## Nivesh Mitra portal to include more payment gateways

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Lucknow: Invest UP is working to add payment gateway options to the Nivesh Mitra portal, an official spokesperson said on Thursday. Nivesh Mitra provides an online payment facility for the prescribed fee for availing various services of different departments.

"The idea is to enhance user convenience and expedite investment processes," the spokesperson said, adding that a meeting in this regard was convened by chief executive officer, Invest UP, Abhishek Prakash. Later, he told reporters that various banks agreed to provide a free-of-cost payment gateway for the initiative.

Officials of various banks participated in the meeting, including SBI, ICICI, Axis, AU, IndusInd Bank, Bank of Baroda, Punjab National Bank, HDFC, Bank of India, Indian Overseas and Indian Bank, along with the finance controller of Invest UP, Vishwajeet Rai.

The spokesperson said that currently, ICICI Bank, Punjab National Bank and HDFC Bank are empanelled as payment gateways, offering secure payment options including debit cards, UPI, internet banking and credit cards. The empanelment of Bank of Baroda, Union Bank and State Bank of India is in process, further expanding the available payment options for users. Additionally, Axis Bank, IndusInd Bank, Indian Bank, Bank of India and AU Bank are set to be empanelled soon. Now, a total of 11 banks will be on board on the Nivesh Mitra portal.

Officials concerned said that the Nivesh Mitra portal has played a pivotal role in boosting investments across UP. "By the end of Nov this year, over 2.6 lakh transactions were processed through the portal, underscoring its significant contribution to the state's economic growth. This di-



Chief executive officer, Invest UP, Abhishek Prakash

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gital platform continues to receive strong support from investors and businesses, reinforcing the state's position as a leading investment destination in India," they said.

Nivesh Mitra is a user-friendly, single-window platform and the largest of its kind in India, designed to help entrepreneurs and investors in UP easily obtain online clearances and NOCs from various departments, minimising the need for physical visits. Entrepreneurs setting up small, medium and large-scale industries must submit applications through this system, with online payment options available for processing fees.

The platform allows realtime tracking of application status within predefined time limits, ensuring systematic and timely clearances. It also provides access to relevant govt orders, department process flows and user manuals, making it a comprehensive state-wide solution for busi-