[HIGH-LEVEL WORKSHOP]

'STRENGTHENED CONNECTIVITY WITH NEPAL, BBIN NATIONS TO RESULT IN MUTUAL PROSPERITY'

LUCKNOW: A high-level workshop on Border Infrastructure and Connectivity in Bhutan, Bangladesh, India, Nepal (BBIN) sub-region was held in Lucknow on Tuesday to discuss on enhancing cross-border infrastructure, trade, and socio-economic development in the region, particularly between UP and Nepal and strengthening civilizational and cultural ties with Nepal.

The event brought together officials of NITI Aayog, Centre

for Social and Economic Progress along with officials of state government departments, Invest UP and representatives of industrial associations from the UP – bordering districts of Nepal.

Principal secretary, Infrastructure & Industrial Development, Alok Kumar highlighted the state's pivotal role in fostering connectivity with Nepal.

"UP is leading in infrastructure development—be it roads, railways, or aviation. Over the past eight years, the state has witnessed remarkable progress, with a 15% growth rate in the last fiscal year. A sleeping giant has awakened, and Uttar Pradesh is now realising its full potential," said Kumar. "Strengthened connectivity with Nepal and other BBIN nations will drive mutual prosperity," he added

Additional secretary and programme director (infrastructure), NITI Aayog, Rajeev Singh Thakur laid emphasis on the need for inclusive regional development.