

The Pune police in Maharashtra have arrested a 24-year-old man from Rajasthan for allegedly trying to extort money from a Nationalist Congress Party legislator after making an obscene call to him, an official said on Friday.

2 KILLED  
HURT IN RAJASTHAN ROAD CRASH

INDIA	Max
Ahmedabad	30
Bhopal	32
Jaisalmer	31
Amritsar	23
Chennai	31
Kolkata	31
Srinagar	05

# U.P. DRIVING GROWTH OF NEW INDIA, SAYS MODI

Inaugurates UP GIS-2023 in presence of industry captains, foreign diplomats and investors; applauds all-round development by state govt

NAMITA RAJPAI @Lucknow

PLAYING host and welcoming the investors, industry captains, dignitaries and foreign delegates as an MP from the state at Global Investors Summit-2023, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday described Uttar Pradesh as the "engine driving growth of New India."

While inaugurating the three-day mega business event, the biggest ever to be organised in the state, Modi highlighted how UP, which was known to be a BIMARU state where scams were frequent and a feeling of "hopelessness" reigned, was now leading the growth of the country which, he said, was moving fast on the path of reforms.

"If India is the bright spot in the world, then UP is leading her growth. The country is reforming out of conviction and not compulsion," said the PM.

Modi attributed the role of UP as the growth engine of the country to the radical change and dynamism in the 'soch' (thought process) and "approach" of the ruling dispensation over the past 5-6 years.

"Earlier, the investment used to be considered 'waste' but now it is deemed to be 'the best.' This change in 'soch' and 'approach' has led the state to create a suitable atmosphere for ease of doing business," he said.

While addressing a gathering of over 5,000 guests, including investors at the business meet, the PM said UP had changed to such an extent in the last few years that now it had acquired the new identity "rightfully" of being a state known for "its good governance, improved law and order, peaceful atmosphere and political stability."

The PM said: "The massive infrastructure development in



PM Narendra Modi inaugurates the three-day UP Global Investors Summit 2023, in Lucknow on Friday; also seen are Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, UP Governor Anandiben Patel and Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath | PTI

the recent past is driving growth of New India. From electricity to connectivity, there has been a holistic development in UP and the state is set to become soon the only state in the country with five international airports."

PM Modi also dwelt upon how India's growth story was changing. "Health, education, green growth, and social infrastructure are great opportunities for investors in India," he said.

Calling upon the investors to come to UP, the PM said that like whole of India, a huge aspirational society was waiting for them in Uttar Pradesh.

"The development in the field of social, physical and digital infrastructure in the country has benefitted UP to a great extent. This has led the society to integrate and be connected with social and financial developments. UP's textile,

manufacturing, farming, logistics, digital clusters along with sectors like dairy, food processing and fisheries provide enormous opportunities to the investors to become a part of UP's growth story," said the PM.

Earlier, while welcoming the guests at the summit, UP CM Yogi Adityanath said the "excellent" law and order situation in the state led to the perceptible change in the approach of investors towards UP.

"It is well reflected in the fact that even ahead of the summit, we have received investment intents worth over Rs 32 lakh crore and signed over 18,000 MoUs," said the CM.

He said for the convenience of investors in the state, a single-window portal 'Nivesh Mitra' was providing 406 services of 33 departments, policies had been introduced for 25 different sectors and the state's ex-

ports doubled during the last five years. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, too, highlighted the various ventures introduced by the present government, saying that these put forward a new vision for the business community.

"Today, the business community is not only looked upon with respect and trust but also considered as significant contributors to the development of society as wealth creators," said Rajnath.

Speaking at the summit, Singh also launched a verbal attack on "pseudo-secularism," which not only prevented industrialists from moving forward but also hampered the established industries."

"Old, ineffective and redundant rules, which had become a 'red tape' for the industry in the past, have transformed into a 'red-carpet' in the present times," said Rajnath Singh.

## Shah praises Yogi, says better law & order must for investment climate

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EXUDING confidence that the three-day mega event of Global Investors Summit (GIS-2023), will change the destiny of UP, Union Home Minister Amit Shah claimed that UP had everything needed for the development of industries in any state.

Addressing a session on MSME and cooperatives, Shah gave full marks to Yogi government for having courage and patience to make the state one of the most prominent investment destinations in the country.

He claimed that five factors including law and order, infrastructure, clear industrial and financial policies, transparent government functioning and quick decision making were crucial for drawing investment in any state. "With a drastic improvement in law and order, development of robust infrastructure, having formulated clear industrial and financial policies, not a single allegation against the dispensation besides it makes quick decisions to move forward, UP government has made striding achievements on all five counts which is reflecting in GIS-2023 on such a scale with such a success," said Shah adding that it was a very encouraging sign for the country.

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The Home Minister said that there were a lot of opportunities for growth in UP. "The state can play an important role in making the country a USD 5 trillion economy. Numerous investors are making investments in UP after realising its potential."

In an apparent dig at previous governments, Amit Shah stated that before 2017, the state government used to organise an investors meet in Delhi for the reason, as per a minister of that government, investors would not be ready to come to Lucknow.

"If the investors were not ready to come to Lucknow, how would they invest in UP," asked the Home Minister in a lighter vein. Laying stress on the role of MSME sector plays in making a state industry rich, Shah said the MSME sector was the driving force behind India's growth story. "A number of big business and industrial houses of the day had started their jour-

ney as MSME," he said to substantiate his point. Shah also counted on the huge population and area of UP as the blessings which open enormous opportunities for the state to become crucial for country's growth. CM Yogi said that the state's MSME have the largest base in the country.

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Need for healthy ecosystem

Claiming that the ongoing summit would change the destiny of UP, Shah said, "A state is also required to create a healthy ecosystem of employment for the MSMEs to flourish and for growth of industrial houses."

The golden era of UP has begun. Both 'udyog' and 'sahyog' are needed for the development of the state. Reliance will continue to work for UP 'jee jaan se' for it to become a \$1 trillion economy for India.



Mukesh Ambani, Chairman, RIL

UP has gone through a metamorphosis in the last few years under the present dispensation and has made significant strides in terms of ease of doing business. It has the state to attract FDI worth USD 1.1 billion.



KM Birla, Chairman, Aditya Birla Group

UP has potential for development with agriculture and manufacturing sectors expected to grow in tandem. Tata Group, with 10 companies in UP, will be a big contributor to its development.



N Chandrasekaran, Chairman, Tata Sons

Due to UP CM's cooperation, Noida International Airport has been able to take shape. It's the best example of public-private partnership. It will be crucial for western UP's development.



Daniel Berchet, CEO, Zurich Airport Int'l Asia

UP is on way to become the largest electronic manufacturing hub in the world. Currently, 65 per cent of country's total mobile phones are being manufactured in the state.



Sunil Vachani, Co-founder and Chairman, Dixon Technologies