

## ***WEF, Davos Attracts Tillman Global Holdings, Climate AI, Deloitte and many more companies for Potential Investments in Uttar Pradesh***

**Lucknow/Davos, 16 January, 2024:**

On the third day of the World Economic Forum (WEF) in Davos, Switzerland, the Uttar Pradesh delegation initiated discussions with **Jacob Aarup-Andersen, CEO of the Carlsberg Group** and **Michel Doukeris, Chief Executive Officer of Budweiser**. The multinational brewers, known for their global presence and strong local brands, have a significant footprint in India, reaffirming their strategic commitment to the country.

The UP delegation, led by **Infrastructure & Industrial Development Commissioner, Shri Manoj Kumar Singh**, explored potential investments by these companies in the state. Emphasizing the growing demand, Shri Manoj K Singh suggested opportunities for both the companies to diversify their brand portfolios and introduce new products tailored to local preferences.

The delegation also met **Nivedita Krishnamurthy Bhagat, Chief Financial Officer of Cap Gemini** and **Mr. Nikhil Rathi, Director & CEO, Web Werks** and spoke on the potential of investments in Uttar Pradesh. While Cap Gemini is a multinational corporation providing consulting, technology, professional, and outsourcing services to various industries including financial services, retail, telecom, Web Werks is a global provider of data centre solutions, offering dedicated server hosting, VPS hosting, and cutting edge cloud services.

**The spotlight event** held at the Promenade 49, Uttar Pradesh Pavilion titled **‘Opportunities in Uttar Pradesh for Digital Infrastructure & Innovations in Agriculture & Food Processing’** saw the presence of **Mr. Stephen Kehoe, Executive Vice President, Chief Corporate Affairs Officer & Chairman of Board of Directors, Pepsico Foundation**, **Ms. Fernanda Lopes Larsen, Executive Vice President, Africa & Asia, Yara International** and **Mr Gabriela Burian, Global Director, Bayer Crop Science**.

Apart from this, the UP delegation also met **Shri Yusuff Ali, chairman & MD of the Lulu Group** and discussed the progress of the group’s various projects in the state, including status of the food park that is soon to open in Greater Noida as well as the progress of the Lulu Hypermarket & Mall that are set to open in #Prayagraj & #Ayodhya.

Additionally, the Government of Uttar Pradesh organized a spotlight event titled **‘Unlocking the Potential: Nurturing Financial Literacy and Inclusion for Women in Uttar Pradesh.’** The event featured keynote speaker Smt. **Smriti Irani, Hon'ble Union Minister for Women & Child Development**, ICDS, Government of India, along with notable speakers including **Shri Manoj Kumar Singh**, Smt. **Vartika Shukla** from Engineers’ India Limited, and Smt. **Seema Chaturvedi**, founder & chair of AWE Foundation.

Earlier, on the second day of the World Economic Forum at Davos, Switzerland, the high-level delegation from Uttar Pradesh led by **Infrastructure & Industrial Development Commissioner, Shri Manoj Kumar Singh**, engaged in discussion with **Shri Sanjiv Ahuja, Chairman of Tillman Global Holdings** as well as officials of **Climate Ai**. The focus was on exploring significant investment opportunities in the state, especially in startups, innovations, artificial intelligence, data centres and climate change.

Evincing interest in Uttar Pradesh’s dynamic landscape, **Tillman Global Holdings (TGH), led by Sanjiv Ahuja**, an international investment firm with a focus on telecommunications, infrastructure, technology, and media sectors, showed interest in investing in setting up **electric vehicles (EV) charging infrastructure and data centres in Uttar Pradesh**.

**Climate Ai**, too, expressed enthusiasm for investing in the state. Climate Ai, a **tech-driven startup** based in San Francisco, specializes in predictive climate modelling and forecasting, utilizing **artificial intelligence (AI) and advanced machine learning** to mitigate the impact of climate change in the agriculture sector.

The delegation also had a fruitful meeting with **Shri Romal Shetty, CEO Deloitte India**, who announced the **opening of an office at Noida** with seating capacity for 2000 employees within two months while another **office at Lucknow** within six months.

Stating that Uttar Pradesh has vast possibilities and that it ranks in the **‘Leaders’ category in the States’ Startup Ranking in India**, **Shri Manoj Kumar Singh** said that under the leadership of **Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath**, the state prioritizes on fostering innovation and entrepreneurship at the grassroot level and incorporating emerging technologies in niche sectors. Currently, Uttar Pradesh is home to many unicorns and soonicorns in the country, including **Paytm, Paytm Mall, India Mart, Moglix, Pine Labs, Innovaccer, InfoEdge, Inshorts, Classplus and Physics Wallah**.

Highlighting the state government’s vision of establishing a **world-class startup ecosystem**, the **Infrastructure & Industrial Commissioner** said that with a robust infrastructure and favourable policy environment, Uttar Pradesh encourages startups to establish themselves in the state. The government has successfully achieved its goal of establishing over **10,000 startups, 62 incubators, and three Centers of Excellence by 2023, spread across all 75 districts**. Shri Manoj K Singh welcomed companies to invest in sectors such as **Agri-tech, AI, drones, med tech, blockchain, telecommunications, quantum computing, additive manufacturing, data centres and space tech**.

Infrastructure & Industrial Development Commissioner, **Shri Manoj Kumar Singh** highlighted AI initiatives in Uttar Pradesh and unveiled plans for an **AI City near Lucknow International Airport**. This AI city, spanning 40 acres, will foster the AI ecosystem within the state, and discussions have been initiated with key infrastructure players.

Earlier, day before yesterday (Jan 14, 2024), Uttar Pradesh’s Delegation had a discerning session with **Mr. Sean Doherty, Head of International Trade & Investment at WEF** to explore partnership, avenues for boosting up investments in tourism, electronic manufacturing & food processing sectors in the state. UP's Delegation also had an insightful discussion with **Ms. Tania Strauss, Head of Food & Water at WEF** about increasing agricultural productivity using technologies, doubling farmers' income & possibilities to set-up a Food Innovation Hub in Uttar Pradesh. Delegation also met and discussed with **Shyam Bishen, Head, Health & Healthcare, WEF** regarding the collaboration for enhancing healthcare infrastructure, promoting digital technologies & potential of medical devices manufacturing in Uttar Pradesh.

The delegation from UP, led by **Infrastructure & Industrial Commissioner Shri Manoj Kumar Singh**, includes **Shri Amit Singh, Secretary to Hon’ble Chief Minister, Shri Shashank Tripathi-Special Secretary to Hon’ble Chief Minister, Shri Anupam Shukla-Director UPNEDA**, and others, participating in pivotal discussions with global business leaders and industry titans at the six-day WEF event.

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