

Invest North 2013 – CII Investment Conclave – New Delhi

Uttar Pradesh, the giant has woken up

Infrastructure & Industrial Development Commissioner: *“Huge consumer base, skilled workforce, the largest producer of so many agri-crops, basic inherent strengths are already there. We have planned 10% growth, to achieve this target industry is vital. State is striving to achieve industrial growth at 11.2%”*

- **Principal Secretary, Infrastructure & Industrial Development:** *“Industrial development in U.P. is on an upward swing, we are in the process of further improving the doing business environment by not only revisiting and rationalizing our policies and rules but meeting the challenge head on at ground level”*

New Delhi/Lucknow: August 26, 2013

Investment conclave involving **eight northern Indian States**, 'Invest North' commenced here today with welcome remarks by Jayant Davar, Chairman, Confederation of Indian Industries (CII)-Northern Region. Being organized by CII in association with partner states- **Uttar Pradesh**, Punjab, Jammu & Kashmir, Delhi, Haryana, Rajasthan, Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh, the two day meet is being attended by around 500 delegates, including global as well as Indian business associations along with diplomats of Portugal, Hungary, Canada, Rwanda, Gambia, Italy, Germany, Poland, Britain, Lesotho, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Bangladesh, etc.

Leading a high level team of officials, **Infrastructure & Industrial Development Commissioner (IIDC) of U.P., Alok Ranjan invited** investors from major Indian and international industrial and business houses to invest in various sectors in Uttar Pradesh. Addressing the august gathering, **IIDC, Alok Ranjan highlighted** comprehensive nature of incentives and facilities incorporated in the new Infrastructure & Industrial Investment policy and Food Processing, IT, Solar, Sugar & Poultry policies of the State. **IIDC said**, *“We have strengthened Udyog Bandhu and IT enabled systems are being further improved to ease the issuance of clearances and information dissemination along with grievance redressal mechanisms.”*

IIDC, Alok Ranjan said, *“Uttar Pradesh has vast untapped potential and State government is making sincere efforts to improve doing business environment, I would say **the giant has woken up.**”* *“Driven by vision of our Chief Minister, we are complementing our efforts with strong Governance and Administrative reforms, which will help us become more decisive, and act more swiftly with transparency and accountability,”* **he added.**

Conveying the vision of Chief Minister, Akhilesh Yadav, IIDC, Alok Ranjan said that it was the initiative of Chief Minister to conceptualise the development of **Amritsar-Delhi-Kolkata Industrial Corridor** along Eastern Dedicated Freight Corridor on the lines of Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor (DMIC). *“Proposed ADKIC has the potential to act as a fulcrum for future industrial development of the state. The concept paper developed by UP contains six industrial regions which will give new fillip to industrial investment in the state,”* **he added.**

Referring to connectivity infrastructure development taking place in U.P., IIDC said, *“It is Chief Minister’s Mantra that double the speed, treble the development. The projects are being fast-tracked, Early Bird projects on DMIC are going to be launched next month.”* DMIC Early bird projects include Multi-modal logistics hub at Dadri, Multi-modal Transport hub at Bodaki and Integrated Hi-tech Industrial Township at Greater Noida.

During the Uttar Pradesh specific State session, aptly named **“Advantage Uttar Pradesh: Enabling Business Environment & Projects for Investment”**, **Principal Secretary, Infrastructure & Industrial Development Department (IIDDD), Dr Shiv Pratap Singh expounded** on the unlimited opportunities available to investors in the state and conducive mechanisms being put in place to unlock this potential. *“State government is taking important innovative policy initiatives and rationalizing the procedures and rules to facilitate investment. Industrial development in Uttar Pradesh is on an upward swing, investors can avail this golden chance by synergizing their resources with that of State,”* **he averred.**

Addressing the gathering of industrialists and entrepreneurs **Dr Surya Pratap Singh said**, “We don’t want to sulk, government is serious about solving your problems by meeting the challenge head on at ground level.” “Entrepreneurs will now be treated as VIPs in Uttar Pradesh,” **he added**.

Sharing their success stories of growing business in U.P., **Ravindra Zutshi of Samsung Electronics** and **V C Agarwal of Moser Baer** were all praise for the fresh steps and positive change in government approach for spurring industrial development in U.P.

Ravindra Zutshi said, “Dr S P Singh, Principal Secretary, industrial development is the first senior government official to have visited our unit in 15 years.” **Zutshi informed** that Samsung is mulling expansion of its manufacturing unit with US\$ 100 million investment in Noida.

V C Agrawal of Moser Baer stated, “Moser Baer is proud to be the world’s largest unit to produce optical discs in Greater Noida.” “We have long, rich and fruitful presence in U.P. spanning three decades, foreigners who visit our factories in Noida and Greater Noida are pleasantly surprised to see the world class infrastructure in U.P.,” he added. **Agarwal informed** that Moser Baer is in the process of setting up a 20 Mw solar power plant in Bundelkhand with an investment of Rs250 crores, which will be commissioner by May of next year.

Earlier CII-KPMG report on “***Compendium of Investment Opportunities in Northern States***” was also released.

A meaningful one-to-one interactive session amongst government secretaries and entrepreneurs also took place, wherein information and incentives available to different sectors was exchanged, including Energy, Small Scale Industries, Information Technology, Renewable Energy, Industrial development authorities, Tourism, Roads, etc.

Prominent among those who expressed their willingness to invest in U.P., included **Chairman-Vayam Technologies Ltd. Ashok Tiwari**, interested in **Home land security equipment, defense equipment**; **MD-Maharashtra Knowledge Corporation Ltd. Vivek Sawant** in **Education facilities and Skill development institutes**; **Vice President-KEC International Ltd. Ashish Singh** in **Railway coach, manufacturing unit**; **Patel Engineering Ltd** in **Infra projects** **Head Government Affairs**; **Head Corporate affairs-LG Electronics India** in **setting up manufacturing units**, etc.

Autometers Alliance Ltd (AAL) which has its manufacturing units at Noida & Greater Noida and engaged in production electrical & electronic equipment for Transportation (Railways/ Metros/ Bus), Industrial and Defense sectors, **envisage an investment upto INR 500 Crore** and advanced technology transfer to India in Phase 1 related to Railroad / MMRTS sector. AAL inquired about the availability of appropriate Land for setting the project.

U.P. government officials who clarified queries of interested business community, included IIDC – Alok Ranjan, Principal Secretary Infrastructure & Industrial Development-Dr Surya Pratap Singh, Director General Tourism-Sanjeev Saran, Managing Director UPSIDC-Manoj Singh, Special Secretary, Infrastructure & Industrial Development-Kaushal Raj Sharma, etc.

An impressive & detailed audio-visual presentation outlining strong political will along with plan and growth execution strategy of government of U.P. in existing areas of interest and emerging opportunities was also screened and described by **Ernst &Young, the Knowledge Partner** of State government for encouraging investment. Several bold and novel steps taken by the state government under New Infrastructure & Industrial Investment Policy, namely- significance of PPP in infrastructure development, fiscal and enabling incentives, various projects underway and in offing, which include Agra-Lucknow Expressway, roads network, mega leather cluster projects, IT cities and parks, plastic city at Auriya, new initiatives in transport, civil aviation, education, healthcare and tourism etc. were depicted.