


UPSIDA's Lalitpur Pharma Park, Poised for Significant Capital Influx, Deepens UP-Gujarat Synergy

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 **Zarna Udasi** • ETGovernment
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"As investment interest continues to build, the Gujarat–UP pharma corridor is poised to become a significant narrative in India's industrial success."

Uttar Pradesh is actively pursuing a deeper industrial collaboration with Gujarat's pharmaceutical sector, marking a strategic move to foster synergy between two of India's significant drug manufacturing hubs.

This outreach, conducted by the Uttar Pradesh State Industrial Development Authority (UPSIDA) in Ahmedabad, aimed to present "Investment Opportunities in the Pharmaceutical Sector in Uttar Pradesh" and has already yielded significant investment commitments.

This strategic engagement, undertaken in partnership with the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), brought together leaders from Gujarat's pharmaceutical and healthcare industries, alongside institutional investors and policymakers.

The core objective was to highlight Uttar Pradesh's significant transformation into a pharmaceutical manufacturing hub, a shift strongly supported by the proactive industrial leadership of Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath.

A central pillar of Uttar Pradesh's pitch is the upcoming Bulk Drug Pharma Park in Lalitpur. Developed by UPSIDA across 1,472.33 acres with an initial investment of Rs 250 crore, the park is projected to attract total investments around Rs 12,000 crore and create nearly 14,000 direct and indirect jobs, positioning it as a cornerstone of UP's pharmaceutical growth strategy.

"Uttar Pradesh is becoming an ideal hub for the pharmaceutical industry, driven by its investor-friendly policies and advanced infrastructure," stated Mayur Maheshwari, CEO, UPSIDA, conveying UPSIDA's core message. He elaborated on the key features of the Lalitpur park, describing it as a strategic advancement in Uttar Pradesh's industrial and pharmaceutical landscape.

The park is designed to offer a fully integrated ecosystem, including plug-and-play industrial plots, a centralized testing and R&D facility, common warehousing, a Common Effluent Treatment Plant (CETP), solvent recovery systems, and steam generation units. It also incorporates a dedicated Centre of Excellence for skill development and IPR management, and a drug licensing facilitation cell, ensuring comprehensive support for pharmaceutical players.

In conversation with ETGovernment, Maheshwari underscored the natural synergy between Uttar Pradesh and Gujarat. "The fundamental synergy between both states is clear: UP stands as the biggest market, while Gujarat possesses a well-established ecosystem," he explained. "We seek to achieve a beneficial blend—not just in terms of raw material availability, but also critical intermediaries, the entire supply chain, and crucially, port connectivity from Gujarat, which links UP to global markets."

Citing Uttar Pradesh's improved business environment, he added, "On Ease of Doing Business, we have moved to the 2nd position, a notable improvement from 14th six years ago. We are consistently pursuing synergies with industry leaders, and here in Gujarat, we are actively engaging with stakeholders. These interactions are vital for building future-ready industrial ecosystems."

Dr. G.N. Singh, Advisor to the Chief Minister and a respected voice in India's pharmaceutical regulation, commended the Yogi government's pro-industry approach, stating, "The government has introduced several policy reforms to strengthen the pharma sector, making Uttar Pradesh the most suitable state for investors."

Maheshwari further emphasized that the Lalitpur park offers multi-modal connectivity with direct access to NH 44, MDR 35B, nearby railway stations, and a dedicated airstrip, significantly enhancing operational ease. "We are not just building infrastructure; we are building confidence," he affirmed.

The strategic engagements in Ahmedabad culminated in the finalization of significant investment MoUs, including:

- CSL Lifesciences Pvt. Ltd., with a Rs 200 crore investment for an IV bottle and OSD plant, expected to create over 250 jobs.
- Medihealth Diagnostic Pvt. Ltd., planning a healthcare unit in Lalitpur.
- Gaman Irradiation, committing Rs 35 crore for a skin treatment and irradiation unit.
- Obamed Pharma, investing Rs 200 crore to set up a formulation unit.

Swapnil Shah, Convenor of the CII Gujarat Pharma Panel, highlighted the partnership between the two states as "more than just an industry interaction—it's the beginning of a deeper and strategic collaboration." He added, "Gujarat brings manufacturing depth; Uttar Pradesh brings a new-age development model. Together, we can power India's pharmaceutical self-reliance and economic leadership."

Shanay Shah, Chairman of Shalby Limited, lauded the initiative, stating that the collaboration between UPSIDA and CII was "key to sustainable economic development." UPSIDA also detailed its single-window system and investor-centric approach through various interactions with potential investors.