

'UP playing a pivotal role in India's growth'

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Lucknow: Uttar Pradesh is steadily progressing towards becoming a \$1-trillion economy and is playing a pivotal role in India's growth story. With major infrastructure projects such as extensive expressways, the upcoming Jewar Airport, and strategic logistics hubs, the state is creating a conducive environment for innovation and investment, said principal secretary, department of planning, Alok Kumar, at the launch of the two-day Innovation Summit held at IIT Kanpur.

The summit brought together deep-tech innovators and global capability centre (GCC) leaders to chart the future of startup-driven growth. "UP offers one of the most competitive GCC policies, with attractive incentives and robust support for startups and industries. Together with IIT Kanpur, we aim to build a strong ecosystem that retains talent, fosters deep-tech innovation, and makes both the institute and UP shine," Kumar said.

The event saw participation from over 150



(From left) Altruist Technologies director Deepak Gandhi, SMC chairperson Jai Shankar Sharma and administrative head of IIT Kanpur Alumni Association, Babita Lohani

startups, 20 venture capital funds, 25 Fortune 500 GCCs, and 30 leading researchers, making it one of the country's most significant platforms for deep-tech and innovation dialogue. Stating that GCCs are becoming critical hubs of innovation, IITK Dean (Resources and Alumni) Prof Amey Karkare said, "With a focus on areas such as AI, quantum computing, advanced materials, and biotechnology, we aim to harness India's talent and energy to build global leadership. This initiative is a step toward realising the vision of Viksit Bharat 2047 and positioning India as a global deep-tech powerhouse."

Chairperson of Startup Master Class (SMC), Jai Shankar Sharma, added, "This summit marks the start of a journey to build a strong innovation ecosystem where academia and industry converge to co-create impactful technologies."

Aligned with Viksit Bharat 2047 and Atmanirbhar Bharat, IITK director Prof Manindra Agarwal said the initiative will create corridors between GCCs and startups that can transform these capabilities into scalable solutions for UP and India. "The spirit of co-creation will ensure that ideas born in our labs find real-world impact," he said.