



<Draft>



# Uttar Pradesh Global Capability Centres Policy 2024



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## 1. Introduction

Global Capability Centres (GCCs) have become critical strategic assets for multinational corporations (MNCs), serving as innovation hubs for key business functions such as product development, artificial intelligence (AI), data analytics, and cybersecurity. Originally conceived as cost-saving back-office units, GCCs have evolved into major drivers of global value creation, digital transformation, and technological innovation. Today, they play a crucial role in enabling high-value operations, including engineering, research and development (R&D), and advanced analytics.

India has firmly established itself as a global leader in the GCC sector, with the domestic market projected to reach around \$110 billion by 2030, driven by software exports. By 2024, India's GCC industry employed over 1.9 million professionals and contributed \$64.6 billion to the economy, accounting for more than 1% of India's GDP. The number of GCCs in India is expected to grow from 1,700 to over 2,400 by 2030, with potential expansions reaching 2,550 centres, creating over 2.5 million jobs. The annual establishment of new GCCs could increase from 70 to 115, reinforcing India's leadership as a global technology and services hub.

The evolution of GCCs has been impressive, shifting from simple Business Process Outsourcing (BPO) centres to Knowledge Process Outsourcing (KPO) and multifunctional hubs. These centres now manage more complex, high-value tasks such as AI-driven product development, cybersecurity, engineering research, and advanced analytics. The advent of technologies like machine learning (ML), cloud computing, and robotic process automation (RPA) has made these centres indispensable to the innovation strategies of MNCs.

Uttar Pradesh, with its strategic location, young workforce, and rapidly developing infrastructure, is well-positioned to benefit from this growth. By focusing on infrastructure development, talent enhancement, and financial incentives, the state aims to become a leading destination for GCC investments. Major industry players, like BDO India (headquartered in Belgium), have chosen Noida as their GCC investment site, highlighting Uttar Pradesh's business-friendly environment. The State Government is also promoting Centres of Excellence (CoEs) in emerging fields like AI and cybersecurity, further cementing Uttar Pradesh's role in the global GCC ecosystem.

## 2. Advantage Uttar Pradesh: Emerging GCC Destination in India

### 2.1. Sectoral Advantage:

GCCs operate across various service lines, including IT services, finance and accounting, HR, and customer support. They have advanced up the value chain by handling complex tasks such as analytics, data management, and R&D, which require deep business insight. Currently, GCCs in India have established a strong presence in key sectors, with Software and Technology accounting for 38%, BFSI (Banking, Financial Services, and Insurance) at 6%, Telecom and Networking at 5%, and Industrial, Automotive, Electrical and Electronics, Transportation and Construction, Media and Entertainment, and Semiconductors each comprising 4%. Other sectors include Chemicals and Materials (4%), Pharmaceuticals (2%), Energy and Utilities (2%), Medical Devices (1%), with a growing presence in aerospace, oil and gas, and healthcare.

GCC sectors are broadly classified into upstream and downstream categories. **Upstream sectors are highly specialized and knowledge-intensive**, requiring a pre-existing ecosystem of industrial agglomeration for growth, such as Artificial Intelligence, Cloud Computing, Quantum Computing, Deep-tech, and Robotics. **Downstream sectors, on the other hand, can operate independently of economies of scale** and can be established anywhere with an efficient workforce, quality infrastructure, and business-friendly governance. These include sectors like BFSI, Software and Technology, and Energy and Utilities. Currently, upstream sectors represent about 25% of all GCCs in India, while downstream sectors make up around 75% of the total GCC share.

Uttar Pradesh already hosts a GCC hub for the Software and Technology sector in Gautam Buddha Nagar. With a strong presence in the ESDM (Electronics System Design and Manufacturing) and IT/ITeS sectors—boasting the highest share of exports in these sectors in India and employing over 350,000 professionals—Uttar Pradesh is well-positioned to attract related downstream GCCs. The state is home to over 200 ESDM and IT companies, including prominent global brands like Samsung, Oppo, Haier, NTT, STT Global, Web-Werks, HCL Technologies, TCS, Infosys, Wipro, Adobe, and Microsoft. Therefore, **Uttar Pradesh has the potential to become a hotspot for downstream GCC sectors, including Software and Technology, BFSI, Semiconductors, Healthcare, and Medical Devices**. The state also has a unique opportunity to tap into emerging sectors like AI, data analytics, and digital engineering.

## 2.2. Enabling Infrastructure:

Uttar Pradesh is committed to developing infrastructure to support business growth. Over the past five years, the state has invested Rs 5.31 lakh crore in infrastructure CAPEX—the highest in India. This investment is reflected in significant projects like the Ganga Expressway, Purvanchal Expressway, Bundelkhand Expressway, and Gorakhpur Line Expressway, all aimed at enhancing freight movement under the PM GatiShakti initiative. The state is globally connected through five international airports in Ayodhya, Kushinagar, Lucknow, Varanasi, and the upcoming Noida airport, alongside 20 domestic airports, both operational and proposed.

