

# Steering UP to become hub for semiconductors

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**Lucknow:** High in demand, around 150 packaging plants for semiconductors are active in the world but not even one is operational in the country.

The first session of Global Investors Summit saw discussions on the challenges and opportunities being provided by the state government so as to make the country and Uttar Pradesh a manufacturing hub for semiconductors.

While the country has a strong talent pool in the field of designing of the semiconductor, making up 20% of the global workforce in the design domain, it lacks in providing fabrication technologies and innovative products to add to the value chain.

Sanjeet Singh, senior advisor to NITI Aayog, listed down the points which could accelerate the growth of the



Sanjeet Singh, senior advisor to NITI Aayog, at Global Investors Summit on Friday

state on this front.

“UP government policies have a lot more to offer than what is being provided by the Union government. In another good sign, manufacturing of semiconductors is not just limited to western UP (primarily Noida and Greater Noida) but is also spreading to other parts.”

Singh said that the existing companies need to fo-

cus on adding new products rather than producing the same products.

Pankaj Mohindroo, chairman, India Cellular and Electronics Association (ICEA) said, “Till 2014-15 our country was importing up to 80% of the cellular phones. And with the right vision of the government things have changed rapidly over the past few years. In the present fiscal India’s mobile export has gone over Rs 70,000 crore so far. We are taking UP very seriously. Out of the five memorandums of understanding signed by ICEA, two have been done with UP and third one is slated to take place.”

Pointing out the other strengths of the government over and above the incentives being offered under electronic manufacturing policy, the speakers pointed out that out of the top 100 engineering colleges, 17 are situated in UP.

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