

# 'Infra, investor-friendly schemes will help UP realize \$1trn dream'

**A**s the Yogi Adityanath government is intensifying efforts to make Uttar Pradesh one trillion dollar economy, the role of Infrastructure & Industrial Development Department (IID) is gaining importance in the creation of an investor-friendly atmosphere in the state. In an interview with Shailvee Sharda, UP minister for industrial development, export & investment promotion, Nand Gopal Gupta Nandi speaks about the steps being taken by his department to achieve the ambitious goal. Excerpts:

**UP is eyeing one trillion dollar economy goal which is a bold move. What makes you think that the target is realistic and achievable?**

■ Under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, we are confident that Uttar Pradesh will achieve the one trillion dollar economy goal. Uttar Pradesh, the fourth largest state of India, is at the cusp of a transformational journey. The key enablers for any economy are good infrastructure, industry-friendly policies, and a safe and secure environment. The government has been working to bolster industrial infrastructure and create a business-friendly atmosphere. With the help of reforms in governance, robust law & order, progressive policies and development of state-of-the-art greenfield infrastructure, including logistics facilities, airports, expressways, metro, and industrial corridors, a vibrant investment climate has been created in the state. With a population of 24 crore, UP is the largest consumer & labour market in India and offers excellent growth opportunities for industries.

**What steps is your department taking to achieve the goal?**

■ Good infrastructure, backed by investment-friendly policies, is surely an enabler for industries. My department is creating a world-

class industrial infrastructure. We organised the Global Investors Summit (GIS) in February 2023. We got an overwhelming response as UP signed at least 19,250 MoUs worth over Rs 33.5 lakh crore. We are developing industrial parks, clusters and corridors across the state. The PM laid the foundation for the UP defence industrial corridor in Jhansi in 2021. It will have major manufacturing set up for BrahMos, anti-tank guided missiles, light combat helicopters and drones. We have also made provisions in IIEPP-2022 for setting up of private industrial parks where the government is providing support to developers and investors.

## Q & A

**A lot has been added to UP's infrastructure in the last few years. How does your department plan to leverage it to fuel the trillion dollar economy goal?**

■ IIDD has developed a comprehensive investor connect framework to leverage the state's infrastructure by bringing investments in all major sectors. Invest UP's portal 'Nivesh Sarathi' has simplified the process of signing of MoUs. It is a one-stop solution for investors. To simplify the process of availing incentives under various policies, a centralised 'On-



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line Incentive Management System' has been developed under Nivesh Mitra for processing, sanctioning and disbursement of incentives. The government has taken various reformative steps in creating a holistic ecosystem for industrial development.

**New industrial clusters have to be created to bolster economic growth. What is the progress on this front?**

■ The government is planning industrial and investment regions with speedy access to key markets, adequate supply of water and electricity, excellent waste management system and recycling facilities to provide investors and manufacturers the perfect breeding ground. Luc-

know-Kanpur, Kanpur-Allahabad and Varanasi-Allahabad zones will be developed on the lines of Noida and Greater Noida to promote industrial and investment regions. Three Integrated Manufacturing Clusters (IMC) – Auraiya-Etawah-Kanpur, Prayagraj-Varanasi and Agra-Aligarh – have been identified to boost the manufacturing sector. Dadri-Noida-Ghaziabad investment region will be developed to provide seamless connectivity and world-class facilities to industrial units.

**Land banks are crucial for infrastructure development. What efforts have been made to increase it?**

■ IIDD is mobilising resources to increase land banks. The government has recently proposed setting up of Bundelkhand Development Authority in Jhansi. YEIDA is in the process of acquiring additional land for industries in Gautam Buddh Nagar. A pharma park is proposed in Lalitpur, and expansion of GNIDA is being planned. Industrial corridors are being planned on both the sides of Purvanchal and Bundelkhand expressways.

**GIS-2023 attracted huge investment intents. What is their current status?**

■ For grounding of investment intents received during the GIS-2023, the government is planning the first ground-breaking ceremony. Targets have been given to 42 departments. IIDD is facilitating investors by replying to their queries, NOCs, and approvals regarding setting up of industrial units.

**What are the preparations for the ground-breaking ceremony?**

■ To improve ties with investors, the government has deployed 105 Udyami Mitras in districts who are facilitating investments on the ground and coordinating between departments and administration. Udyami Mitras are resolving problems being faced by investors and bridging the gap between government and investors. We are sure that Udyami Mitras will bear positive results.

