## Lucknow emerging IT hub as tech firms set their base in city

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Lucknow: Known for its legacy of embracing, fostering and patronising new ideas, Lucknow is fast emerging as a prominent IT hub in north India.

A testimony to this is the fact that at least four big IT companies have made a footprint in Lucknow in the last six months.

"Nearly 35% of the tech workforce in Bengaluru hails from Uttar Pradesh. As major tech giants set their sights on Lucknow, they are not only tapping into a rich local talent pool but also gaining access to skilled professionals from eastern Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, and surrounding regions. Lucknow also offers a robust ecosystem – from an international airport and expressways to a growing metro network all complemented by a vibrant culture and renowned cuisine," said special secretary, IT and Electronics, UP, and MD of UPDESCO Neha

Industry observers agree. 'Emerging Technology Hubs of India' – a report brought out by Nasscom and Deloitte in 2023, placed Lucknow in the list of cities that will lead and benefit from the "next wave of tech hubs" for several reasons. These include the availability of skilled people, cost and quality of life, an increase in the number of start-ups creating a favourable ecosystem, and encouragement from the govt.

IT giants are also excited about their ventures in Lucknow.

CEO, Deloitte South Asia, Romal Shetty, termed UP as one of India's fastest-growing states and noted that



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Lucknow was full of possibilities. "Our decision to expand in Lucknow underscores our confidence in the region's potential and commitment to contribute meaningfully to the state's economic and technological transformation."

"In its initial phase, the establishment is expected to generate 800-1,000 direct and indirect employment opportunities, with plans to scale further over the next five years. Deloitte India will collaborate with local academic institutions and training centres to enhance employability through skill development programmes and internships, creating a pipeline of industry-ready talent," he said.

CHRO and country manager India, Genpact, Piyush Mehta, said that Lucknow is a strategic market for his company. "We believe that Lucknow has always had untapped potential. Our focus isn't just on building our presence in the city but on creating long-term impact by opening access to career growth and upskilling in future-ready skills. This will help us not only deliver lasting impact for global clients but also contribute to India's rapidly evolving economic landscape," he said.

The govt is also looking at the cascading effect of the arrival of IT giants.