Uttar Pradesh is home to **over 40 IT parks and 25 Special Economic Zones (SEZs) offering modern, ready-to-use office spaces**. **Noida has become a prime destination for Global Capability Centres (GCCs)**, attracting significant investments from global technology and manufacturing giants, especially in electronics and semiconductors. The state has established itself as a **Data Centre and Semiconductor hub in North India**, with major players like Yotta, STT Global, and Web Werks operating in UP. The State Government recently announced a **1,000-acre semiconductor park near Jewar International Airport, with access to the Multi-Modal Logistics Park in YEIDA and the Rapid Rail Transit System (RRTS)**. Additionally, the state hosts an **Electronic Park (250 acres), a Data Centre Park, and other Electronic Manufacturing Clusters (EMCs) in the YEIDA region**. **Plans for an AI City in Lucknow (40 acres)** further enhance UP's infrastructure offerings. The state also supports GCC growth with facilities like the Integrated Industrial Township (750 acres), Medical Devices Park (350 acres), and Fintech Park in the YEIDA region.

Software Technology Parks of India (STPI) provide **competitive Grade A office space rents in Uttar Pradesh**, with Noida's average rent being competitive as compared to other major cities in India. **STPIs are currently operational in Kanpur, Lucknow,**

**Prayagraj, Noida, and Meerut, serving around 300 registered IT units**, with new STPIs planned for Agra, Bareilly, Gorakhpur, and Varanasi.

### 2.3. Access to Talent:

The growth of Global Capability Centres (GCCs) in India highlights the country's vast technology talent pool and its conducive environment for digital innovation. **India's GCC workforce comprises approximately 1.66 million professionals at a cost-competitive average salary.** The state's talent pool is continually replenished by numerous educational and technical institutes, ensuring a steady supply of professionals in engineering, data science, IT, and finance.

With **56% of its population in the working-age group (18-60 years)**, Uttar Pradesh benefits from a significant demographic dividend, boasting the largest concentration of highly employable resources in the country. Annually, the state produces **around 12.75 lakh graduates per annum**, and according to the India Skills Report 2024, it ranks among the top states for youth employability, ensuring a consistent flow of skilled professionals to meet the growing demand in the GCC sector. According to Wheelbox research, Uttar Pradesh has the highest concentration of employable talent in the 22-25 age group, with 74.77% of applicants deemed highly employable.

Uttar Pradesh leads the country in educational infrastructure, with **8,375 higher education institutes, 72+ universities, nearly 6,000 colleges, and 125,000+ seats in 168 polytechnics.** The state also has a robust vocational education system with over **3,000 Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) and 500+ training partners under the UPSDM.** Prestigious institutions such as **IIT Kanpur, IIT BHU, IIM Lucknow, IIITs and NIT Allahabad** are located here, contributing to the state's strong educational foundation. Since 2014, the Uttar Pradesh Skill Development Mission (UPSDM) has skilled over 1.5 million youth through approximately 8,000 skill training centres.

Uttar Pradesh is uniquely positioned to attract global corporations due to its vast, educated workforce, strategic location near the National Capital Region (NCR), and rapidly growing urban centers like Noida, Ghaziabad, and Lucknow. As GCCs are expected to double their workforce in the coming years, attention is shifting to Tier-2 cities where skilled talent is readily available.

**Lucknow, in particular, is emerging as a key destination for GCCs, especially for IT/ITeS firms seeking cost-efficient operations and access to a vast talent pool.** With the Software Technology Parks of India (STPI) recognizing Lucknow as a hub for tech startups, the city is becoming a leader in web development talent and is advancing rapidly in EdTech, HealthTech, and RetailTech. NASSCOM has also recognized Lucknow and Kanpur as emerging hubs for the IT and Business Process Management (BPM) industries.

### 2.4. Innovation Ecosystem:

GCCs play a crucial role in generating additional revenue streams and developing global solutions, far beyond serving as mere back-office support for multinational corporations. GCCs are increasingly investing in and collaborating with startups, actively contributing to the innovation ecosystem. In India, they have established over 15 incubators, more than 40 accelerators, and various partner programs, leveraging the country's strong engineering R&D (ER&D) service provider community, startup ecosystem, and knowledge base.

According to the latest data, about **9% of the total registered startups in India are based in Uttar Pradesh.** With **13,299 startups**, the state ranks fourth in terms of

**startup concentration, particularly in Tier II and Tier III cities**, offering GCCs an advantage in setting up operations. Uttar Pradesh aims to fund 100,000 youths annually over the next decade, facilitating the creation of a million new startups.

