

CM meets high commissioner of Aus, discusses collaborations

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Lucknow: Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Wednesday met Australian high commissioner Philip Green and a delegation of industrialists and held discussions on potential investments and collaborations between them.

Green, on his second visit to the state, said that India and Australia enjoyed a long-standing history of strong bilateral relations and that UP had the potential to play a pivotal role in further enhancing these ties.

Speaking about the various opportunities available in UP, Green said that there were several Australian companies eager to explore the potential of the state, especially in agriculture. He said that Australia was keen to become a strong partner in the agriculture and food processing sectors.

Welcoming the Australian delegation to Lucknow, the CM highlighted UP's achievements and said that with the largest population in the country, the state is known as the food basket of India.

"Despite having only 12% of the country's total agricultural land, the state pro-



Australian High Commissioner to India Philip Green meets CM Yogi Adityanath, at his official residence on Wednesday

duces 20% of the nation's foodgrain needs. In UP, we have managed irrigation of 85% of agricultural land and work is going on to expand this further," he said.

The CM briefed the delegation about the various initiatives taken in the state, including the establishment of agricultural universities, agricultural science centres, and farmer production organisations.

Praising the state's farmers, the CM said that they were diligent and willing to embrace innovation. "If they gain access to Australia's agricultural technology, it will undoubtedly bring substantial benefits to the agriculture, horticulture, dairy and food processing sectors in UP," the CM said.

He further said that Aust-

ralia could play a significant role in improving UP's dairy sector. UP, he said, was already making significant strides with its one district-one dairy initiative, and technical assistance from Australia would be immensely valuable.

During a discussion with representatives from various Australian educational institutions, the CM said that a significant number of youths from UP were in Australia to pursue higher education. He suggested that Australian universities should sign MoUs with educational institutions in UP for research, collaboration and the exchange of technical knowledge.

He also encouraged Australian universities to explore the possibility of setting up campuses in the state.

The CM also highlighted infrastructure development in UP, stating that UP now boasts excellent connectivity across water, land and air. He said that the state's 27 industrial sectoral policies had been designed to cater to the needs of investors from various sectors. He also detailed UP's policy for Foreign Direct Investment and Fortune 500 companies as being highly beneficial for Australian investors.