Uttar Pradesh Accelerates Business Reforms: Task Force Reviews Compliance Reduction & Deregulation Agenda under Chief Secretary's Leadership

- <u>Uttar Pradesh Charts Bold Path to Business Reform: Over 4,675 Reforms, Nivesh Mitra 3.0 on the Horizon</u>
- <u>Uttar Pradesh Accelerates Ease of Doing Business Reforms; Focus on</u> Simplified Services and Investor-Friendly Processes

Lucknow, August 5, 2025: In a strategic move to accelerate economic transformation, the Government of Uttar Pradesh convened a high-level review meeting at Lok Bhawan to assess the progress under its flagship **Compliance Reduction & Deregulation 2025** initiative, Chaired by Chief Secretary Shri S.P. Goyal, the meeting brought together senior officials and representatives from key departments to evaluate reform milestones and set the roadmap for future actions.

The session incorporated suggestions from the Task Force of the Cabinet Secretariat, Government of India, and highlighted Uttar Pradesh's strong commitment to fostering an investor-friendly ecosystem through regulatory simplification, digital innovation, and process re-engineering. Invest UP, the state's investment promotion and facilitation agency, is leading the implementation of these reforms.

A key focus of the meeting was the upcoming launch of **Nivesh Mitra 3.0**, a major upgrade to the state's Single Window System, which currently offers over 525 services across 44+ departments. The new version aims to reduce service delivery timelines by 30%, simplify applications and approvals, and cut documentation requirements by half. The initiative is expected to significantly boost investor confidence by making the clearance process faster, more transparent, and user-centric.

The state has already implemented **over 4,675 reforms** across 45 departments. These include more than 2,500 business-centric changes, 1,586 citizen service enhancements, and 577 decriminalization measures—marking a comprehensive shift towards responsive governance. A real-time dashboard linked to the Chief Minister's Office now allows for close monitoring of service delivery and redressal timelines.

Departments such as Labour, Fire, Revenue, and the UP-Pollution Control Board (UPPCB) have reported notable gains. For example, services under the Factories Act now require fewer form fields—reduced from 127 to just 50—resulting in quicker processing and reduced burden on applicants.

The ongoing deregulation campaign, initiated in March 2025, is being steered by the Cabinet Secretariat's Deregulation Cell. With guidance from the Prime Minister's directive to simplify compliance, inter-state consultations and departmental reviews have helped push implementation into high gear.

Reforms span 23 priority areas and 71 sub-priority domains, including those from departments such as Housing & Urban Planning, Labour, UPPCL, Fire, Revenue, and Invest

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UP. Key reforms include extended validity of licenses, adoption of risk-based inspections, and policy changes enabling night shifts for women.

Several forward-looking recommendations were taken up, such as amending building regulations to reduce land wastage, removing outdated restrictions on women in specific industries, and streamlining factory/trade license renewals. Enhancing accessibility through bilingual forms, DIY video tutorials, responsive call centers, and outreach programs were also part of the agenda.

To further boost investor confidence, the state is drafting **two landmark Decriminalization Bills** that aim to eliminate over 98% of imprisonment clauses in State and Concurrent Acts—
ushering in a progressive and business-friendly legal framework.

Chief Secretary Shri Goyal stressed the need for timely, coordinated action and feedback-based reforms. "Uttar Pradesh is not just improving systems—it's redefining them for the future," he stated.

The meeting concluded with a commitment to fast-track approvals and ensure complete integration of all reforms into Nivesh Mitra 3.0 by the year-end.