The state currently has **63 incubators across 23 districts and 08 Centres of Excellence (CoEs) focused on sectors such as AI & ML, Blockchain, 5G/6G, Drones, MediElectronics, and Health Informatics**. Uttar Pradesh plans to establish at least 100 incubators with a combined space of one million square feet, creating an ecosystem for 10,000 startups. The state is **home to unicorns** (i.e. **startups with valuations exceeding USD 1 million**) like Paytm, Paytm Mall, India Mart, Moglix, Pine Labs, Innovaccer, InfoEdge, and Physics Wallah, as well as Soonicorns and Minicorns.

Uttar Pradesh's reputation is further bolstered by **world-class academic institutions such as IIT Kanpur (specializing in AI, Drone Technology, 5G/6G), IIM Lucknow (Blockchain), and SPGPI Lucknow (Medtech), solidifying the state's position as a hub for research, innovation, and advanced technologies**. These Centres of Excellence (CoEs) provide unparalleled opportunities for GCCs to forge strategic partnerships and drive innovation.

#### **2.5. Favourable Investment Climate:**

As an **achiever state for the last two consecutive years in 'ease of doing business'** ranking, Uttar Pradesh enables a robust environment for investment and conducting business. Several reforms such as labour regulation, land administration, access to information and transparency, and construction permits have been implemented. Nivesh Mitra, the largest dedicated single window clearance portal, has been instituted to facilitate fast and efficient issuance of approvals. It consolidates **487 services from 43 departments and was instrumental in successfully reducing 4,500+ compliances**.

The State Government has developed a **comprehensive framework for investor facilitation**. For easing out the process of MoU Signing and further to give proper handholding support to the investor, an **online Investor Relationship Management Portal is developed known as "Nivesh Sarathi**, which is a one stop solution for investors to have seamless response on their queries, redressing grievances, filing investment intents, seeking facilitation and monitoring of their investment projects. "Nivesh Sarathi" has changed the entire way of investor engagement in the State. This includes hiring of **100 Udyami Mitras as dedicated Relationship Managers for handholding investors as Mukhya Manthri Udyami Mitra**.

Supporting the ecosystem, **Invest UP, a dedicated state government body, provides necessary assistance for investors planning to establish their business in the state**. The Government of Uttar Pradesh has taken various reformative steps in creating a holistic ecosystem for industrial development, through policy driven governance by formulating **around 27 incentive policies** to attract investment across different sectors including IT/ ITeS, Data Centre, ESDM, Semiconductor, Start-up, Defence & Aerospace, Electric Vehicle, Warehousing & Logistics, Tourism, Textile, etc. These policies provide attractive incentives to private players to **promote R&D, innovation and entrepreneurship**. Hence, lucrative subsidies are being offered for setting up Centres of Excellence, Skilling and R&D.

## 3. Policy Framework

### 3.1. Need & Importance in Uttar Pradesh

The establishment of GCCs in Uttar Pradesh will have a profound impact on the state's economic growth and employment generation, especially in IT services, consulting, and engineering. Moreover, GCCs will help develop Tier-I, Tier-II and Tier-III cities promoting regional development and reducing urban-rural income disparities. These cities Tier-II and Tier-III with their lower cost of living and emerging infrastructure, offer cost-effective solutions for global companies, thus making them attractive destinations for new GCC investments.

Additionally, the presence of GCCs will boost infrastructure development in the state, including the expansion of IT parks, co-working spaces, and special economic zones (SEZs). This development will further enhance connectivity and ease of doing business, making Uttar Pradesh a more attractive destination for global investors.

### 3.2. Vision

- 1) Uttar Pradesh envisions establishing itself as a **global leader in hosting Global Capability Centres (GCCs)** by leveraging its **strategic geographical location, vast talent pool, and rapidly improving infrastructure**. The state aims to create a robust ecosystem that fosters **innovation, entrepreneurship, and global competitiveness**, thereby attracting **both domestic and international companies** to set up their GCCs.
- 2) The state government seeks to transform Uttar Pradesh into a premier destination for **high-value digital services, research and development (R&D), and engineering** by targeting the next-generation requirements of MNCs. These include emerging sectors such as **AI, machine learning, data analytics, cloud computing, and cybersecurity**, which are increasingly critical to global businesses.
- 3) Moreover, the policy aims to make Uttar Pradesh the **innovation nerve centre** for India, helping companies establish **Centres of Excellence (CoEs)** in areas like **advanced manufacturing, digital engineering, artificial intelligence, and blockchain technology**. By providing a conducive business environment, high-quality infrastructure, and regulatory support, the state aims to **double its technology talent pool** and enhance its global reputation as a GCC hub.
- 4) The vision also includes enhancing **living standards** by improving urban amenities, **education, healthcare, and recreational facilities** in cities where GCCs are set up, thus making Uttar Pradesh an attractive destination for professionals and their families.
- 5) By launching a dedicated GCC Policy, the State Government plans to **attract more than 1000 new GCCs in the State which will support job creation of more than 5 lakh opportunities**

