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Empowering Education Uttar Pradesh Higher Education Incentive Policy 2024

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The Uttar Pradesh Higher Education Incentive Policy 2024 is a transformative step aimed at reshaping the educational landscape in India. With a focus on increasing access to quality education, the policy’s objectives include attracting top private universities to underserved districts, inviting prestigious foreign institutions, and luring high-ranking Indian universities, especially those within the top 50 of the National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF). By offering significant financial incentives, the state hopes to establish Uttar Pradesh as a leading destination for academic excellence in India.

To achieve these goals, the policy offers substantial fiscal incentives to the first institutions that establish Multidisciplinary Educational and Research Universities (MERUs) in districts currently lacking them. For private universities, only the first institution to establish in an unserved district is eligible for these benefits, ensuring widespread and equitable educational development across the state. Additionally, top-ranking Indian universities and foreign institutions will also qualify for these financial benefits, regardless of the district where they set up, reinforcing the state’s commitment to raising educational standards throughout Uttar Pradesh.

A key element of the policy’s fiscal strategy is the range of stamp duty exemptions available to the first MERUs established in new districts. The exemption percentages vary with the investment in land: 50% for investments up to ₹50 Crore, 30% for investments between ₹50 to ₹150 Crore, and 20% for investments exceeding ₹150 Crore. Moreover, the policy supports infrastructure development through capital subsidies, which cover essential construction and infrastructural costs. Institutions investing up to ₹50 Crore can access a 15% subsidy with a ceiling of ₹7 Crore, while those investing between ₹50 to ₹150 Crore and over ₹150 Crore are eligible for subsidies of 16% (capped at ₹21 Crore) and 17% (capped at ₹35 Crore), respectively. For MERUs established in aspirational districts, the policy raises the subsidy to 20% with a maximum ceiling of ₹50 Crore, encouraging institutions to invest in underserved areas and foster educational equity.

The policy further incentivises foreign institutions through a special package for the first five foreign MERUs meeting the University Grants Commission’s (UGC) global ranking criteria. These universities, if ranked within the top 500 globally or possessing exceptional expertise, are eligible for a 100% stamp

duty exemption and a 20% capital subsidy, capped at ₹100 Crore. This provision ensures that globally renowned institutions have the financial flexibility to establish their presence in India, fostering cross-cultural academic exchange and broadening students’ global exposure. Top NIRF-ranked Indian universities are also eligible for similar benefits, including a full exemption from stamp duty and a 20% capital subsidy with a cap of ₹100 Crore. This measure encourages these prestigious institutions to expand into Uttar Pradesh, enhancing academic opportunities for local students and promoting excellence across the state’s higher education sector.

In a nutshell, the Uttar Pradesh Higher Education Incentive Policy 2024 represents a forward-thinking approach to advancing academic standards in the state. By providing a robust framework of financial incentives for private, foreign, and elite Indian universities, the policy aims to foster educational equity, invite global academic collaboration, and integrate Uttar Pradesh into the larger network of quality higher education. Through this policy, Uttar Pradesh signals its ambition to become an educational powerhouse, aligning regional development with national goals for academic excellence.