

UP bets big on AI, deep tech to drive future eco

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Lucknow: Having started work on developing Uttar Pradesh as a global technology hub, the state govt now wants to pitch the state at the forefront of Artificial Intelligence (AI), deep tech and digital innovation by 2047.

These sectors, govt says, “will drive economic growth, create opportunities for youth, and showcase a new, self-reliant UP powered by technology and innovation.”

Before 2017, 13.3% of schools had computers, a figure that has now risen to 40.20%. In addition to this, 25,790 council schools are equipped with smart classes, 880 block resource centres have ICT labs and more than 2.61 lakh tablets were provided to teachers. Under the Swami Vivekananda Youth Empowerment Scheme, over 50 lakh youth were given tablets and smartphones in a step towards digitally enabled education.

Under its vision plan for Viksit UP-2047, UP will be transformed into a technology hub by 2030. This work includes developing AI cities in Lucknow and Kanpur, promoting global research and innovation and making NCR cities and Lucknow prime destinations for Global Capability Centres. To support entrepreneurs, innovation incubation centres will be established in every division while the state is also developed as the country's leading hub in the semiconductor sector.

“By 2047, UP should be a recognised centre for deep technology. This will include AI, quantum computing, blockchain, advanced

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robotics, biotechnology, gene editing, nanotechnology, space technology and green technology. These sectors will attract investment and create jobs and position UP as the engine of India's digital revolution,” said Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath.

The state will now focus on AI and deep tech innovation, digital infrastructure in Tier-2 and Tier-3 cities, and building hubs of cybersecurity and data protection. The govt also targets a fivefold growth in software exports by 2030. “Artificial intelligence, deep technology, and emerging sectors will be the driving force behind our USD 6 trillion economy goal by 2047. Under Viksit UP-2047, initiatives such as AI cities in Lucknow and Kanpur, semiconductor and EV manufacturing hubs, global data centres, innovation incubators, and cybersecurity hubs will take UP to new heights. They will equip our youth with globally competitive skills and jobs, while sustaining 16% annual GDP growth,” the CM added.