

Invest UP and UK Business Delegation Discuss Investment Opportunities in Uttar Pradesh

Lucknow, March 4, 2025: Invest UP, the investment promotion and facilitation agency of Uttar Pradesh, hosted a significant business meet with The Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (Ficci) and an Innovate UK business delegation to explore investment opportunities in Uttar Pradesh. The event took place at the Invest UP Office in Gomti Nagar, Lucknow, on Tuesday.

Shri Abhishek Prakash, Secretary of the Infrastructure and Industrial Development Department, Government of Uttar Pradesh, and CEO of Invest UP, welcomed the seventeen-member delegation coordinated by Charlie Fraser, UK-India Partnership Manager at Innovate UK. During the session, Shri Abhishek Prakash delivered an extensive presentation that underscored the state's robust infrastructure, investment-friendly policies, and exemplary Ease of Doing Business (EODB) metrics.

He highlighted the unique strengths and opportunities of Uttar Pradesh, emphasizing the state's comprehensive rail, road, air and waterway connectivity, a large consumer base, skilled workforce, and subsidized land availability for industries. Under the dynamic leadership of Hon'ble Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, the Uttar Pradesh government has rolled out over 30 policies aimed at attracting investment across various sectors. Uttar Pradesh consistently ranks as a 'Top Achievers' state in the Ease of Doing Business (EODB) category.

Shri Abhishek Prakash articulated the vision of Hon'ble CM to transform Uttar Pradesh into a one trillion-dollar economy. The state offers vast investment opportunities in sectors such as manufacturing, solar and green hydrogen energy, textiles, cement and steel, packaging, electronics, real estate, infrastructure and food processing. Uttar Pradesh leads the nation in grain production, particularly in wheat and sugarcane.

The state offers opportunities in defence manufacturing. The Uttar Pradesh Defence Industrial Corridor (UPDIC) includes six nodes across different cities, where manufacturers have already established their plants.

He emphasized that besides conventional sectors, there are ample opportunities in tourism, such as UP's Buddhist circuit and spiritual tourism. Recently, we successfully conducted the Mahakumbh 2025, the world's largest congregation, at Prayagraj, where over 650 million people gathered.

Furthermore, he highlighted the state's business-friendly environment facilitated by online portals like Nivesh Mitra, Nivesh Sarathi, and the Online Incentives Management System (OIMS).

Charlie Fraser and other delegation members collectively emphasized, "Startups and businesses are open to investing in the state of Uttar Pradesh due to its large diversified

consumer base, improved infrastructure, and supportive state policies. Additionally, the strengthening of research and innovation between Uttar Pradesh and the UK is a significant factor.

Innovate UK, the UK's innovation agency, as part of its Global Business Innovation Programme, brings 13 companies from Urban Systems seeking to collaborate with Indian companies on joint R&D projects. They have expressed interest in forging strong collaborative partnerships and exploring R&D opportunities in the field of urban systems innovation. Business sectors of interest include air quality (both indoor and outdoor) for smart city developers, electric vehicles (seeking EV fleet owners/operators, solar asset owners, and solar developers), renewable energy (specifically the redox flow battery industry), AI-driven fleet management (seeking logistics partners and waste management firms), smart mobility (partnering with manufacturers and technology developers for Zero Emission Delivery Zones - ZEDZs), and road repair (innovative pothole fixing with zero waste solutions).

The UK delegation included the following companies: Haliogen Power, Healthy Air Technology, Streetdock Systems, Omnia Smart Technologies, Smartviz, Viridis Building Services, Netzero DMRV, Thermal Road Repairs, Nodein Instruments, Aetosense, Flax & Teal Ltd, Greenenco, Purifire Labs, Innovate UK, and UKRI.

Others present at the session included industry members from FICCI and officials from Invest UP.