have made up our mind to make full investment in India.," said Fujimaru Satoshi.