



Study for Identifying Strategies Quadrupling Meerut's GDP

Jointly Published By



Meerut Citizens Forum
(MCF)



Federation of Indian Micro, Small
and Medium Enterprises (FISME)

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Conducted By
M.C. Singh (Retd. IES)

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Date : October 2023

Preface

The Government of Uttar Pradesh has set a target of getting to US one Trillion Gross State Domestic Product by 2026-27, from their estimated level of a GDP of close to US \$ 250 billion in 2021-22. Reaching of milestone would require the State to accelerate its gross in excess of 30 per cent per annum in next five years. All the Districts of the State may need to equally contribute to this aspiration by quadrupling their GDP during this period.

It in this context, Meerut Citizens' Forum (MCF) and Federation of Indian Micro and Small & Medium Enterprises (FISME) decided to entrust a study to identify the current status of economy of Meerut and the way forward to achieve this milestone.

In the process of completing the study, based on a preliminary data analysis, a Meeting was held in Meerut in the august presence of Shri Rajendra Agrawal, Hon'ble Member of Parliament of Meerut, Shri Amit Agarwal, Hon'ble Member UP State Assembly and a group of knowledgeable persons from Administration, Industry, Trade and Professionals to identify the approach and further agenda. A virtual cum physical meeting was later held in Delhi which outlined the broad approach of the Study.

The first of its kind study in the State, and perhaps the first in India conducted by civil society institutions, it delved into the multifaceted aspects of Meerut's economy, aiming to provide a comprehensive analysis of its existing and potential growth drivers, employment landscape, informality quotient, governance structures, and the outreach of government schemes. Moreover, it has sought to offer a ground-level perspective that captures the nuanced realities of Meerut's economic ecosystem.

Meerut's economic landscape is a tapestry woven with the threads of tradition and modernity. It encompasses 14 major manufacturing and 6 services clusters. As we explored the city's economic foundations, we tried to identify the key factors that fueled its growth and continue to shape its trajectory especially the informal economy.

In addition to analyzing economic factors, this study reviewed the governance and administrative institutions that play a pivotal role in Meerut's development. This includes a critical assessment of the functioning of key institutions, such as the police and judiciary, in maintaining law and order and ensuring access to justice. The study did not shy away from suggesting much-needed reforms including administration, governance, the economic ecosystem, and factor markets such as finance, land, and labor. These recommendations are grounded in a deep understanding of Meerut's unique context and challenges.

In conclusion, this study has pragmatically looked at the potential of quadrupling GDP of Meerut in four years and has found that a set of reforms and following through on investment commitments could indeed make it possible.



Meerut, UP vs India- A GDP snapshot

Meerut being part of NCR has a big locational advantage due to its proximity with Delhi. Multiple big infrastructure projects like Rapid Rail Transport System, Dedicated Freight Corridor, Delhi Meerut Expressway etc. will further enhance city's connectivity. This should help Meerut to witness robust growth and contribute to CM Yogi's plan of taking the UP economy to \$1 Trillion by 2027.

	2020-21		2026-27	
	USD	INR ¹	USD	INR ²
India GDP	2667.7 bn.	198.02 lakh crore	5000 bn.	412.25 lakh crore
UP GDP	221.2 bn.	16.42 lakh crore	1000 bn.	82.45 lakh crore
Meerut GDP	6.9 bn.	0.51 lakh crore	25 bn.	2.06 lakh crore
India Per Capita Income	1968	146,085	3482	287,091
UP Per Capita Income	957	71,038	2957	326,255
Meerut Per Capita Income	1806	134,059	6098	502,780

Data for 2020-21 is from Ministry of Statistics & Programme implementation and UP Directorate of Economics & Statistics *2026-27 projection is as per stated goal of Govt. of India and Govt. of UP respectively

Working Population of Meerut City

	Projected by 2027
Total Population	20,00,000
Working Population	8,00,000
Self-employed Population	5,00,000

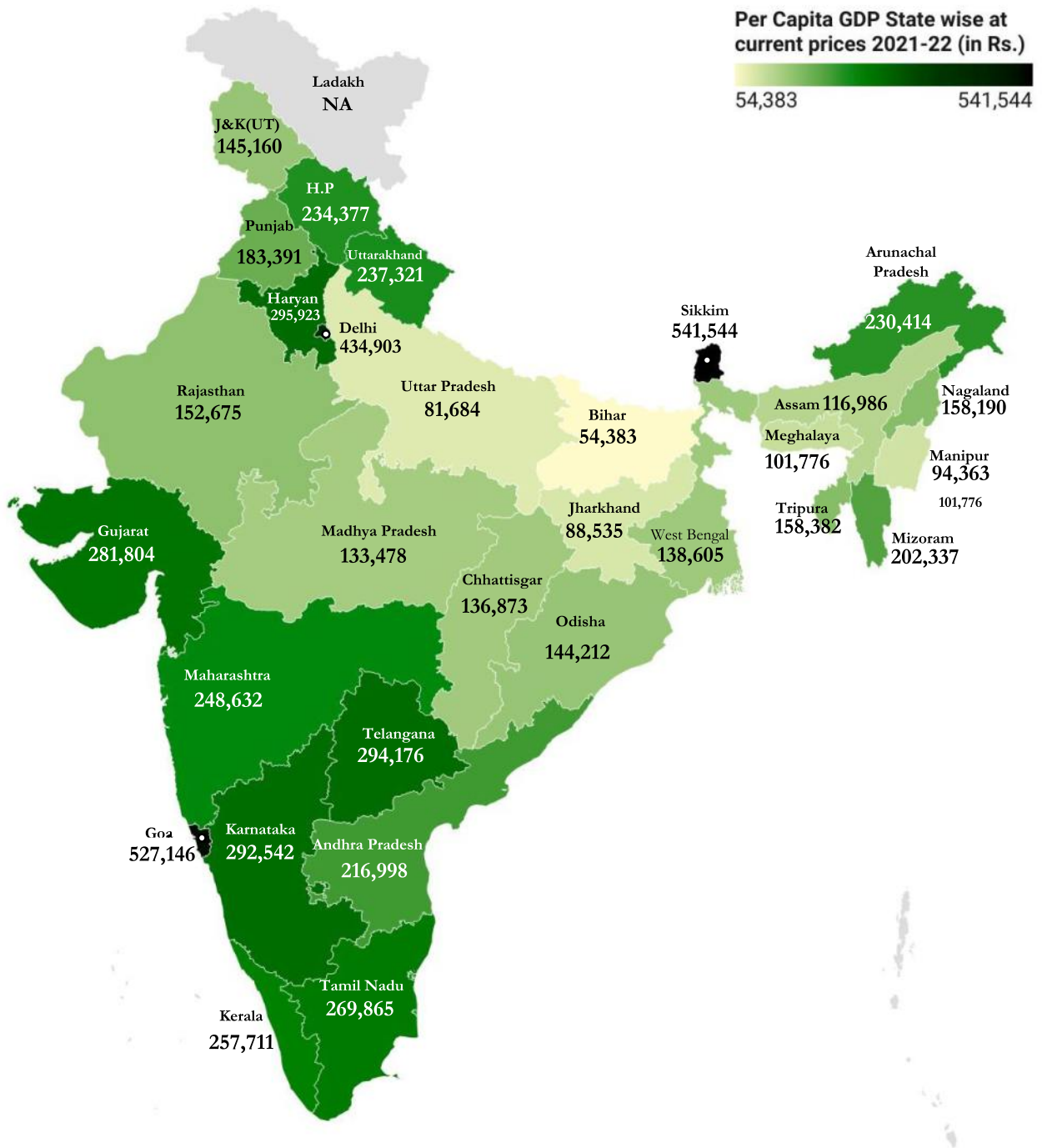
As per CSO statistics of 2019, almost 60% of workforce is self-employed/unorganized workers – e.g. – shopkeepers, domestic workers, security guards, street hawkers, light transport & non-transport drivers, technicians, home based enterprises etc. These 5 to 6 lacs self-employed people provide a sizeable contribution to the economy, but have largely been ignored by the local administration and face daily hurdles impacting their ability to grow due to their unauthorized status. To achieve the \$1 Trillion GDP by 2027, it's very important that this workforce is able to grow their business activity.

¹ USD/INR rates for 2020-21 is annual average rate as per RBI (<https://cimsdbie.rbi.org.in/#/dbie/statistics>)

² USD/INR rates for 2023-24 is average for daily exchange rate for 2023-24 till 4 Oct 2023(<https://www.rbi.org.in/scripts/ReferenceRateArchive.aspx>)



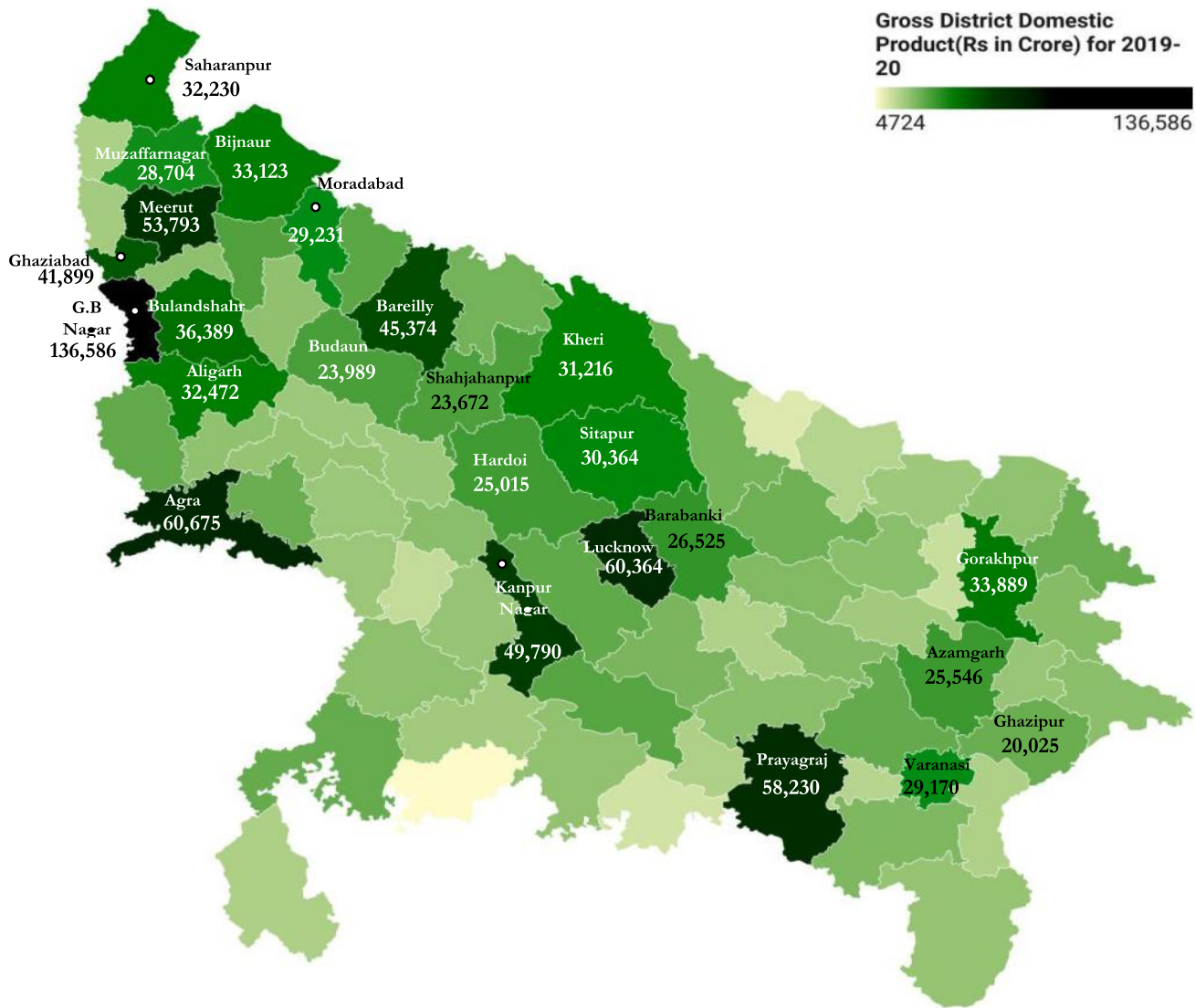
Map 1 : Per Capita GDP State wise at current prices 2021-22 (in Rs.)



