

INDIA BULLION & JEWELLERS ASSOCIATION'S CONCLAVE

CM pitches for gems, jewellery park in state, seeks a roadmap

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
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CHIEF MINISTER Yogi Adityanath on Thursday called upon the India Bullion and Jewellers Association (IBJA) to "chart out a comprehensive roadmap" for setting up a gems and jewellery park in the state which he said offered a robust and secure environment for businesses.

Addressing an IBJA conclave in Lucknow, the CM highlighted the crucial role of the gems and jewellery industry in India's economy, saying, "The sector contributes 7% to the country's GDP (gross domestic product) and generates significant revenue through import duties and GST. Beyond economic growth, the industry plays a vital role in job creation and enhancing India's global identity."

Assuring full government support to the stakeholders in the sector, the Chief Minister said, "Such conclaves open new avenues for trade. Uttar Pradesh now offers world-class infrastructure and all necessary amenities,



CM Yogi Adityanath with representatives of the India Bullion and Jewellers Association in Lucknow on Thursday. ANI

making it a land of immense opportunities for entrepreneurs and investors. The state is not only free of riots but also of mafia. Now, the police here swiftly neutralise any threats. Festivals of all communities are celebrated peacefully."

The Chief Minister assured traders of the government's "steadfast support through enhanced security measures and open dialogue", outlining "significant strides taken under the 'Safe City' initiative, including reducing police response time from 25-30 minutes to just 7-8 minutes".

Emphasising an urgent need to establish a dedicated gems and jewellery park in the state, Adityanath urged the IBJA to develop a "comprehensive model incorporating design, technology, processing, packaging, supply chain management and exports".

Underlining UP's "demographic advantage", the CM noted that the state with a population of 25 crore serves a broader region catering to the needs of nearly 30 crore people in terms of trade, employment, healthcare and education.

WORLD BANK CHIEF TO VISIT TODAY

Lucknow: World Bank President Ajay Banga will visit UP on Friday to witness the remarkable transformation of Uttar Pradesh, the state government said on Thursday. "His visit reflects the increasing global interest in Uttar Pradesh's rapid development under the leadership of Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, as the state moves steadily toward its ambitious goal of becoming a USD 1 trillion economy," it said in a statement.

During his one-day tour, the World Bank chief is scheduled to participate in a series of meetings and programmes at Hotel Taj. Later, he will meet the CM at his residence for discussion and dinner, it added. PTI