### 3.3. Strategic Objectives

The **strategic objectives** of the Uttar Pradesh GCC policy are designed to foster an environment conducive to the **establishment and growth of GCCs**. These objectives aim to address the **key factors** that influence global corporations' decisions to invest in India, ensuring that Uttar Pradesh becomes a preferred destination for **high-tech, knowledge-based operations**. The primary objectives include:

#### 1) **Building World-Class Infrastructure:**

Investments in **physical and digital infrastructure** are critical to attracting GCCs. Uttar Pradesh will invest in the development of **technology parks, SEZs, and co-working spaces** equipped with state-of-the-art facilities. The state will also enhance **transport connectivity**, including better road networks, **high-speed internet**, and **advanced telecom infrastructure** to support seamless global communication. The focus will also include establishing **sustainable infrastructure** that supports **eco-friendly practices** and **green building standards** for GCCs.

#### 2) **Hub-Spoke Operating Model :**

A hub-spoke model is envisaged for developing GCCs, which helps businesses leverage higher specialized talent, cost arbitrage and operational efficiencies. The model has 4 components i.e. **Global hubs, Satellite Offices, Outsource centres and Outpost/Cluster offices**. Global hubs are independent centres working directly with the headquarters. Satellite offices are subsidiary centres of the Global hub and are aligned with national/regional business strategy. Outsource centres are execution centres set up by local partners and carry delivery responsibility of the company. Outpost/Cluster offices are extended satellite offices with limited physical space and facilitates the local workforce that is majorly working from home. Government of Uttar Pradesh will focus on establishing Satellite offices and Outsource centres in **Tier II cities**, and outpost/cluster offices in **Tier III cities**.

#### 3) **Enhancing Financial Attractiveness:**

Uttar Pradesh will offer a suite of **financial incentives**, including **tax exemptions, subsidies, and capital grants**, to attract investments in GCCs. These incentives will be **performance-linked**, focusing on **job creation, export growth, and technology innovation**. The state will also streamline the process for accessing these incentives to reduce the administrative burden on companies.

#### 4) **Skill Alignment with Industry Needs:**

The policy will work to align educational curricula with the evolving needs of the GCC sector, ensuring that graduates possess the skills necessary to thrive in high-tech environments, thereby reducing skill gaps in the workforce.

#### 5) **Improving the Business Environment:**

Uttar Pradesh will implement a **business-friendly regulatory environment**, including simplifying **compliance requirements**, reducing the time required for approvals, and providing a **single-window clearance** system. By reducing bureaucratic hurdles, the state aims to make it easier for global companies to set up and expand their operations.