Source : MoSPI, March 15, 2023



Map 2 : Gross District Domestic Product (Rs. In Crore) for 2019-20



Source : Directorate of Economics & Statistics



Table 1: Top 30 Districts in terms of Gross District Domestic Product

S.No	District	Gross District Domestic Product 2019-20 at Market Prices (Rs. in crores)	Per Capita GDP 2019-20(Rs.)
1	Gautambudh Nagar	136,586	650,409
2	Agra	60,675	119,205
3	Lucknow	60,364	111,373
4	Prayagraj	58,230	85,759
5	Meerut	53,973	143,544
6	Kanpur Nagar	49,790	103,298
7	Bareilly	45,374	88,104
8	Ghaziabad	41,899	89,720
9	Buland Shahar	36,389	91,660
10	Gorakhpur	33,899	68,345
11	Bijnor	33,123	80,592
12	Aligarh	32,472	76,404
13	Saharanpur	32,230	82,220
14	Kheri	31,216	65,856
15	Sitapur	30,364	58,057
16	Moradabad	29,231	79,432
17	Varanasi	29,170	71,320
18	Muzaffar Nagar	28,704	89,983
19	Barabanki	26,525	70,733
20	Azamgarh	25,546	49,797
21	Hardoi	25,015	53,680
22	Badaun	23,989	57,389
23	Shahjahanpur	23,672	70,454
24	Amroha	23,224	109,035
25	Rampur	21,953	81,915
26	Unnao	21,244	62,484
27	Mathura	21,140	71,663
28	Jaunpur	20,861	42,487
29	Jhansi	20,589	94,444
30	Fatehpur	20,442	71,476
	State Level	1,725,860	75,812

Source: UP Directorate of Economics & Statistics



Acknowledgement

The report titled "Study for Identifying Strategies for Quadrupling Meerut's GDP" is an in-depth Economic Analysis that seeks to delve into the economic prospects of Meerut district in Uttar Pradesh. This report would not have been possible without the invaluable cooperation, support, and insights extended by the public representatives of the district, representatives of district administration, academicians, representatives from industrial associations, researchers and scholars, industry experts and concerned stakeholders.

I wish to express my sincere gratitude to Shri Rajendra Aggarwal, Hon'ble Member of Parliament for Meerut, and Shri Amit Agarwal, Hon'ble Member of the Legislative Assembly representing Meerut Cantt, for their invaluable guidance and support. I convey my gratitude to Shri Deepak Meena, District Magistrate of Meerut, for generously granting us the privilege of presenting the report's findings at his office. A note of thanks to Mr. N.K Taneja, Vice-Chancellor (Retd.), Chaudhary Charan Singh University, Meerut for his esteemed participation in the Advisory Council for this study.

I would like to thank representatives of MIDFO (Meerut Industrial Development Forum)- Mr. Girish Kumar, Sai Electricals and Mr. S.P Gupta (Chartered Accountant) for their inputs and contribution to this report.

I extend my gratitude to Mr. Arvind Rastogi, (Retd. Chief Town Planner, Development Authority), Mr. Jagesh Kumar (President, UP Architects Association), Mr. V. K Gupta (Retd. Chief Town and Country Planner, Uttar Pradesh). Their expertise and recommendations have been crucial in shaping this report. I express my profound gratitude and acknowledgment to the stakeholders representing various cluster-based associations. Their active participation has shed light on the ground realities and challenges faced by different clusters, significantly enriching our understanding. I extend heartfelt appreciation to Mr. Sharif Ahmed (President, Meerut Scissors Manufacturing Association), Mr. Mohit Chopra (President, Brass Band Association Meerut), Mr. Mateen Ahmed Ansari (President, Meerut Khaddar & Textiles Weavers Cluster).

Furthermore, heartfelt appreciation is extended to MCF (Meerut Citizens Forum) and FISME (Federation of Indian Micro and Small & Medium Enterprises) for affording the opportunity to engage with this study. I express my sincere appreciation to FISME Secretariat team including Mr. Anil Bhardwaj, Secretary General, Mr. Mayank Gaur, Joint Secretary and Mr. Archit Tripathi, Deputy Director for their support.

In conclusion, a note of thanks to all those who have contributed to the report. Your valuable contributions have made this study a comprehensive and insightful resource in understanding Meerut's economic landscape and development of its economy. While every effort has been made to acknowledge all contributors, any inadvertent omissions are sincerely regretted.

M.C. Singhi



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List of Acronyms

ASI	Annual Survey Industries
CAGR	Compound annual growth rate
CoEK	Centre of Excellence for Khadi
CFO	Chief Fire Officer
DIC	District Industries Centre
FISIM	Financial Intermediation Services Indirectly Measured
FISME	Federation of Indian Micro and Small & Medium Enterprises
FPO	Farmer Producers Organisation
GDDP	Gross District Domestic Product
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GSDP	Gross State Domestic Product
GST	Goods and Service Tax
GVA	Gross Value Added
ICOR	Incremental Capital Output Ration
IDFC	Infrastructure Development Finance Company
IES	Indian Economic Services
IIA	Indian Industries Association
ITES	Information Technology Enabled Services
KVIC	Khadi and Village Industries Commission
LFPR	Labour Force Participation Rate
MCF	Meerut Citizens' Forum
MDA	Market Development Assistance
MMA	Meerut Management Association
MoSPI	Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation
MSME	Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
NBC	National Building Code
NCR	National Capital Region
NCT	National Capital Territory of Delhi
NCVT	National Council for Vocational Training
NEP	National Education Policy
NFHS	National Family Health Survey
NHAI	National Highways Authority of India
NITI	National Institution for Transforming India
NOC	No Objection Certificate
NSSO	National Sample Survey Organisation
PLI	Production Linked Incentive
PPDC	Process and Product Development Centre
PSU	Public Sector Undertaking
SEZ	Special Economic Zone
SCVT	State Council for Vocational Training
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
SDP	State Domestic Product
STPI	Software Technology Parks of India
SWOT	Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats analysis
UPSIDA	Uttar Pradesh State Industrial Development Authority
UPSRTC	Uttar Pradesh State Road Transport Corporation
WPR	Workforce Participation Rate
WTO	World Trade Organization



Executive Summary

- The Uttar Pradesh Government, led by Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, aims to transform the state into a \$1 trillion economy by 2027, a fourfold increase from the current level.
- The focus of the study is on breaking down these economic goals to the district level, with a particular emphasis on Meerut, one of the top industrialized districts in the state. The study explores investment opportunities, ground-level policies, institutional roles, and growth factors in the context of Uttar Pradesh, with a focus on Meerut.
- Six parameters are examined to assess the feasibility of achieving the economic goals, including GSDP, workforce, institutional credit, capital expenditure, policy dynamics, and administrative effectiveness.
- Uttar Pradesh, India's third-largest state economy, is striving to reach a one trillion-dollar GDP by 2027, with an estimated nominal GDP of Rs. 21.74 trillion in 2022-23. Agriculture plays a vital role, producing food grains like wheat, rice, and sugarcane. The state has seen rapid industrialization but faces challenges in reducing poverty rates. Infrastructure development is underway, including metro systems, road networks, and expressways. Employment trends indicate an increase in labor force participation but also higher unemployment rates. While Uttar Pradesh is committed to achieving Sustainable Development Goals, its overall performance is below par.
- The economy of Meerut has grown at a rate of 9.4% in the last 9 years (2012-21). The current status of agriculture in Meerut reveals a unique situation within the state of Uttar Pradesh. While Uttar Pradesh is predominantly agrarian, with agriculture and allied activities accounting for nearly 26% of its GDP (higher than the national average), Meerut stands as an exception with a lower share of 19% in the sector.
- The contribution of different segments of GDP of Meerut in 2020-21 is as follows: Agriculture & allied products 19%, Industry 36.6% and Services 44.4% with compound annual growth in last five years rate of 6.2, 7.4 and 11.7% respectively. Clearly, the contribution of Agriculture is shrinking and that of industry and services growing.
- The report identifies a number of strengths and weaknesses of the economy of Meerut. For strengths, it is well-connected location, with easy access to Delhi and other major cities, abundant natural resources, including fertile land and water, A skilled workforce, A vibrant entrepreneurial culture, A strong focus on education and research.
- Weaknesses: Poor infrastructure, particularly in terms of roads, sanitation, and water supply, High levels of pollution, Inefficient public administration, Lack of investment in the manufacturing sector.
- The GSDP of Meerut need to reach US\$ 30 billion by 2026-27, in line with the State perspective of a trillion-dollar GSDP. At a normal base line growth scenario of 13 per cent, the GSDP reaches barley US \$ 20 billion. The required rate of growth for Meerut to reach US \$ 30 billion is in excess of 30 per cent, assuming a moderately depreciating rupee.
- The proposed interventions in the study based on secondary research and detailed consultations with stakeholders aim to boost the estimated GDP growth by specific percentages.
- Firstly, an increase of 2.7% in GDP is expected through the ICOR intervention, contingent on the realization of committed investments of Rs. 10,000 crores for districts, with an emphasis on the role of political leadership and district administration.



