After K'taka, UP to develop global capability centres

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Lucknow: Close on the heels of Karnataka, the UP govt has initiated the process of developing global capability centres (GCCs) which have become critical strategic assets for multinational corporations.

These centres serve as innovation hubs for key business functions such as product development, AI, data analytics, and cybersecurity within the state.

Invest UP recently convened a stakeholder deliberation on the issue and has come up with a draft policy. According to the draft proposal, the policy is intended to span five years. Once the notification is issued, Invest UP will implement the policy by establishing a policy implementation unit (PIU) which will oversee its execution through an evaluation and empowered committee, ensuring regular monitoring.

"The idea is to turn UP into a GCC super hub, and we are putting our bet on this idea to give a major push to the resolve of turning UP into one trillion-dollar economy," an officer said on Friday.

Emphasizing that UP was strategically well-placed, the official said: "The state boasts of 40 IT parks and 25 SEZs that provide modern, ready-to-use office spaces. In this context, the GCC policy will promote investment and business establishment in these facilities."

Adding that Noida has emerged as a key destination for GCCs, the official said: "It is attracting substantial investments from leading global technology and manufacturing firms, particularly in electro-

What is GCC?

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 and advanced analytics.

nics and semiconductor sectors." According to officials, with the presence of players like Yotta, STT Global, and Web Works, UP has a footing in terms of data centres and is fast emerging as a semiconductor hub in North India.

"Additionally, the state is developing a 250-acre electronic park, a data centre park, and other electronic manufacturing clusters (EMCs) in the YEIDA region. Uttar Pradesh also supports GCC development through facilities such as the integrated industrial township (750 acres), a medical device park (350 acres), and a fintech park in YEIDA area," he added.

"In central UP, Lucknow has potential. The proposed AI City in Lucknow, covering 40 acres, will further enhance the state's infrastructure offerings," the officer said, adding that currently, Software Technology Parks of India (STPIs) were operational in Kanpur, Lucknow, Prayagraj, Noida, and Meerut, serving approximately 300 registered IT units.

Plans are underway to establish new STPIs in Agra, Bareilly, Gorakhpur, and Varanasi.