

Uttar Pradesh Government Contemplating New Agroforestry Policy for Plywood Sector

About 100 plywood industry leaders from across India explore investment opportunities in Lucknow and Hardoi

Ease of Doing Business reforms, 36+ sectoral policies, and competitive incentives are driving growth in Uttar Pradesh: Deepak Kumar

Lucknow, June 22: Uttar Pradesh continues to strengthen its position as one of India's most attractive investment destinations, driven by a strong focus on Ease of Doing Business (EoDB), industry-centric reforms, world-class infrastructure, and a policy ecosystem designed to accelerate industrial growth. Reflecting this growing investor confidence, nearly 100 representatives from the plywood industry and prospective investors from West Bengal, Haryana, Delhi, Karnataka and Punjab participated in a high-level investment interaction at the Invest UP office in Lucknow today.

The meeting highlighted Uttar Pradesh's industrial strengths, investment-ready infrastructure, streamlined approvals, and emerging opportunities for plywood manufacturing and allied industries. Senior government officials engaged directly with industry stakeholders, reaffirming the state's commitment to enabling business growth through responsive governance and targeted policy support.

Addressing the gathering, Shri Deepak Kumar, Infrastructure and Industrial Development Commissioner (IIDC), Government of Uttar Pradesh, emphasized the state's commitment to creating a competitive and future-ready ecosystem for the plywood and agro-forestry industry. He said, "Uttar Pradesh will move quickly towards creating a dedicated policy for this sector. We will also study policies of neighbouring states to build a more competitive and future-ready framework for the plywood and agro-forestry industries."

He further added, "The committee that will be constituted for this sector will also include industry stakeholders so that policy decisions are shaped with direct industry participation and practical insights."

Shri Vijay Kiran Anand, CEO Invest UP, highlighted that Uttar Pradesh has emerged as one of India's most competitive investment destinations, backed by continuous reforms, proactive facilitation, and a strong industrial ecosystem. He noted that with 36+ sectoral policies, capital subsidies, land-linked incentives, and employment support, the state offers a comprehensive and future-ready framework for investors looking to scale manufacturing operations.

He further stated, "We will soon identify four to five industrial clusters from the available land bank and reserve them for cluster-based development. If investors require land

beyond the existing land bank, the state will facilitate acquisition and ensure delivery within six months.”

Representatives from the plywood federation described the sector as a multipurpose industry with strong linkages across agriculture, manufacturing, and rural livelihoods. They suggested that alongside the successful One District One Product (ODOP) initiative, the state may also explore a “One Industrial Park” model to create dedicated manufacturing ecosystems for focused industrial growth.

The federation also raised concerns regarding licensing challenges for agroforestry-based industries, along with issues related to forestry regulations, pollution norms, penalties, and NOC-related approvals. They proposed the creation of a separate policy for agro-based industries and offered to submit a draft framework for the government’s consideration.

Responding to these suggestions, Shri Deepak Kumar acknowledged the concerns raised by the industry and said, “We will take these issues forward and discuss them with Hon’ble Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath to explore practical and industry-friendly solutions.”

The interaction also saw active participation from Smt. Purna Sharma, ACEO Invest UP, reflecting the state’s collaborative and investor-centric approach to industrial development.

As part of the engagement, participating investors will undertake a site visit to Sandila, Hardoi, on June 23 to assess land availability, infrastructure readiness, and industrial development opportunities. The visit is expected to catalyze new investments, create employment opportunities, and further strengthen Uttar Pradesh’s manufacturing ecosystem.

With its strategic location, extensive connectivity network, abundant industrial land, and investor-centric governance model, Uttar Pradesh continues to emerge as a preferred destination for manufacturing-led growth, supporting the state’s vision of becoming a one-trillion-dollar economy while contributing to India’s Viksit Bharat 2047 aspirations.