- Secondly, a 1% increase in GDP is projected through improvements in labor participation and institutional investment, driven by greater involvement of women, improved law and order, and skills training.
- The third intervention, labor relocation, anticipates a 2% GDP increase through the migration of the workforce from agriculture to industry and services sectors, coupled with skills training.
- Lastly, a 1% increase in GDP is envisioned through institutional improvement, focusing on enhancing the ease of doing business, reducing delays, minimizing multiple visits, and streamlining interactions with state and central agencies. These interventions hold potential for significant economic growth, provided that their respective caveats and conditions are effectively addressed and implemented.
- To bestow Ease of Doing Business at ground the study posits to prioritize self-employed household enterprises by implementing the following measures: Regularizing and allowing work from home and residential areas with suitable caveats decided by an expert committee; Not charging commercial House Tax and commercial-level tariffs for electricity and water from people working from home, develop a policy for Street Vendors and allocate spaces for them.
 - o Based on consultations and analyzing the data of Udyog Bandhu- a government led grievance redressal mechanism, MDA and Municipal Corporations share a high share of grievances, ollowed by Fire department followed by cost of litigation due to delay in justice.
 - o Municipal Corporation must act to address waterlogging and clogged drainage systems in urban and industrial areas to prevent diseases, traffic congestion, property damage, and economic disruptions which unnecessarily drags growth of District's economy.
 - o Meerut city has grown largely unplanned. The cost of seeking approvals or regularization being prohibitive, most old and new construction are irregular. Meerut Development Authority (MDA) has to evolve a transparent mechanism for pending cases for approvals and focus on facilitating employment rather than revenue generation. To address these issues, a committee comprising experts should be established, empowered with flexible rules to prioritize and resolve unauthorized constructions. The Master plan needs to be made dynamic to accommodate emerging needs allowing flexibility for industries to expand without fresh approvals and the associated pains. It also needs to proactive in dovetailing district projects with national projects to keep the district ahead in the game.
 - o The Industrial Infrastructure of the District urgently needs overhaul and a better system of management and up keep. The industry associations could be vested with responsibility for maintenance drawing from the best practices in other states such as Gujarat.
 - o Education: Consultations brought to fore an urgent need to align schools and colleges with the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, emphasizing technical and life skills. A need for establishing a resource center to handhold schools for implementing NEP in secondary education is repeatedly emphasized. To successfully implement NEP, a District Vocation Fair could be organized by District administration through DIC inviting all school/ college students to visit annually.
 - o District Industry Center (DIC): A need for reimaging and revitalizing the DICs. A government backed agency is needed with private sector zeal to attract, aid, and sustain investment. Successful models such as 'District Invest Promotion Agency' (DIPA) from Odisha could be considered leveraging institutional mechanism of Udyog Bandhu.

- o Law and Order: The study notes the direct correlation of Focus extent of women's participation in the labour force and GDP growth. Female participation is among the lowest in India. The participation rests on quality of law and order and better facilities to attract female labour force.
 - o Justice delivery: The study proposes to ensure speedier justice by increasing number of Courts' working days, enhancing court infrastructure, enabling digital functioning, and increasing the number of judges.
 - o Fire Department: The study suggests to balance pragmatism and safety in enforcing new Fire Licensing Policies for older industries like approving low-height constructions, narrower aisles, and common water tanks for smaller industries in clusters. Reintroduction of utility certificates for fire equipment is also propose
- Agriculture: Despite this lower share, agriculture in Meerut supports 32% of its population engaged as cultivators or agricultural laborers. Crops dominate the agriculture sector in District, contributing to 61% of the total value added, followed by the livestock sector at 30%. The area under food crops, including sugarcane, represents over 85% of the gross sown area, with most of it being irrigated through tube wells.
 - Sharp depleting water levels- by an average of 91cm annually and flow of chemical residue of fertilizers galvanized Government for encouraging diversification of agriculture and adoption of natural farming. The response has been only lukewarm. The shift, however, requires awareness creation, capacity building, handholding and help in market linkages for natural farm products to reduce perceived risk of farmers. The agriculture university ought to start a slew of short and medium term result oriented courses Agro-ecology. Government must provide support for marketing linkages through institutions like NABARD on natural farming.
 - Industry: The study identifies more than 14 major industrial agglomerations or clusters in the district namely Sports Goods, Scissors Textile Weaving, Brass Band, Leather, Textiles, Handicrafts, Electronic Switchgear, Publishing & Printing, Gems & Jewellery, Food Processing, Power Loom, Auto Parts and Khadi and Textile Weavers. The district also houses six major Services agglomerations namely Construction Advisers & Contractors, Doctors & Health Clinics, Education, Professionals (CAs, Lawyers etc.), Tourist Aggregators and Street Hawkers/Eating Joints.
 - Almost all of the segments are well organized and have their representative associations. They also have a fair understanding of their potential growth trajectory. But their access to regulatory and promotional agencies is weak. They lack the heft to reach out to administration and relevant government officials to resolve their issues. A mechanism is also needed to handhold them access various schemes and programmes of the state and the central government. A Sui Generis DIPA model could be tasked to deliver on the objectives.

Chapter I : Introduction

1. The Uttar Pradesh Government under the stewardship of Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has set a target to make Uttar Pradesh a \$1 trillion economy by 2027. The target to be achieved in less than 5 years is four times than the current level. The Chief Minister himself has emphasized to breakdown the goals to the district level.

Keeping in view that Meerut is among the group of top 5 industrialized districts of the state, it would have to contribute more than four times to compensate for other not so advanced districts to help the State to achieve the goal. While the target is ambitious, the fillip to the hope is given by several positives that have emerged in recent years.

2. Firstly, Meerut is part of the NCR- a mega industrial zone that has become a magnet for attracting investment. It is just 60 min from the core of NCR- Delhi and is connected by world class highways and is being connected to India's first rapid Rail network. The travel time from Delhi to Meerut is considerably reduced as compared to Greater Noida or Manesar or Sonipat, the other competing investment destinations. Meerut will also be connected to Delhi- Mumbai Industrial Corridor.

3. These developments are set to transform the economic geography of the district. Further, Meerut also encompasses the largest cantonment in India both in terms of population and geographical area. Last but not the least, it already has over a dozen industrial and services clusters pump priming economy of the district. GDP is an ideal indicator of prosperity as it measures the output in the entire economy in non-overlapping method and alternate methods of estimation through supply side, perspective of demand and factor shares, it leads to a common outcome.

Assessment of GDP through these methods is summarized below to indicate that GDP is not a black hole. At the State level, usually data is released for GDP from supply side perspective, though in non-monetized services sector, measurement may often be based on factor shares.

Box 1 : Estimating Gross Domestic Product

From Supply perspective	From Demand Perspective	From Factor Shares
Value Added from Agriculture & Allied Sectors	Government Final Consumption Expenditure	Labour Payments, Wages & other emoluments
Value Added from Industry	Private Final Consumption Expenditure	Interest and Rent
Value Added from Services	Investment (Gross Capital Formation)	Profit or Mixed Income
Taxes less Subsidies	Net International Trade	Depreciation
Working Approach		
GDP= GVA (Output-Inputs) + Net of Taxes	Consumption + Gross Capital Formation (Domestic Savings+ Capital Transfers)	Labour Share+Interest + Rent+Profit+Depreciation

4. This study based on desk research and discussions with the stakeholders at ground level attempts to look at investment opportunities, policies to be adopted at ground level, role of ground level institutions and other factors that may impinge on growth. The study is set in the background of the State of Uttar Pradesh and looks at the development opportunities in Meerut as one of its promising districts.

5. We look at the six parameters to examine the feasibility of converting this rhetoric to reality covering the level of GSDP and its structure including the best possible growth achieved in last decade; the level of workforce and its structure; the institutional credit relative to GSDP; the capital expenditure of the State; the policy dynamism; and the effectiveness of its administrative apparatus. The empirical findings of the study revealed a significant and positive association between States' capital outlay and GSDP - a one per cent increase in capital outlay leading to a range of 0.82-0.84 per cent increase in GSDP. Further, the findings also revealed that past values of capital outlay influence the current year's decision on public investment.

Box 2 : Explanation to GDP Calculation

Gross Domestic Product (GDP)

GDP is the total value of all economic activities in a district, state, or country. In India, GDP is estimated at the activity level as gross value added, which is divided into three sectors: Agriculture, Industry, and Services.

- **Agriculture:** The sector comprises crops, livestock, fisheries, and forestry. For crops, the value added is calculated as the output value minus input costs using Mandi prices. Livestock output is valued at wholesale prices, and input costs are deducted. The same approach applies to fisheries and forestry. Input costs which are consumed in production process such as fertilizers and seeds are deducted to arrive gross value added.

For livestock, output is valued at wholesale prices or prices which a producer gets. Input costs which are consumed in the production process is deducted to arrive at gross value added. Similarly, the value added from fisheries and forestry sector is estimated.

- **Industry:** This sector is divided into mining, manufacturing, electricity & utilities, and construction. Data for major minerals comes from the Indian Bureau of Mines, while minor minerals are sourced from district/State/National level data. Manufacturing data is separately estimated for organized and unorganized sectors using the Annual Survey of Industries and Ministry of Corporate Affairs data. Electricity and utilities data use indicators such as the number of workers and civic facilities, and construction data utilize parameters like steel and cement use and the number of workers.

- **Services:** Similar to the Tertiary sector, services include trade, hotels & restaurants, transport, communication, banking & insurance, real estate, professional services, public administration & defence, and other services. Data for organized services comes from the Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA21) and Government Departments, while other services use the number of workers and value added per worker as parameters.

These three sectors, when aggregated, provide Gross Value Added at basic prices. Taxes are added, and subsidies are subtracted to arrive at GDP. The share of each sector can be determined annually based on relative growth using specific parameters or observed rates of growth between census or survey periods (e.g., livestock census, employment survey, economic census, growth of production sectors, GST collections, Index of Industrial Production).



Table 2 : Sector wise Break-up of GSDP of Uttar Pradesh (Rs. in Crore)

	Item	2011-12	2014-15	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	CAGR
1	Agriculture, forestry and fishing	183,252	245,230	326,174	351,814	381,197	402,445	468,346	9.84%
1.1	Crops	67.8%	63.7%	63.1%	63.3%	64.2%	66.0%	68.1%	-
1.2	Livestock	23.9%	28.8%	30.2%	29.1%	27.9%	26.0%	24.4%	-
	Forestry and logging								
1.3	logging	6.8%	5.9%	5.2%	5.2%	5.2%	5.3%	5.0%	-
1.4	Fishing and aquaculture	1.5%	1.6%	1.5%	2.3%	2.7%	2.7%	2.5%	-
2	Industry	188,316	247,615	370,860	391,141	407,052	390,519	448,102	9.06%
2.1	Mining and quarrying	3%	5%	14%	13%	9%	11%	12%	-
2.2	Manufacturing	47%	42%	48%	44%	44%	45%	47%	-
	Electricity, gas, water supply & other utility services								
2.3		5%	8%	8%	8%	10%	9%	9%	-
2.4	Construction	45%	46%	37%	41%	41%	41%	39%	-
3	Services	310,326	456,148	626,642	699,899	767,433	711,359	811,093	10.08%
3.1	Trade, repair, hotels and restaurants	22%	20%	21%	21%	21%	17%	19%	-
3.2	Transport, storage, communication & services related to broadcasting	13%	16%	15%	15%	15%	15%	15%	-
3.2	Financial services	8%	8%	8%	7%	7%	8%	8%	-
	Real estate, ownership of dwelling & professional services								
3.3		31%	32%	30%	29%	29%	32%	32%	-
3.4	Public administration	14%	13%	14%	14%	14%	15%	15%	-
3.5	Other services	11%	11%	12%	12%	13%	12%	12%	-
A	Gross Value Added	681,895	948,993	1,323,676	1,442,854	1,555,681	1,504,324	1,727,540	9.74%
B	Taxes	70,634	95,245	142,300	166,493	173,773	189,531	218,559	11.96%
C	Subsidies	28,478	32,449	26,050	27,167	28,924	52,054	29,186	0.25%
	Gross Domestic Product(A+B-C)	724,050	1,011,790	1,439,925	1,582,180	1,700,530	1,641,801	1,916,913	10.23%
	Population (Lakhs)	2,016	2,110	2,208	2,242	2,277	2,311	2,347	1.53%
	Per Capita GSDP	35,917	47,953	65,203	70,565	74,699	71,032	81,684	8.56%

(% is the percentage contribution of the sub-sector to the Gross Value Added for the sector)

Source: MoSPI, March 15, 2023

Chapter II : Economy of Uttar Pradesh

1. The economy of Uttar Pradesh is the third largest of all the states in India. Nominal GDP of the state in the year 2022-23 is estimated in its Budget 2022-23 at Rs. 21.74 trillion, assuming a growth of 17 per cent over the previous year based on the GDP numbers available at that point. In the Budget for 2023-24, GDP for the State has been projected to reach Rs. 24.39 trillion. Compared to the estimates of previous Budget, it reflects a growth of 12.2 per cent. It is the most populous State of the Indian Union. According to the 2011 census report, 22.76 per cent of population of Uttar Pradesh lived in urban areas and rest in rural areas. The state has 7 cities with populations exceeding 10 lakh (1 million) each. According to erstwhile Planning Commission estimates for the year 2011–12, 29.4 per cent of the state's total population was poor. However, updated findings by NITI Aayog based on NFHS-4 (2015–16), 37.8 per cent of the population was reported to be poor.