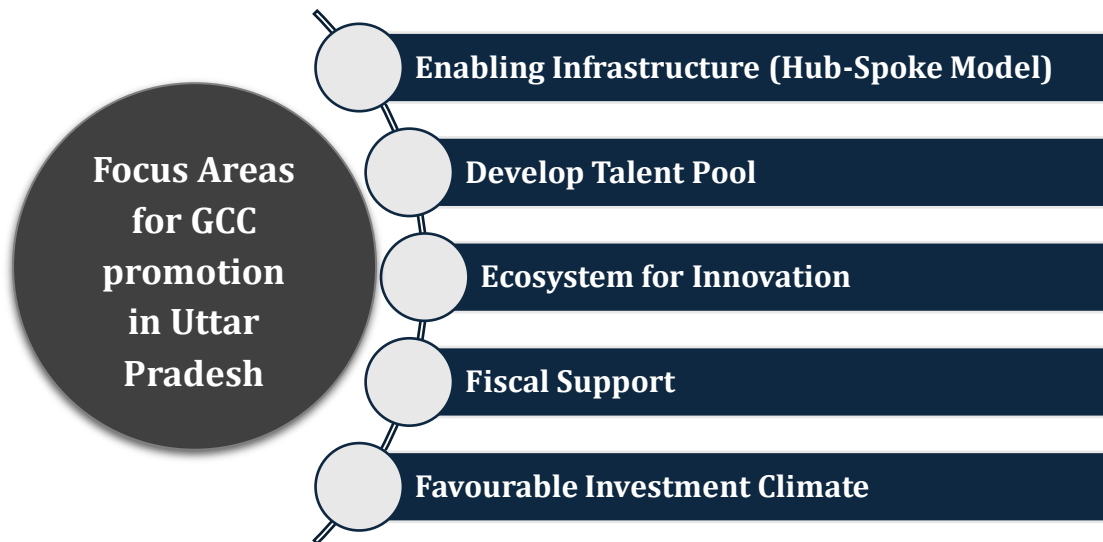


**6) Risk Mitigation and Sustainability:**

The policy will also focus on **risk management frameworks** to ensure the sustainability of GCC operations. These frameworks will address risks related to **cybersecurity, geopolitical changes, and global market shifts**. The state will also prioritize **environmental sustainability**, encouraging GCCs to adopt **green practices** and **reduce their carbon footprint**.

**7) Maximizing Economic Impact:**

The state aims to enhance the economic contribution of GCCs as **it has multiplier effect on job creation**. The sector is prone to attract top talent and shall therefore led to improvement of **quality of life** in cities where GCCs are established. Investments in **healthcare, education, housing, and recreational facilities** will ensure that Uttar Pradesh is not only a business-friendly destination but also a desirable place to live for professionals and their families. This holistic approach will contribute to **talent retention**, ensuring that the state continues to provide a sustainable and high-quality workforce.



## 4. Fiscal Support

### 4.1. Eligibility & Definitions

4.1.1. **Effective Date** means the date from which this Policy becomes effective.

4.1.2. **Effective Period** means the period starting from the Effective Date till the period for which this Policy remains in force (5 years) or until any amendment or repeal thereof by the State Government.

4.1.3. **Eligible Unit** means any industrial undertaking (not being an industrial undertaking in the joint sector or public sector where the share capital of Government or a Government undertaking is 50% or higher) owned by any entity constituted as a company, partnership firm including a LLP, Society, Trust, Industrial Cooperative Society or Proprietary concern setting up a Global Capability Centre (GCC)/ Global In-house Centre / Offshoring Unit, which would be an offshore unit engaged in servicing its parent organisation or global affiliates in Uttar Pradesh. The units shall be commonly referred to as 'GCC' or 'unit' in this policy.

4.1.4. **Capital Investment** means costs borne by the Eligible Unit which would be considered admissible for ascertaining their category for availing incentives under this policy. This would include expenses made on Land, Building & construction, Plant and Machinery (including computers, R&D equipment, networking hardware, software and related fixed assets directly related to operations of the eligible unit) and infrastructure utilities, as defined in clause 12.1.6 of IIEPP-2022.

Further, 50% of the expenses incurred by units for retrofitting existing fixtures shall also be included, if such value is capitalized by the units. The land cost shall be excluded in case the eligible unit avails front end land subsidy for the proposed project.

4.1.5. **Ineligible Capital Investment** includes Working capital; Goodwill; Preliminary and pre-operative expenses; Interest capitalized; consultancy charges; royalty; design and drawings; and Power generation, except for captive use as mentioned under Plant & Machinery head of Capital Investment as defined in this policy. Such heads shall not be considered for calculating the capital investment.

4.1.6. For administering the incentives, the following minimum investment & employment commitment-based **Project Categories** have been identified:

Category	Minimum Investment & Employment criteria
Level-1 GCC	Minimum Capital investment of atleast Rs 15 Cr and above anywhere in UP (except GB Nagar & Ghaziabad) and Rs 20 Cr & above in GB Nagar & Ghaziabad; OR Creating employment for atleast more than 500 employees
Advanced GCC	Minimum Capital investment of atleast Rs 50 Cr and above anywhere in UP (except GB Nagar & Ghaziabad) and Rs 75 Cr & above in GB Nagar & Ghaziabad; OR Creating employment for atleast more than 1000 employees

4.1.7. **Date of commencement of investment** means 'cut-off date' which is falling within the Effective Period of the Policy, in case, investment starts on or after Effective Date of the Policy.

Although such cases shall also be covered where Date of Commencement of Investment is within the period immediately preceding 5 years from the Effective Date subject to the condition that commercial operations in such cases commences after the Effective Date and at least 80% of the Capital Investment should have been made after the Effective Date. In such cases the cut-off date shall be the Effective Date of the policy.

4.1.8. **Date of commencement of commercial operations** means the date on which the industrial undertaking starts its commercial operations.

4.1.9. **Eligible Investment Period** means the period commencing from the Cut-off Date falling in the Effective Period of this Policy up to 3 years or till the date of commencement of commercial production, whichever is earlier for

Level-1 GCC Unit, and the same period shall be limited upto 5 years for Advanced GCC Unit.

