

{ PRE-BUDGET MEETING }

CM calls industry biggest partner in state's prosperity, seeks CSR push

Udyog Bandhu mechanism to be strengthened

HT Correspondent

letters@hindustantimes.com

LUCKNOW: Calling industry the biggest partner in the state's prosperity, chief minister Yogi Adityanath on Saturday asked industry groups to participate in the state's development through corporate social responsibility initiatives. He also said costs related to land, logistics and approvals would be brought down further to make investment more attractive.

He made these points at a special meeting with entrepreneurs ahead of the budget.

"The government does not view industries merely as investors, but as integral partners in the development process," the chief minister said.

Based on their interests and expertise, industry groups could contribute under CSR in sectors such as education, healthcare, skill development, women empowerment, environmental protection and local infrastructure, he said. Interacting with representatives of 'Laghu Udyog Bharati', the CM invited policy suggestions to promote innovation in the MSME sector.

He assured entrepreneurs of

Budget session from February 9

LUCKNOW: The budget session of the Uttar Pradesh Assembly is scheduled to begin on February 9, the assembly secretariat said in a statement on Saturday. The governor has summoned the 18th Uttar Pradesh Vidhan Sabha to convene at 11:00 am on Monday, February 9, for its first session of 2026, said Pradeep Dubey, principal secretary, legislative assembly in the statement. **HTC**



CM Yogi Adityanath at a special meeting with state-level industry organisations and entrepreneurs. @CMOFFICEUP X/ANI PHOTO

timely disbursement of incentives in line with the state's industrial policies.

Drawing attention to the potential of the toy industry, he emphasised the need for developing toy parks in the state.

To make Udyog Bandhu meetings more effective, the CM directed that the presence of the district magistrate and superintendent of police must be ensured in district-level meetings. He stated that issues and expectations raised by the industry must be resolved before the next meeting.

He further directed that state-level Udyog Bandhu meetings should not be confined to Lucknow alone, but should also be organized at other divisional headquarters. At the commissioner level, Udyog Bandhu meetings should be held every two months in the presence of the divisional commissioner and ADG/IG, with participation of ministers concerned ministers, the CEO of Invest UP and senior officials associated with infrastructure and industrial development.

At the state level, quarterly meetings should be held in the presence of the chief secretary and the director general of police to ensure swift and satisfactory resolution of entrepreneurs' issues, the chief minister said. He also instructed the principal secretary (housing) to put in place necessary arrangements to ensure that unnecessary taxes are not levied on land being used for residential parking, so that citizens and industry stakeholders are not burdened by additional costs.

A special presentation was made to apprise entrepreneurs

KEY FOCUS AREAS

- Export promotion through MSME- Export Council interactions
- Real estate issues addressed via proposed Awas Bandhu meetings
- Skill development and ITI institute upgrades for future industrial growth
- Encouraging SC/ST entrepreneurship for inclusive development

of the state's transformative development journey over the past nearly nine years.

The presentation highlighted that UP has emerged as one of the country's leading industrial states. Sharing figures on industrial expansion, it was stated that the number of registered factories in the state has increased from about 8,980 in 2003 to nearly 27,000 at present.

It was also shared that over the next two years, 185 industrial clusters will be upgraded at an investment of approximately Rs 5,000 crore.

Representatives of major industry and trade organisations were present at the meeting. They included the Confederation of Indian Industry (UP), Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UP), PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry, ASSOCHAM, Indian Industries Association, ASSOCHAM Uttar Pradesh, Laghu Udyog Bharati, Dalit Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry, NASSCOM and the Confederation of Real Estate Developers' Associations of India.