2. Uttar Pradesh is a major contributor to the national food grain production. This is partly due to the fertile regions of the Indo-Gangetic plains and partly due to irrigation facilities such as canals and tube wells. Western Uttar Pradesh is more advanced in terms of agriculture as compared to the other regions in the state. The majority of the state's population depends upon farming activities. Wheat, rice, pulses, oilseeds, and potatoes are major agricultural products. Sugarcane is the most important cash crop throughout the state. Uttar Pradesh is one of the most important states in India as far as horticulture is concerned. State now-a-days plays an important role in development. The activist functions of the State encompass building physical infrastructure where returns are not immediate and facilitating private investment (Box 3).

Box 3 : Role of the State				
	Addressing Market Failures			Improving Equity
Minimal Functions	Providing pure public goods Internal Security, Law and order, Property rights, public health, Macroeconomic management, Civic amenities, Building perspectives			Protecting the poor Anti-poverty programs, Disaster relief, public distribution
Intermediate Functions	Addressing Externalities Basic education, Environmental Protection, Rural roads,	Regulating Monopoly Utility regulation	Overcoming imperfect information Consumer Protection, Crop insurance, Sectoral credit support	Providing social insurance Family pensions, Unemployment insurance, Direct subsidies
Activist Functions	Coordinating private activity Cluster initiatives, State as an entrepreneur, Investment Facilitator, Providing physical Infrastructure			Redistribution Asset's redistribution, Land reforms

3. UP has witnessed rapid industrialisation in the recent past, particularly after the launch of policies of economic liberalisation in the country. As per the All-India enterprises survey of 2015-16, Uttar Pradesh had about 90 lakh unorganised sector non agriculture establishments, including

own account enterprises in manufacturing, trade and services sector employing 16 million persons. Uttar Pradesh is the fourth largest State in terms of GSDP, the top three States being Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka. The GDP of the Uttar Pradesh grew in double digit in 2007-2012. Growth had decelerated post 2011-12, partly because of structural changes in the economy. Post 2011-12, the GSDP growth of State was less than most of the major States and below the average of all the States. The pandemic led to a contraction in GSDP growth in 2020-21. The growth recovered in 2021-22 and has been projected to grow by 17 per cent in the budget of the State for 2022-23. The State has set a medium-term ambitious target of reaching one trillion-dollar mark by 2026-27. The current growth at sectoral level is indicated in Table 3.

Table 3 : Gross State Domestic Product of Uttar Pradesh (Rs in Crore)

Item	2011-12	2014-15	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	CAGR
Agriculture	183,252	245,230	326,174	351,814	381,197	402,445	468,346	9.8
Industry	188,316	247,615	370,860	391,141	407,052	390,519	448,102	9.1
Services	310,326	456,148	626,642	699,899	767,433	711,359	811,093	10.1
Gross Value Added	681,895	948,993	1,323,676	1,442,854	1,555,681	1,504,324	1,727,540	9.7
Gross Domestic Product	724,050	1,011,790	1,439,925	1,582,180	1,700,530	1,641,801	1,916,913	10.2
Population (Lakh)	2,016	2,110	2,208	2,242	2,277	2,311	2,347	1.5
Per Capita GSDP (Rs.)	35,917	47,953	65,203	70,565	74,699	71,032	81,684	8.6

Source: Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation (MOSPI)

4. The infrastructure in UP is improving in comparison to the other advanced states of India. Locknow Metro and Kanpur Metro Kanpur Metro became operational in September 2017 and December 2021 respectively with Kanpur Metro being the fastest built metro network in India. The Uttar Pradesh State Road Transport Corporation bus service is one of the largest in the country with more than 10,000 buses. UPSRTC also introduced Volvo, Scania, and Janrath AC buses service across the state. The length of the national highway and railway track is highest in India. A new international airport had been proposed in Gautambudh Nagar district at Jewar passed by the central government and supposed to start by 2023.

The Yamuna Expressway, which is between New Delhi to Agra, is one of the best highways in the country. Delhi-Meerut expressway was opened for public use in April 2021. Purvanchal expressway has been opened for public use, while the Bundelkhand expressway has started operating in February 2022. Additionally, the state government has selected seven cities for Metro train projects. Other expressways such as Ganga expressway, Delhi-Dehradun expressway and Gorakhpur-Siliguri expressways are under construction and expected to be operational soon.

5. Between 2011-12 and 2021-22, there has been an increase in both labour force participation rate (LFPR), or job seekers and work participation rate (WPR) or workers in Uttar Pradesh. The increase in LFPR however has been faster relative to WPR during this period resulting in an increase in the incidence of unemployment (Table 4). However, compared to the national average, both LFPR and WPR were lower in Uttar Pradesh and so were the percentage who were unemployed.

Table 4 : LFPR and WPR in Uttar Pradesh (per cent of population)

Uttar Pradesh	LFPR			WPR			Unemployment Rate
	Male	Female	Person	Male	Female	Person	Persons
2011-12	50.4	16.3	33.9	49.5	16.1	33.3	1.77
2020-21	54.4	16.7	36.0	51.9	16.2	34.5	4.17
2021-22	53.1	18.7	36.2	51.4	18.4	35.1	3.04
All India							
2011-12	55.6	22.5	39.5	54.4	21.9	38.6	2.28
2020-21	57.5	25.1	41.6	54.9	24.2	39.8	4.33
2021-22	57.3	24.8	41.3	54.8	24	39.6	4.12

Source: MOSPI

6. Overall persons employed in Uttar Pradesh increased from 6.71 crore in 2011-12 to 7.97 crore in 2020-21 recording an average annual growth of 1.9 per cent, which has been higher than the growth of population during this period averaging 1.53 per cent. There have, however, been sectoral shifts in share of employment and value added per person engaged in a specific activity (Table 5). The contact intensive sectors like trade and transport (including tourism) and agriculture have witnessed relatively slower increase in value added per person engaged. Highest growth in employment was observed for agriculture & allied sectors and communication. There was decline in workforce over the decade in industry (mining, manufacturing and construction) despite a programme of public infrastructure. Value added per person engaged recorded highest growth in mining (because of lower denominator and increased capital intensity), utilities, public administration (which usually have an element of inflation compensation and annual increases) and trade. Hotels and Restaurants had a negative growth in value added, as the most intensive contact sector suffered the most during the pandemic. Reallocation of labour, therefore, has tremendous growth potential.

7. The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) has emerged as ambitious commitments and a new paradigm for development. The SDGs are a bold universal set of 17 Goals to help organise development actions for overall human wellbeing, while leaving no one behind. The SDGs are in a way commitments and goalposts to be achieved over a time frame of 15 years by 2030, with implementation strategy and achievements staggered over a time frame of three, seven and fifteen years. The spectrum of the 17 SDGs ranges from poverty eradication, human health and sanitation to urban settlements and to safeguarding the ecosystems necessary for our survival. SDG Index 3, ranks States/UTs based on their performance across the 16 SDGs and is a useful instrument to judge the progress of the States/UTs in adopting and implementing the SDG agenda, the new development paradigm. The data sources for the selected indicators have been restricted to national survey reports/national data portals/MIS portals of Union ministries. Overall performance of Uttar Pradesh with an Index value of 60 is only of a performer, way behind the States which are front runners (Graph 1). While this indicates below par performance base, it also gives optimism that performance can be significantly scaled up.