- 4.1.10. **Eligible Capital Investment (ECI)** means the Capital Investment as has been made by the eligible unit in its Eligible Investment Period after the Effective Date of the policy. In case, the Capital Investment by the unit has started prior to the Effective Date, at least 80% of such Capital Investment should be made after the Effective Date of the Policy and the same Capital Investment shall be considered as the Eligible Capital Investment. However, for deciding the Project Category, 100% of such Capital Investment shall be considered.
- 4.1.11. **Employees** means employed persons who are on payroll of the Unit. This shall exclude all members of the Board of Directors of the Company and all Key Managerial Personnel (KMPs) as defined in the Companies Act, 2013.
- 4.1.12. **Expansion** means where the unit which is already operating in the State of UP is increasing its existing gross block by at least 25% through new capital investment in the existing / contiguous premises.
- 4.1.13. **Nodal Agency** means Invest UP which shall be responsible for processing the applications for incentives under this policy.

## 4.2. Incentives

The following incentives shall be provided to new as well as expansion projects of eligible units as defined in this policy -

- 4.2.1. **Front end land subsidy** shall be provided to eligible units on allotment of land from any State Industrial Development Authority, Development Authority, Urban Local Bodies or any other Govt agency at following rates-
- a) 30% in Gautambuddha Nagar & Ghaziabad districts
  - b) 40% in Paschimanchal (except Gautambuddha Nagar & Ghaziabad) & Madhyanchal region
  - c) 50% in Poorvanchal & Bundelkhand region

Such land provided by any State Industrial Development Authority or any other Govt agency on rebate to the eligible unit shall remain mortgaged to the respective Govt Body until the eligible investment period or commencement of commercial operations, whichever is earlier. On failing to complete the project within the stipulated time period as mentioned, the respective Govt Body shall recover the subsidy granted on the land at interest rate of 12% per annum.

- 4.2.2. **100% Exemption/ Reimbursement of Stamp Duty** on purchase/lease of land/office space/ buildings for the proposed project. The exemption shall be provided on submission of Bank Guarantee of equivalent amount of exemption availed which shall be refunded to the unit on commencement of commercial operations within the eligible investment period. On the other hand, reimbursement shall be provided post commencement of commercial operations.

- 4.2.3. **Capital Subsidy** at the rate of 25% of ECI maximum up to Rs 10 Cr. to the Level-1 GCC unit and upto Rs 25 Cr. to Advanced GCC unit in 7 equal annual instalments post commencement of commercial operations within eligible investment period. The land cost shall be excluded in Capital Investment in case the eligible unit avails front end land subsidy for the proposed project.

The eligible unit shall have option to avail **Refund of SGST on Capital Goods**, i.e. the unit shall be eligible to claim reimbursement of the State GST (SGST) paid on procurement of capital goods for setting up the unit within the state, subject to the condition that input tax credit has not been availed by the Unit on such capital goods under applicable GST laws.

The eligible unit can opt for either Capital Subsidy or Refund of SGST on Capital Goods.

- 4.2.4. **Interest Subsidy** at the rate of 5% per annum on the term loan or the actual interest paid, whichever is lower on the loan taken for construction & procurement of plant & machinery and setting up other infrastructure facilities at the project site, obtained from Scheduled Banks/ Financial Institutions subject to a maximum of Rs. 1 crore per annum per unit for a period of 5 years from the commencement of commercial operations.

- 4.2.5. **Operational expenses (Opex) Subsidy** at the rate of 20% on Operating expenses covering Lease rentals, bandwidth expenses, data center/ cloud service cost and power charges subject to maximum Rs 40 Crores per annum to Level-1 GCC units and upto maximum Rs 80 Crores to Advanced GCC units for a period of 5 years post commencement of commercial operations.

- a) Here, lease rentals shall include all leased spaces (including plug and play facilities / co-working facilities) subject to a maximum monthly rental of Rs 50 per square foot of carpet area;
- b) Power charges means cost incurred on the power utility bills. The State Government shall endeavour to provide power to eligible units at Industrial Rates. A separate shall be notified for this by the Energy Department, Government of Uttar Pradesh.
- c) Similarly, bandwidth expenses shall be admissible to payment made to licensed internet service providers only;
- d) Data centre and/ or cloud services shall be taken from service providers based within Uttar Pradesh holding a valid GSTIN under Uttar Pradesh Goods and Services Tax Act from which the invoice for services has been issued.

- 4.2.6. **Payroll subsidy:** Eligible units shall receive reimbursement of the cost of salaries and emoluments paid to on-roll employees (including workers engaged in research and development).

- a) The amount of subsidy shall not exceed Rs 1.2 lakh per employee per annum or Rs 1.8 lakh in case of employees having UP domicile and women/ SC/ ST/ Transgender/ Divyangjan employees, subject to maximum Rs 20 Cr. per year for a period of 3 years.

