

# CM opens SW Asia's largest beverage plant in Amethi

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**Lucknow:** Chief minister Yogi Adityanath inaugurated southwest Asia's largest beverage plant in Amethi on Monday, calling the project a significant milestone for the region.

"An industrial area was marked here decades ago. However, previous governments did not have a development agenda. Instead, they fostered divisions through casteism and defamation, creating social discord," the CM said.

The CM said that before 2018, nobody believed that UP could get investments to the tune of Rs 2 lakh crore. People would hesitate to invest in UP, he said, adding that this year itself, the government got investment proposals to the tune of Rs 38 lakh crore through the Global Investors Summit.

After a tour of the facility, the CM said that the bottling plant was an outcome of the investment policy of the state government. "With the advent of the double-engine government in the state and the Centre, UP is rapidly gaining recognition as the premier in-



Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath with Union minister Smriti Irani in Amethi, on Monday

vestment destination in the nation. Today, a growing number of entrepreneurs from across the country are expressing a keen interest in making investments here. The guarantee of investment and security has been ensured in UP," he said.

Highlighting the growing confidence in the state, specifically for investments, the CM said that in 2018, investment proposals of Rs 5 lakh crore were made during the investors' summit. Five years later, in February 2023, these went up to Rs 38 lakh crore. This, he said, was possible due to a series of government-initiated reforms, including the implementation of sector-

specific policies, establishment of land banks and the reinforcement of law and order. He said that UP had witnessed rapid and extensive expansion in infrastructure and improvement in law and order, which had a direct and visible impact on the state's economy.

"This plant will become a source of investment and employment in the region. Additionally, local ITI and polytechnic students will benefit from this initiative. Very soon, another big investment of thousands of crores is going to come to Amethi," he said.

Crediting the CM for the improvement in the state's investment potential, Amethi MP Smriti Irani said if one's intentions were clear and the leadership was visionary, then even the impossible could become possible.

Vivek Ladhani of the Ladhani Group, which has set up the plant, said SLMG Beverages Pvt Ltd is the largest bottler of Coca Cola in southwest Asia and added that the group has made an investment of Rs 2,000 crore in UP this year.