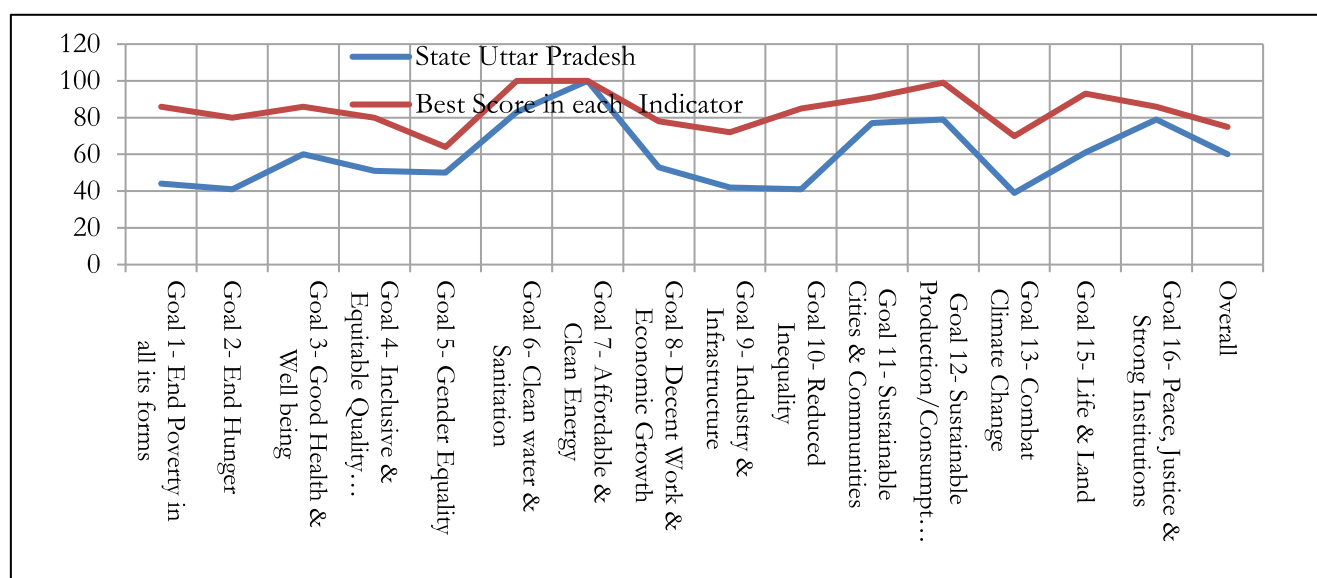


Table 5 : Sectoral Employment and value added per person engaged

Item	Gross Value Added (Rs crore)		Employment (In Lakhs)		CAGR	Value Added per person engaged (Rs)		CAGR
	2011-12	2020-21	2011-12	2020-21		2011-12	2020-21	
Agriculture & Allied	183,252	405,834	308.73	439.30	4.0	59,357	92,382	5.0
Mining and quarrying	6,535	20,472	3.76	0.56	(19.1)	173,842	3,667,532	40.3
Manufacturing	87,636	174,961	83.98	68.18	(2.3)	104,354	256,618	10.5
Electricity & water supply	9,268	36,492	2.89	3.11	0.8	321,088	1,173,409	15.5
Construction	84,877	158,702	106.20	100.24	(0.6)	79,922	158,329	7.9
Trade & repair services	61,622	114,119	71.29	82.37	1.6	86,436	138,539	5.4
Hotels & restaurants	7,844	6,948	9.53	11.24	1.9	82,287	61,792	(3.1)
Transport	31,723	76,033	26.85	25.28	(0.7)	118,141	300,786	10.9
Communication	8,752	29,647	1.61	2.79	6.3	543,201	1,062,253	7.7
Financial services	25,182	59,543	3.29	3.59	1.0	765,559	1,659,317	9.0
Real Estate & professionals	97,454	227,335	4.50	5.10	1.4	2,166,757	4,454,507	8.3
Public administration	42,348	112,311	9.53	8.69	(1.0)	444,255	1,292,142	12.6
Other services	35,401	88,693	39.14	46.97	2.0	90,455	188,837	8.5
Total GVA	681,895	1,511,090	671.30	797.42	1.9	101,579	189,498	7.2

Source: MOSPI

Graph 1 : SDG Performance



Source: NITI Aayog- SDG Dashboard

8. On November 6, 2022, the proposal to make the state a one trillion-dollar economy was unfolded by the Uttar Pradesh government, which will be placed before the Cabinet. The salient features of the proposed strategy as indicated below clearly suggest the seriousness of the Government and importance attached to this announcement.



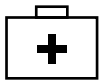
To make the state a one trillion-dollar economy, the government will spend an amount of Rs 40 lakh crore by 2027 on infrastructure, health, judicial system, education, heavy industries etc.



According to the government, to achieve a one trillion-dollar economy, the annual growth rate will be increased to 30 to 35 percent and the investment in the state will have to be increased even faster.



To woo the investors in the state, a blueprint investment policy has been prepared. It emphasizes infrastructure, manufacturing, services and identifying most moving sectors. The infrastructure is divided into two parts, hard and soft. Hard infrastructure includes power and energy along with logistics, while soft infrastructure includes regulatory, judicial system, education, and health.



Under the soft infrastructure, the state government will spend about Rs. 2.1 lakh crore between years 2022 to 2027 for modern medical system 24 lakh bed hospitals will be constructed. For this, about 4.35 lakh doctors and 17 lakh nurses will be recruited.



Under the hard infrastructure Rs 13 lakh crore will be spent on electricity, Rs 25 lakh crore on roads and Rs 200 crore on judicial system in the state.



The Budget for Uttar Pradesh for 2023-24, on the infrastructure front, a provision of over ₹21,159 crore for the construction of roads and bridges and ₹6,209 crore for their maintenance. With religious tourism in mind, the budget proposed ₹1,000 crore for the development of 'Dharmarth Marg' (roads to religious places). It sets an investment target of ₹10 lakh crore and the creation of 20 thousand jobs in the next 5 years under the new Uttar Pradesh Tourism Policy 2022.

Chapter III : Economy of Meerut

1. Meerut is one of the progressive districts of Uttar Pradesh and is located in Western Uttar Pradesh and is part of NCT Region. It is well connected by Rail and Road. With a population of around 4 million, it is about 1.7 per cent of population of the state. As per 2011 census, Meerut had a population of 34 million- 18 million Males and 16 million Females with a decadal growth of 14.9 per cent significantly lower than that of the State. It has been an urban population dominated district, with urban population being 17.6 million. Population with age group 15+ was estimated to be 68 per cent, more than 60 per cent could be considered eligible to participate as labour force. Share of Meerut in GSDP of UP is a little over 3 per cent, so it is relatively economically well placed.

Though Agriculture is main stay of economy in terms of persons engaged, industry and services are equally important. Share of Industry at 30 per cent is better than National Average. More than half of nearly 7 lakh households is in income range of Rs. 60-120 thousand, 13 per cent household are below income level of Rs. 60,000.

Table 6 broadly summarizes Meerut in context of Uttar Pradesh and India. Table 6 broadly summarizes Meerut in relation to Uttar Pradesh and India. Per Capita GDP of Meerut has continued to be higher relative to average of the State. However, relative to India, it has a lower per capita GDP in the current decade. GDP in 2020-21 recorded a decline across, in Meerut, in Uttar Pradesh and for India also. There was however a sharp upsurge in GDP in 2021-22, the post pandemic and rate of growth of GDP in Uttar Pradesh was 16.8 per cent.

Table 6 : Meerut in Context of Uttar Pradesh and India

	2011-12	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	CAGR
Gross Domestic Product (Rs Crore)						
Meerut	22,847	45,887	50,432	53,973	51,212	9.4
Uttar Pradesh	724,050	1,439,925	1,582,180	1,700,530	1,641,801	9.5
India	8,736,329	17,090,042	18,886,957	20,351,013	19,800,914	9.5
Per Capita Gross Domestic Product (Rupees)						
Meerut	66,783	125,545	135,954	143,365	134,036	8.0
Uttar Pradesh	35,917	65,203	70,565	74,699	71,032	7.9
India	71,609	130,061	142,328	151,760	146,132	8.2
Ratio of Meerut in Per Capita GDP						
Uttar Pradesh	1.86	1.93	1.93	1.92	1.88	
India	0.93	0.97	0.96	0.94	0.92	

Source: MosPI and Directorate of Economics & Statistics, Uttar Pradesh

SWOT Analysis of Meerut

2. Meerut has both the strengths and weaknesses in accelerating economic growth which are broadly summarized below. The most significant factor which could contribute to Meerut emerging as driver of growth is its manufacturing and services base, its proximity to market and better connectivity.

Box 4 : SWOT Analysis of Meerut

Strengths	Weakness
<p>Industrial base</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12 Manufacturing clusters such as handicrafts, scissors, brass band, khadi and textile weavers, print & publishing, sports goods, gems & jewellery and 6 major services agglomerations namely construction advisors & contractors, doctors & health clinics, education, professionals, tourism, street hawking/food joints. <p>Strategic location</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Part of National Capital Region, close proximity to Delhi. • Six National highways (NH-58, NH-119, NH-235, NH-334B, NH-709A, NE-3) pass through Meerut. • Eastern Dedicated Freight Corridor and Western Dedicated Freight Corridor nearby. <p>Demographic dividend</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overall literacy rate of 76.28%, higher than state average. • 51% of population is urban. 	<p>Unplanned Urbanization</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unauthorized constructions and cost of regularization is high. • Infrastructure development not keeping up with urbanization. • Issues with water supply, sewerage, solid waste management, housing, traffic & transportation, over exploitation of groundwater. <p>Pollution</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meerut is 23rd in the list of most polluted cities in India and 5th in the list of most polluted cities in Uttar Pradesh based on annual average PM 2.5 concentration. <p>Limitations for Industrial space</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delay in land allocation and allotment is a hindrance in developing new industrial areas. • Lack of quality infrastructure in existing industrial areas.
Opportunities	Threats
<p>New Infrastructure projects</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New expressways and highways under construction-Ganga expressway, Delhi-Dehradun expressway. • Meerut could provide affordable housing for people who are working in Delhi and Noida. <p>Medical tourism hub</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential to become a hub for medical instruments, dental care and orthopedics. <p>Initiatives by State Government</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uttar Pradesh government's blueprint for becoming a 1 trillion-dollar economy. • Meerut has potential to be developed as a Freight corridor, Logistics centre, Sports city. 	<p>Competition from neighboring cities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Competition from cities in the National Capital Region (NCR) and other cities in Uttar Pradesh for investment and development projects. <p>Threat from cheap imports</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clusters such as brass band, khadi and textiles, scissors facing competitive pressure from cheaper Chinese goods. <p>Challenge in implementing NEP 2020</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased participation of women in workforce and migration of workers from unskilled to skilled jobs not feasible without successful implementation of NEP 2020.

Gross District Domestic Product (GDDP)

3. Economy Meerut in last 9 years (2012-21) has grown 9.4 per cent in current prices. However, at constant prices growth it moderates to just 4.6 per cent on an annual basis. Agriculture and allied sectors account for about 19 per cent of Gross Value Added and has recorded a growth of 6.2 per cent annual basis during this period. Services have been the most buoyant sector with a growth of 11.7 per cent. Growth had turned negative in 2020-21 due to the impact of pandemic and this deceleration was across all the three sectors. Growth in industries and agriculture has already become minimal in last four years. It is, however, expected that there may be a significant recovery in post pandemic period of 2021-22 and 2022-23, in line with the growth assumed for the State.

Table 7 : Gross Domestic Product- Broad Sectors (Rs crore)

	2011-12	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	CAGR
Agriculture & Allied	5,070	9,047	9,227	10,152	8,749	6.2
Industry	8,876	16,269	17,017	17,271	16,852	7.4
Services	7,571	17,127	19,594	21,590	20,467	11.7
Gross Value Added	21,517	42,442	45,839	49,013	46,069	8.8
Gross Domestic Product	22,847	45,887	50,432	53,973	51,212	9.4
Share of Industry & Services	76.4	78.7	79.9	79.3	81.0	

Source: Directorate of Economics & Statistics, Uttar Pradesh

4. A new vision should aim at raising the growth rate to more than double the present level to accomplish the objective of the State for a trillion-dollar economy. Meerut is however better placed in terms of two parameters; first it is a more urban centric relative to rest of Uttar Pradesh. Secondly, it has a significant non agriculture sector which accounts for nearly 80 per cent of the gross value added. Manufacturing and services, the two vibrant sectors significantly contribute of the value added of the economy.

5. Urbanisation has significantly contributed to higher per capita GSDP of Meerut relative to the State average. The well-known agglomeration economies operate through scale economies (more people, more choices, more demand and the spiral go on); lower infrastructure cost per capita, less information asymmetry (physical proximity of people, firm and modern civic centres to exchange ideas); hub of producers, suppliers, artisans (everyone has enough to contribute, collaborate and grow) and ease of networking.

There are better schools, colleges, universities and training facilities in the city as agglomeration economies push for innovation and help in knowledge spill over which sets in dynamic efficiency effect. Cities are no longer the hub of only production and exchange activities; they are also the place of germination of ideas on governance and policy making. Urbanisation has also contributed to emergence of secondary and tertiary sector as dominant sectors relative to agriculture. The share of various sectors of economy in GSDP of Meerut, average of state of Uttar Pradesh and national average indicated in graph below fully substantiates this fact.