- b) Such subsidy shall also be provided for freshers' recruitment at the rate of Rs 20,000 per fresher employee having UP-domicile in units located in Uttar Pradesh, subject to continuous employment of minimum 1 year and annual recruitment of at least 30 fresher employees having UP domicile.
- c) Such freshers' recruitment subsidy is only applicable for employees recruited for their first job having domicile of UP and has graduated/post graduated from an recognised UP-based educational institutions only. Such incentive can be availed for a duration of 5 years from the commencement of operations.
- d) Average employment maintained by the unit during a financial year shall be considered for the purpose of this subsidy.

4.2.7. **Refund of Employers' contribution to Employment Provident Fund (EPF):** 100% reimbursement of the total EPF amount paid for Women/ SC/ ST/ Transgender/ Divyangjan employees having UP domicile, at the rate of Rs 2000 per employee per month subject to maximum of Rs 1 Cr. per annum for 3 years, post commencement of commercial operations.

4.2.8. **Talent development and skilling incentives:**

- a) **Assistance for creating Internship opportunities** in form of reimbursement at the rate of 50% of the costs subject to a ceiling of Rs 5,000 per student per month, capped to maximum 50 interns per annum for a period of 3 years post commencement of commercial operations, incurred by eligible unit for payment of stipend to students from educational institutions located within UP and to the students having UP-domicile. The internship should be onsite at the location of the unit and should last for at least 2 months.
- b) **Skill development subsidy** in form of reimbursement at the rate of Rs 50,000 per employee for course fee or 50% of the costs for conducting training programs by the eligible unit, for maximum 500 employees subject to a ceiling of Rs 50 Lakhs per annum for a period of 3 years from the date of commencement of operations.

4.2.9. **Incentives for promoting R&D and innovation:** Since the policy also aims at creating an innovation ecosystem for attracting & retaining investment in GCC industry, the Policy shall promote startups and Centres of Excellence.

- a) **Grant-in-aid for setting up Centre of Excellence:** Eligible units shall be encouraged to set up Centres of Excellence (CoE) to foster R&D and innovation in the State. The incentives for such COEs shall be provided as per clause 12.6 of UP IIEPP-2022. Such COEs may be set up in collaboration with academic institutions/ industry associations/ any other public entities.
- b) **Start-up ideation:** To encourage involvement of start-ups/ entrepreneurs in the ecosystem, eligible units shall be reimbursed 50% of the costs incurred in ideating / running Proof-of-concepts or solving problem statements with start-ups, subject to a ceiling of Rs 2 Cr. per annum for 5 years from date of commencement such R&D /

Startup activity at the unit within 5 years of date of commencement of commercial operations.

- c) **Intellectual Property Right (IPR) Subsidy:** The State Government shall reimburse 100% of the statutory fees for patent filings to GCCs, subject maximum Rs 5 lakh for domestic patents, and upto Rs 10 lakh for international patents. This incentive can be claimed up to two times during the policy period, and once per year by any eligible GCC, only on awarded patents.

4.2.10. **Case-to-Case incentives:** Advanced GCC units as defined in this policy, subject to following qualifying criteria shall be eligible for availing customised package of incentives on case-to-case basis as deemed necessary by the State Government, -

- a) Having Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) of atleast Rs 50 Cr.  
b) Unit or **their Group company** is listed in Fortune Global 500 or Fortune India 500 (as on date of application)

Such customised packages on case-to-case basis shall be approved by the Hon'ble Cabinet.

## 5. Non-fiscal Support

5.1. **Technical Support Group for GCC:** The State Government shall set up a dedicated Technical Support Group (TSG) within the Department of IT & Electronics to offer dedicated support for GCCs establishing operations in the State.

- a) **Composition:** Such TSG shall be headed by Principal Secretary, Department of IT & Electronics, Govt of Uttar Pradesh and shall comprise industry experts having extensive experience in industry engagement, corporate affairs, partnership in GCC industry. This includes global leaders, including CXOs from top-performing GCCs, international trade experts, and thought leaders in business strategy and innovation. This will ensure a rich diversity of perspectives and experiences to guide the state's GCC initiatives. These people shall be nominated by a separate Government Order by the IT & Electronics Department every year. This Group shall meet quarterly basis to review the progress and issues of the industry in the State.
- b) **Role:** Such TSG is being planned to play a pivotal role in steering the state's GCC initiatives, providing strategic guidance and insights that align with global business trends and regional growth objectives.
- (i) The TSG shall be responsible for promoting and advocating the industry concerns and primarily focus on facilitating the investors.
  - (ii) TSG shall serve as the primary coordination hub between GCCs and various State government departments, ensuring smooth operations for both new and existing GCCs in the State.
  - (iii) The TSG shall also provide GCCs with comprehensive guidance on policies, regulations, and compliance, keeping companies well-informed about all legal and administrative requirements.
  - (iv) This will also facilitate discussions with CXOs and industry leaders, making policy recommendations to the Government of India on

matters such as transfer pricing, import/export regulations, and taxation.

