

Multi-modal logistics park policy draws from best practices

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Lucknow: Not just the state, UP's Multi-Modal Logistics Park (MMLP) Policy 2024 studied models from different countries of the world to draft its policy, which was promulgated by the state cabinet recently. It was notified by secretary Abhishek Prakash via a govt order on Wednesday.

A multi-modal logistics park refers to a transportation hub that offers diverse modes of transportation and logistics services in a single strategic place. Designed to offer seamless connectivity, they provide streamlined movement of commodities and improve trade.

The Indian govt is investing in the sector to accelerate economic growth vis-à-vis the five trillion-dollar economy goals. Such hubs would speed up transportation, which would cut costs and also help in reducing carbon emissions, on which additional emphasis has been given.

Many states see a clear opportunity to attract investment, and therefore, rising to the occasion, UP has come up with an elaborate policy.

Talking to TOI, Minister for Infrastructure and Industrial Development Nand Gopal Gupta Nandi said: "In about five years, India's position on the World Bank Logistics Performance Index improved from 44 in 2018 to 38 in 2023. Recent developments made UP (especially the western part) a

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suitable spot to be developed into a logistics hub. The policy brought out by UP - which is a well-curated document that took shape after a thorough study of policies of the nations of the world - is an invitation to those willing to make the most of this opportunity."

He added that provisions and policies of the USA, Russia, European Union, China, Mexico, and UAE were studied in detail to draw the document for UP.

"The policy will provide an array of incentives and sops to private companies on land and capital investment. Leading domestic and international players, including from the US and the Gulf, evinced interest in setting up MMLPs due to the growing network of expressways, airports, urban centres, and tourist hotspots in UP," the minister said.

As per the policy, projects with a minimum investment of Rs 1,000 crore would be eligible to avail the benefits of the incentives rolled out. Those applying to set up a project under the policy should be registered as a Fortune Global 500 willing to make foreign direct investment of Rs 100 crore in UP.