Labour Force & Work Force

6. According to estimates made on the basis of periodic labour force survey in 2017-18, Labour force participation rate (LFPR) for Males and Females was 66.5 % and 7.53% respectively giving a figure of 39.7 per cent for all persons. The workforce participation rate for Male and Female was 55.8% and 6.4% respectively giving a figure of 33.34 per cent for all persons. Our estimate for workforce comes to 12.2 lakhs in 2017-18.

Unemployment rate for Male and Female was 16.1% and 14.8% respectively (Table 8). In 2021-22, there may have been some changes in these rates. Unemployment rate in Uttar Pradesh in 2021-22 has nearly halved of the levels that prevailed in 2017-18. There was also an increase in LFPR and WPR during this period. Assuming that Meerut may have witnessed a similar growth trend during post 2017-18 period, the number of unemployed persons may have declined to an extent. Given the growth that was witnessed in the past pandemic year of 2021-22, this is more likely scenario.

Table 8 : Labour Force and Workforce Participation Rate (per cent) and Workers

2017-18	Rural	Urban	Male	Female	Persons	Workers (Lakhs)	
	Percent of population					2017-18	2021-22
LFPR Meerut	39.63	39.77	66.48	7.53	39.69	14.51	15.25
WPR Meerut	35.1	30.91	55.77	6.42	33.34	12.19	13.40
Unemployment	11.44	22.22	16.09	14.75	15.98	2.32	1.85
Unemployment Uttar Pradesh	5.28	10.0	7.06	3.19	6.51		

Source: Uttar Pradesh- District Fact Book: India state Publications 2022, page 99& PLFS

7. Meerut is not that well placed in terms of labour force participation rate. We have two independent estimates of labour force in Meerut, the population census and the periodic labour force assessment estimates. Population census data for 2011 indicate a work force of 10.9 lakh persons, comprising main workers of around 9 lakhs and the balance marginal workers. Workforce is almost equally divided as rural and urban, though the number of female workers is very small. Even in urban areas, the female workers are just under one third of total workers. The rural areas the ratio is even worse where females account for just 12 per cent of the workforce.

The total workforce is estimated to be close to 13.40 lakhs in 2021-22 (Table 9). More than half of the labour force in other sectors, comprising mainly trade, transport and wage earners. Agricultural labourers and cultivators together account for over 30 per cent of work force. While the occupational distribution of workers is generally consistent with the one that prevails in Uttar Pradesh, there is greater penetration of MSME in Meerut, which has historically been a center for some important industries. Number of workers in Meerut is about 1.6 per cent of total workforce of Uttar Pradesh while the share of population was slightly higher at 1.65 per cent, indicating on work front Meerut did not have any edge.

Table 9 : Workforce in Meerut in 2011 and 2021-22

	Main Workers		Marginal Workers		Rural	Urban	Total	2021-22
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Persons	Persons	Persons	Estimated
Cultivators	158,291	17,653	9,253	10,871	178,834	17,234	196,068	228,000
Agriculture Labourers	95,206	17,041	26,420	15,328	124,120	29,875	153,995	201,000
Household Industries	37,424	10,808	7,024	7,840	28,331	34,765	63,096	80,500
Others	484,132	70,255	81,060	41,933	212,081	465,299	677,380	830,500
Total Meerut	775,053	115,757	123,757	75,972	543,366	547,173	1,090,539	1,340,000
Uttar Pradesh	37,420,000	7,215,000	12,426,000	8,753,000	51,951,000	13,864,000	65,814,000	82,686,000
Per cent	2.07	1.60	1.00	0.87	1.05	3.95	1.66	1.60

Source: Uttar Pradesh- District Fact Book: India state Publications 2022

Market Size

8. One of the important parameters of growth and its sustainability is the market size because that determines local support that the producers can expect and the minimum threshold. The overall market size of Meerut for a variety of products was Rs. 8758 crores in 2011-12 for major products. However, assuming private final consumption expenditure at 55 per cent of GSDP, the total market size in 2021-22 could be estimated to be nearly of rupees thirty thousand crore.

Table 10: Market Size (Rs million) and per capita expenditure (Rupees) in 2011-12

Items	Per Capita	Market Size	Item	Per Capita	Market Size
Cereals & pulses	203.12	8389	Fuel & Power	164.5	6798
Milk & Milk Products	289.98	11983	Cloth & Foot wear	119.37	4933
Sugar & Salt	56.03	2315	Education	105.92	4377
Edible Oils	63.39	2620	Health	327.39	13942
Egg, Meat & Fish	39.61	1637	Rent	48.22	1993
Vegetables & Fruits	160.04	6613	Consumer Durables	33.48	1384
Other Food	106.21	4388	Others	337.12	13524
Processed Food	64.94	2683	Total	2119.32	87579

Source: Uttar Pradesh- District Fact Book: India state Publications 2022

Size of the market is indicative of the local demand in Meerut. However, given its location and economic structure of production and services, particularly the manufacturing and professional services, there are opportunities for trade outside the district and even exports.

Institutional Infrastructure

9. Financial institutions have become critical for sustaining growth and employment in recent years. Entrepreneurs and even individuals have to rely on these institutions for their capital expenditure needs as also needs for day-to-day operations and their cash flow related mismatches. Financial institutions are intermediaries who receive deposits and on lend it to individuals and entrepreneurs generally for productive purposes for a defined period and purpose. Commercial banks are the principal intermediaries. Overall number of accounts in commercial banks in Meerut increased from 2.75 lakhs in 2012 to over 5 lakhs in 2022 with an annual growth of 7.2 per cent. Total credit disbursed also more than doubled from nearly eight thousand crores to twenty thousand crores. While credit growth kept pace with GSDP growth, accounts grew faster than population growth indicating a greater penetration of banking services. Overall credit to GDP ratio nearly remained at the same level. Sectoral number of accounts, credit disbursed and growth over this period is in Table 11. The share of personal loans during the decade has considerably increased and account for more than one third of total loans. As against this, the share of loans to agriculture and manufacturing has declined. There was a decline in the share of financial disbursement to professional services. GSDP data also show a relatively moderate growth for manufacturing. Loans for education and other purposes which are clubbed in other finances have also witnessed a slower growth.

Table 11 : Number of Accounts and Credit Disbursed for each category of borrowers

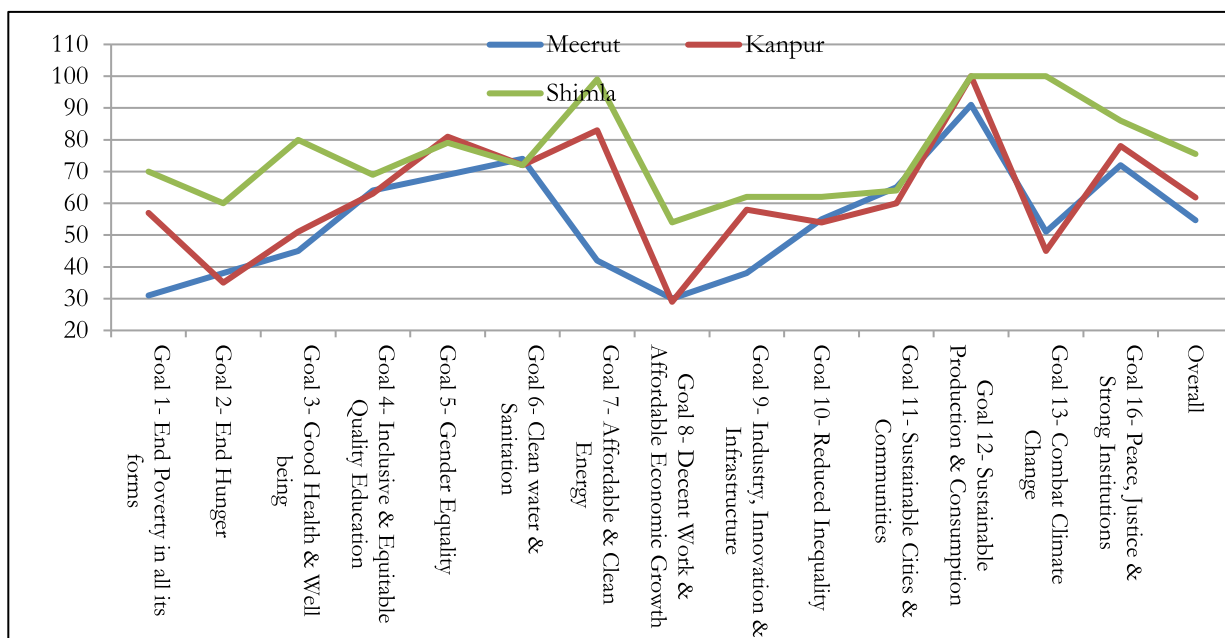
	March 2022		March 2012		CAGR	
	Accounts (00)	Credit (Rs Lakhs)	Accounts (00)	Credit (Rs Lakhs)	Accounts	Credit
I. Agriculture	1,791	358,323	1,509	152,465	1.7	8.9
1. Direct Finance	1,740	346,925	1,436	142,424	1.9	9.3
2. Indirect Finance	51	11,398	73	10,041	-3.5	1.3
II. Industry	379	383,966	58	219,588	20.6	5.7
1. Mining & Quarrying	1	925	0.1	563	31.8	5.1
2. Manufacturing	371	358,826	55	197,013	21.0	6.2
3. Electricity, Gas & Water	0.3	949	0.1	10,136	13.7	-21.1
4. Construction	6	23,267	3	11,876	8.5	7.0
III. Transport operators	96	38,031	11	4,873	23.9	22.8
IV. Professional services	346	114,985	51	89,387	21.0	2.6
V. Personal loans	2,240	740,472	647	181,261	13.2	15.1
1. Housing	263	379,809	174	97,696	4.2	14.5
2. Purchase of Consumer Durables	11	2,614	11	863	-0.1	11.7
3. Rest of the Personal Loans	1,967	358,049	462	82,702	15.6	15.8
VI. Trade	482	280,697	249	84,955	6.8	12.7
1. Wholesale Trade	68	97,069	14	11,456	16.9	23.8
2. Retail Trade	414	183,628	235	73,499	5.8	9.6
VII. Finance	17	7,024	2	4,777	22.0	3.9
VIII. All Others	165	82,392	228	38,623	-3.2	7.9
Total Bank Credit	5,516	2,005,891	2,756	775,929	7.2	10.0

Source: Reserve Bank of India- Basic Statistical Returns of Banks

Sustainable Development Goals Outcome

10. Sustainable growth and development indicators have emerged as the barometers of performance and public perception. NITI Aayog recently came out with the ranking of the municipal corporations based on defined parameters aggregated into 16 goals. Meerut with an overall score of less than 60 was a performer and not a front runner. In two crucial parameters of End Poverty and Decent Work and Affordable growth, the score of Meerut was just close to 30, which is subpar from any consideration. In terms of Multi Poverty Index developed by NITI Aayog also, the head count ratio of poverty was 21.1 per cent, though lower than the national average of 25 per cent was much above the ratio observed for Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, which was under 10 per cent. Performance of the Municipal Corporation in terms of parameters relating to health and education was also poor. While it performed better in sustainable production and consumption and civic amenities relating to water supply and sanitation, overall performance had significant incremental improvement scope. Better SDG score, which in a way is a surrogate measure of effectiveness of implementation and better outcome, could provide the benefits of agglomeration and higher scale of urbanization. It could also help the district to benefit from urban Meerut. Overall Goal based score and the score of Best Corporation is in graph below.