**5.2. Linkage support:**

- a) **Commercial Spaces:** The State Government shall facilitate development of the live digital portal in collaboration with real estate partners, division-wise, offering GCCs a one-stop platform to explore listings of available commercial spaces across the State, simplifying the search for ideal locations. In Phase-1, it will primarily focus on cities like Noida, Ghaziabad, Lucknow, Kanpur and Meerut.
- b) **Technical partnership:** The State Government shall also facilitate the GCCs to connect with local educational institutions, Centres of Excellence, startups, and incubators, fostering talent recruitment, developing industry-specific skilling programs, promoting collaborative research, and driving open innovation. The TSG shall coordinate with Department of Higher & Technical Education for this purpose.

**5.3. Regulatory Support:**

- a) Exemption from the purview of the UP Pollution Control Act, except in case of power generation sets of capacity of more than 25 KVA for eligible GCC units.
- b) Exemption from inspections under the following acts and rules framed there under, barring inspections arising out of specific complaints to eligible GCC units. Under this provision, units shall be eligible for inspection only once in every 5 years.
  - (i) The Factories Act
  - (ii) The Maternity Benefit Act
  - (iii) The Shops & Establishments Act
  - (iv) The Contract Labour (Regulations & Abolition) Act
  - (v) The Payment of Wages Act
  - (vi) The Minimum Wages Act
  - (vii) The Employment Exchanges (Compulsory Notification of Vacancies) ActThe Eligible units shall be permitted to file self-certifications (may be amended from time to time).
- c) Permission to have 24x7 operations (to run in three shifts) and employment of women in all three shifts to eligible GCC units.
- d) Floor Area Ratio (FAR): FAR 3 and 1 (Purchasable, as per building by-laws prevalent at that time) applicable to eligible GCC units.
- e) The units shall be eligible to claim the benefit of employment generation subsidy, EPF reimbursement and other employment linked benefits provided under this policy in respect of Uttar Pradesh based employees working from home/ such other premises located within Uttar Pradesh.

## 6. Implementation Framework

- 6.1. This policy will come into effect on the date of its notification and will remain in force for the period of 5 years.
- 6.2. The Nodal Agency, as defined in this Policy shall process the incentive applications received under this policy. A Policy Implementation Unit (PIU) shall be set up at the Nodal Agency with adequately staffed with outsourced professionals and consultants to support in managing the Applications and Single Window operations headed by a designated Nodal Officer, i.e. Additional Chief Executive Officer, Invest UP. Such PIU shall receive & process the applications and shall serve as a dedicated secretariat the Nodal Agency for this policy. The Nodal Agency shall also empanel Chartered Accountants, Engineers, Cost Accountants, GST Auditors etc. as individuals or firms or agencies.
- 6.3. An Evaluation Committee at the level of Chief Executive Officer, Invest UP shall be set up for evaluation of applications. This Committee shall evaluate the application and refer for further recommendations to the State Government.
- 6.4. An Empowered Committee headed by Infrastructure & Industrial Development Commissioner (IIDC), Government of Uttar Pradesh shall further review and recommend the Level-1 GCC applications; while a High-Level Empowered Committee (HLEC) headed by Chief Secretary, Government of UP shall recommend the Advanced GCC applications for approval.
- 6.5. The Level-1 GCC applications shall be approved by Hon'ble Industry Minister, Government of Uttar Pradesh on the recommendations of the Empowered Committee, while Advanced GCC applications shall be approved by the Hon'ble Cabinet on the recommendations of the HLEC.
- 6.6. The Empowered Committees shall also have the power to approve changes in the number of phases and their duration, changes in the cut-off date, change in Capital Investment within the same category, and date of commencement of commercial production etc. requested by any applicant prior to start of commercial operations and as per the terms and conditions stipulated in the policy and subsequent guidelines. The HLEC will have the powers to provide any clarity or interpretation of the policy & resolving any challenges faced in the implementation of the policy.
- 6.7. Only the Cabinet is authorised to approve policy amendments. In case of any amendments in this policy, the committed package of incentives which were approved prior to policy amendment, will not be withdrawn and the unit will continue to remain entitled to the benefits.
- 6.8. Projects availing incentives under this policy will not be eligible to avail incentives under any other policy of the State Government. All incentives specified in this policy may be availed in addition to incentives available under any Government of India scheme/policy.

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