

# Invest UP, Skill Development Mission linked through 'Kaushal Connect Cell'

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**LUCKNOW:** The Uttar Pradesh government has set up a 'Kaushal Connect Cell' to provide trained manpower to major industries investing in the state and to enhance coordination between Invest UP and the Uttar Pradesh Skill Development Mission (UPSDM).

Kapil Dev Agarwal, minister of state (independent charge) for vocational education, skill development and entrepreneurship, said the SpeedUp Project Management Unit (PMU) has been engaged to fast-track training and employment processes under the Mission. The PMU will establish real-time coordination with investors through the new cell. According to an official

release, the Kaushal Connect Cell will track approved projects daily and coordinate closely with Invest UP to update their status. The cell will also prepare a detailed database of district-wise investments and sector-wise manpower requirements, including automobile, IT and textile sectors. Pulkit Khare, mission director, said the UPSDM is currently imparting training in nearly 35 sectors covering more than 1,300 job roles. To streamline coordination, single point of contact (SPOC) officers have been appointed by both Invest UP and the Mission. Omair Shahid will serve as team leader and SPOC, while Dr Pavitra Tandon will chair the cell. Atul Kumar Singh has been appointed as SPOC, assisted by Dhananjay Dwivedi and Jyoti Srivastava.