Graph 2 : Score under Sustainable Development Goals



Source: NITI Aayog: SDG Dashboard of Urban local bodies

Chapter IV : Current Sectoral Status of Economy of Meerut

1. In the current Chapter, we briefly summarize the sub sectors in each broad category of GDP of the district to look at the current spread and possible strategy for an accelerated growth.

Agriculture & Allied Activities

2. Uttar Pradesh is essentially an agro centric State with a share of Of nearly 26 per cent of agriculture and allied activities as against the national average of under 20 per cent. Meerut, however, is one of the exceptions with the share of agriculture sector being 19 per cent in 2020-21, lower than the average of Uttar Pradesh as also the national average. Notwithstanding a lower share of agriculture, it supports a workforce of 32 per cent of Meerut as cultivators or agricultural labourers. Some broad characteristics of agriculture and land use are as under:

Table 12 : Land use characteristics for Meerut and Uttar Pradesh

Area in Hectares	Meerut	Uttar Pradesh	Share
Reported Area	273,005	24,170,454	1.13
Forests	21,314	1,714,612	1.24
Area under non-agricultural uses	47,787	3,610,677	1.32
Other Uncultivable Land	1,980	726,601	0.27
Net Area Sown	196,399	16,537,678	1.19
Gross Cropped area	303,308	26,858,658	1.13
Area sown more than once	106,909	10,320,980	1.04
Irrigated area	196,391	14,391,915	1.36
Fertilizer Use (Tonnes)	562,940	32,535,610	1.73

Source: Uttar Pradesh- District Fact Book: India state Publications 2022

Gross Domestic Product from Agriculture

3. Overall gross value added from agriculture and allied activities in Meerut has declined from 2.8 per cent of Uttar Pradesh in 2017-18 to 2.2 per cent in 2020-21 because of a lower growth. Within agriculture crop segment dominates in Meerut accounting for 61 per cent of total value added. Livestock sector has been another important sector accounting for nearly 30 per cent of total value added (Table 13).

Table 13 : Value added from agriculture and allied sectors (Rs crore)

	2011-12	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	CAGR
Crops	2,580	4,989	5,055	5,847	5,394	8.5
Livestock	2,108	3,530	3,447	3,493	2,590	2.3
Forestry and logging	378	523	683	759	689	6.9
Fishing and aquaculture	4	5	42	53	76	39.0
Agriculture & Allied	5,070	9,047	9,227	10,152	8,749	6.2
Uttar Pradesh	183,252	326,174	351,814	380,939	405,834	9.2
Share	2.7	2.8	2.6	2.7	2.2	

Source: Directorate of Economics & Statistics, Uttar Pradesh



Production of major crops

4. Within crop sector food crops dominate and 2019-20, area under food crops, including sugarcane accounted for over 85 per cent of the gross sown area. Another 10 per cent of the gross sown area was allocated to fruits and vegetables and rest to the fodder crops as livestock was an important segment. Most of cropped area was irrigated with tube wells accounting for more than 85 per cent of the total irrigated areas. Principal crops grown in Meerut are summarized in Table 14 below.

Table 14 : Major Crops grown (Area, production and yield)

	Area (ha)	Production (Tonnes)	Yield (Tonnes)	Area (ha)	Production (Tonnes)	Yield (Tonnes)
	2008-09			2019-20		
Wheat	81,622	299,308	3.7	75,086	367,752	4.9
Rapeseed & Mustard	4,118	5,392	1.3	5,341	8,983	1.7
Coarse Rabi Cereals	202	703	3.5	84	338	4.0
Rabi Pulses	396	342	0.9	754	1,083	1.4
Rice	17,629	22,565	1.3	17,162	22,565	1.3
Cereals	465	887	1.9	1,327	1,973	1.5
Pulses	2,142	1,155	0.5	638	495	0.8
Sugarcane	132,000	10,956	83.0	138,815	12,632	91.0

Source: Directorate of Agriculture, Meerut

Employment & Workforce

5. According to population census of 2011, 32 per cent of the working population of Meerut were either cultivators or agriculture labourers. 87 per cent of these were, however, concentrated in rural areas. However, there have establishments and enterprises other than in the crop segment engaged agriculture and allied sectors, particularly in the livestock segment. Total numbers of such persons in 2013 were reported to be 1.70 lakhs with number of enterprises/establishments being nearing one lakh (Table 15). The numbers in these activities were 6.27 per cent of such persons in Uttar Pradesh. With pandemic getting the agriculture as the fall-back sector and with industry and contact intensive services not being able to offer many jobs, the share of agriculture and allied sector in total employment may still be around 30-35 per cent. While latest data for Meerut are not available, number of persons engaged in agriculture & allied sectors in Uttar Pradesh did show a relative increase during the 2012-2022 decade.

Table 15 : Establishments in agriculture & Allied sectors (Numbers)

Sector	Rural	Urban	Total	Rural	Urban	Total
	Number of Units			Number of Persons Engaged		
Total	89,932	7,018	96,950	157,602	12,913	170,515
Uttar Pradesh	1,367,202	78,135	1,445,337	2,563,458	157,629	2,721,087
Share	6.58	8.98	6.71	6.15	8.19	6.27

Source: Uttar Pradesh- District Fact Book: India state Publications 202

Sector specific initiatives- Agriculture

6. On April 13, 2016, the government set up a committee to prepare a report on doubling income of the farmers by 2022-23. On a pro-rata basis, doubling the income in seven years implicitly assumes a growth of over 10 per cent per annum, nearly twice the historically observed rate of growth in agriculture. Various studies on agriculture sector have identified crop productivity, intertwining livestock with crops, improved resource use efficiency, crop diversification, better prices and shift to non-farm occupations as the instruments for a sustained growth of agriculture.

Box 5 : Increasing Income of farmers and GDP from Agriculture			
Objective	Policy Options	Instruments	Schemes/Programmes
Enhancing Farm Income	Enhancing Gross Income	Production Growth	Increase cropping intensity
			Bridge productivity gaps
			Extended irrigation
			Higher nutrient use
		Better Prices	Increased MSP
			Institutional Procurement
			Aggregation for volume & better prices
		Diversification	Processing Linkage
			Allied Activities/Animal Husbandry
	Better crop mix		
	Reducing Costs	Reduce Purchase Inputs	Better nutrient management
			Use of farm residue
	Income Stabilization	Exploit Complementarities	Technology use
Crop Insurance			
Assets Insurance			
Enhancing non-farm income	Coping Mechanisms	Institutional coping mechanism	
		Employment Generation	MGNREGA and other employment
		Reducing dependency	Skill Development

7. There has been a consensus that agriculture needs a new direction. The traditional approach as in Meerut depending on sugarcane, wheat and rice hardly answer the sustainability issues. The crop production is somewhat ensured because of inherent soil quality, though it is deteriorating and needs additional use of chemicals and remunerative prices are guaranteed as these are exogenously determined. It has also to be realised that crop diversification is another significant instrument to sustain the agricultural growth. As the second-generation agriculture reforms, farmers need to be motivated to undertake crop diversification towards newer varieties of high-value crops, orchards, fruits, pulses, vegetables and flowers. There are studies to show that these newer varieties could fetch three times more revenue compared to traditional staple crops. All these are doable and actionable. The Department may need to enable farmers with quality inputs, technical guidance, market information, and capital for on-farm investments. This will also address issues of small holdings. Technology, diversification and transfer of labour from agriculture to non-agriculture is critical. Sustained labour force in agriculture in Meerut is roughly of the size as its share in GDP.

Box 6 : Agriculture

Over sixty percent of Meerut's population is currently employed in some aspect of the agricultural sector, making it the city's primary economic driver. Due to its geographical location favourable for agriculture, Meerut acts a major centre for diverse agricultural produce such as Wheat, sugarcane, rice, pulses, oilseeds, potatoes, fruits.

The state of agriculture in Meerut is in a precarious position. On the one hand, there has been significant progress made in terms of productivity and yields. Over the course of the last decade, the amount of wheat that has been produced in Meerut has increased by more than fifty percent. On the other hand, the agricultural sector in Meerut is still confronted with a great deal of difficulty due to a number of factors. There is problem of water scarcity and lack of water infrastructure around the city. Being located in a semi-arid region, water scarcity is a major challenge, and agricultural produce gets severely disrupted due to untimely monsoons and droughts.

Another major hurdle in the agricultural sector in Meerut is the low level of mechanisation. Many farmers cannot afford heavy farming equipment and often rely on old and traditional farming methods, which are not only weather-dependent but also quite inefficient. After the green revolution, many farmers were forced to grow cash crops like flour and rice since they had access to high-yielding seeds, which required a lot of fertiliser and pesticides. Using these chemicals caused the soil to erode at an alarming rate. Due to continuous usage of insecticides, after some time those insects develop immunity against insecticides. It becomes a compulsion for farmers to use such insecticides that are toxic and harmful.

However, Meerut being situated between the planes of two might rivers of India Ganges and Yamuna. Environmental concerns have led to directive for compulsory adoption of natural farming on the banks of Ganges which covers a vast swath of the district's agricultural land. Farmers are reluctant to adopt as yields of natural farming- at least in short term, are below average, cost is higher and there are few takers of their produce in their traditional market channels such as Mandis. A systemic awareness creation programmes, capacity building and market linkage is necessary. Surprisingly even the Agriculture University in the district does not offer a course in Agroecology (natural farming).



Industry

8. Meerut is relatively more urban centric in Uttar Pradesh and industry has been important sector of economy. Overall share of industry comprising mining, manufacturing, electricity & utilities and construction together have a share of 36.5 per cent compared to a share of 23.8 per cent for Uttar Pradesh and 25.1 per cent at national level. Within industry, manufacturing and construction are the dominant sectors. Overall gross value added from industry and its share in total value added from this sector in Uttar Pradesh is summarized in Table 16 below. Medium term growth of the secondary sector of Meerut has been lower than that of Uttar Pradesh resulting in a decline in its share from 4.5 per cent in 2011-12 to 4.31 per cent in 2020-21.

Table 16 : Gross Value added from Industry and its sub sectors (Rs crore)

	2011-12	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	CAGR
Mining and quarrying	53	123	34	27	25	(8.0)
Manufacturing	2,582	5,647	5,230	4,511	4,299	5.8
Electricity & utility services	284	1,048	1,080	1,364	1,493	20.2
Construction	5,957	9,450	10,674	11,369	11,035	7.1
Industry	8,876	16,269	17,017	17,271	16,852	7.4
Uttar Pradesh	188,316	370,860	391,141	407,052	390,627	8.4
Share of Meerut (per cent)	4.50	4.39	4.35	4.24	4.31	

Source: Directorate of Economics & Statistics, Uttar Pradesh

9. Within industry, manufacturing is the most vibrant sector. Manufacturing comprises organized manufacturing, the units covered under Annual Survey of Industries employing 10 or more workers and unorganized employing less than 10 persons.

Table 17 : Annual Survey of Industries- A snapshot (Invested Capital & Output in Crores and Persons in numbers)

	2018-19			2011-12			CAGR	
	Invested capital	Output	Persons employed	Invested capital	Output	Persons employed	Invcested capital	Output
Food Products	3,900	8,022	7,081	2,084	2,924	8,619	9.4	15.5
Beverages	177	395	540	97	175	755	9.0	12.3
Textile & Apparels	583	1,116	5,412	472	682	3,123	3.1	7.3
Paper & products	1,230	3,650	4,870	882	792	1,450	4.9	24.4
Chemical & Pharmaceuticals	616	2,007	4,954	305	929	3,658	10.6	11.6
Rubber & Plastic Products	793	1,381	3,687	216	651	3,030	20.4	11.3
Basic & Fabricated Metals	178	461	1,639	68	280	681	14.9	7.4
Machinery & Equipment	164	559	1,631	142	335	1,868	2.1	7.6
Transport Related	149	156	1015	164	60	549	1.4	14.6
Sports Goods	344	875	6,554	123	292	2,746	15.9	17.0
Others	496	479	3,975	152	107	19,302	18.3	23.9
Total factory sector	8,631	19,102	41,358	4,705	7,227	45,781	9.1	14.9

10. The latest ASI data for Meerut are available for 2018-19. Between 2011-12 and 2018-19, there has been a small increase of 30 units in number of factories from 625 to 658. Invested capital and output during this period, however has doubled (Table 17). Surprisingly, there has been a decline in number of persons engaged in factory sector. The industries which have witnessed an increase in number of persons engaged are sports goods, textiles & apparels, paper, chemicals, rubber and metals. The other industries, which include leather, furniture, gems & jewellery seems to have witnessed an employment reduction in 2018-19. Gross value added from organized manufacturing in 2018-19 at Rs. 2658 crore was just around 50 per cent of total value added from manufacturing. In 2011-12 also the share of organized sector in value added from manufacturing was close to 50 per cent. The ratio of value added to output was sticky at 14-15 per cent during this period.

11. The small-scale industry has indicated existence of over 47,000 establishments in micro, medium and small-scale sector in manufacturing, trade and services sector in Meerut in 2017-18. The sector wise numbers are as in Table 18.

Table 18 : Number of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises in Meerut

Sectors	Numbers	Sectors	Numbers
Manufacturing Food products	3172	Trade (Wholesale & Retail)	7085
Sports Goods	3946	Education & Culture	1199
Textiles & Apparels	3804	Health	573
Computer, electronic and optical products	259	Transport and Services Related	4278
Rubber and plastics products	596	Personal Services	1882
Leather and related products	329	Food & Catering Services	1747
Paper and paper products	484	Construction	2442
Electrical equipment	815	Civic Amenities	523
Chemicals and chemical products	679	Others	9513
Machinery, Metals & equipment	1308		
Other Manufacturing	2412	Total	47046

Source: District Industries Centre, Meerut

12. Government of Uttar Pradesh had conducted a survey of unorganized units in manufacturing sector in 2017. Number of units. MSME units in Meerut were relatively bigger.



Table 19 : MSME- A Snapshot

	Meerut	Uttar Pradesh	Share
No of Enterprises	7881	163,319	4.83
Workers	59,710	1,310,194	4.56
Fixed Assets (Rs Crore)	2,220	62,513	3.55
Loans (Rs crore)	259	17,284	1.50
Output (Rs crore)	1,188	15,511	7.66
GVA (Rs crore)	684	9,462	7.23
GVA per unit (Rs)	868,212	579,383	

Source: Directorate of Economics & Statistics- Unorganized Sector Survey

13. Data on employment in manufacturing is significantly different when compared across the source agencies. The populating census data gives a number of around 77,000 for household industries. Unorganized manufacturing survey gives a number of 59,000. The establishment and number of persons based on other survey gives a number of a little over one lakh for manufacturing. However, based on these and given the manufacturing base in the district, one can take that manufacturing in Meerut may be employing around one lakh persons and total employment in industrial sector could be somewhere between 2 to 2.5 lakhs. Construction is the single largest sector in Meerut accounting for 25 per cent of gross value added. It has been a buoyant sector with preliminary skill needs and as such would perhaps be employing more than one lakh persons.

Table 20 : Establishments and Employment in Industry in 2013

Sector	Rural	Urban	Total	Rural	Urban	Total
	Number of Establishments/Own Account Units			Number of Persons Engaged		
Total Industry	12993	28310	41303	35761	79198	114959
Uttar Pradesh	653,335	581,004	1,234,339	1,557,558	1,950,129	3,507,687
Share	2.0	4.9	3.3	2.3	4.1	3.3

Source: Uttar Pradesh- District Fact Book: India state Publications 2022

Industry

14. The Uttar Pradesh government launched its Industrial Investment and Employment Promotion Policy 2022 in November 2022 to enable the state's air of becoming a one trillion-dollar economy. With the Up Global Investors Summit 2023 at sight, the state passed the new umbrella policy of the State.

- The policy aims at creating a progressive, innovative, and competitive industrial ecosystem generating employment in the state while mobilizing investments from across the world.
- Ensuring a continuity of the successes of Industrial Investment and Employment Promotion Policy 2017, the new umbrella industrial policy of the State reflects the voice of industries of the State & the country.
- Offering a unique flexibility to the investors by extending a one-time choice of choosing an option amongst three 'mutually-exclusive' options of Investment Promotion Subsidy, Capital Subsidy and Net SGST reimbursement, the policy categorizes investments into four major categories Large, Mega, Super Mega and Ultra Mega.

- With India at a bright spot in the global economy today, the policy is an excellent offering for foreign as well domestic investors. It complements as well as supplements various schemes and policies of the Centre to offer one of the most attractive and optimal incentive packages for investments in the country (Box 7)

Box 7 : Industrial Incentives



- Stamp Duty: 75 per cent in Madhyanchal & Paschimanchal.
- EPF Reimbursement: to the extent of 50% of employer's contribution to the units providing direct employment to 100 or more unskilled workers .
- SGST Reimbursement: Net SGST reimbursement ranging from 60 per cent to 90 per cent based on scale of industries.
- Capital Interest Subsidy: 5 per cent per annum for 5 years.
- Infrastructure Interest Subsidy: 5 per cent per annum for 5 years.
- Industrial Quality Development: 5 per cent per annum for 5 years.
- Electricity Duty: 100 per cent exemption to all new industrial units for 10 years.
- Mandi Fee: 100 per cent exemption to all new food processing units on purchase of raw material for 5 years.
- Incentivising employment generation: Units generating minimum employment of 200 direct workers will be provided 10 per cent additional EPF reimbursement.

15. During pandemic in 2020-21, a stimulus package announced for MSME sector has the following components:

- Collateral free loan of Rs 3 lakh crores to restart work and save jobs.
- Subordinate debt provision of Rs 20,000 crore for 2 lakhs stressed MSMEs. Besides, there will be Rs 50,000 crore equity infusion and a fund of funds with corpus of Rs 10,000 crore to help these units expand capacity and help them list.
- The Central Government and PSUs will clear all MSME receivables in next 45 days.
- An interest subvention of 2 per for Mudra/Shishu loans up to Rs 50,000.
- Special scheme for street vendors to provide Rs. 10,000 of working capital.

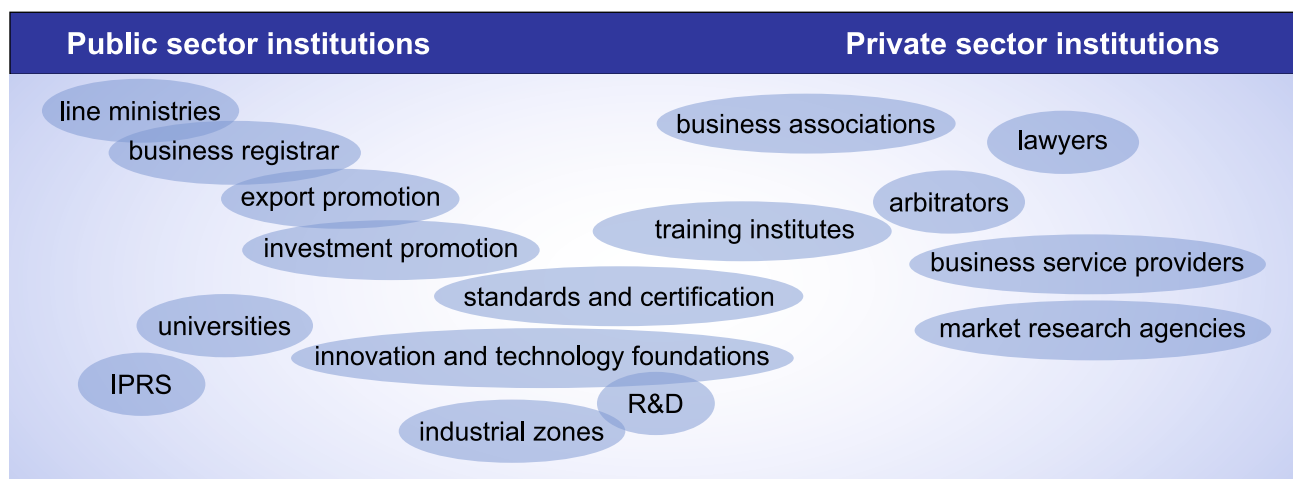
Box 8 : Industrial Infrastructure in Meerut: challenges

Uttar Pradesh has a mechanism of Udyog Bandhu. It is an organization of the State dedicated to facilitate Investment in Industrial and Service Sectors, besides solving various problems of existing & up-coming industries as well, related to different Government departments. It is a systemic process of by which the state administration engages with local industry associations. Problems are raised, recorded and endeavoured to be resolved by the district administration and at the Division level. Just a cursory glance of problems/ issues raised gives a vivid picture. The last three meetings organized in 2023 have the common issues:

- Problems related to poor condition of internal roads in approved industrial areas.
- Non-functional street lights and poor maintenance.
- Poor alignment of NHAI roads/ projects with PWD/ Municipal/ MDA roads leading disjointed patches and cragged connectivity.
- Lack of regular cleaning of street/ roads leading to dust accumulation & severe air pollution.
- Water drainage issues inside and outside industrial areas leading to water logging.
- House Tax accounting/ fixation issues.
- Connection of smaller industries in many industrial areas with rural feeder instead of industrial feeder.
- Permanent and temporary encroachment (through weekly markets) of main roads leading to disruption in vehicular movement and in some cases drainage.
- The institution of Udyog Bandhu has not been effective to address the problems of industries.

16. With two thirds of the enterprises being unregistered and more than half of the registered enterprises not seeking institutional credit support, these bailout packages were of limited significance. There are usually three biases in any bailout package, first it covers the units which are easily reachable (road side bias), second, the units with which the institutions or authorities are familiar (nearness bias) and thirdly the units which are relatively more resilient (have greater immunity) or (bias of the comfort) and these do not even bring the most vulnerable ones into any reckoning of bailout packages.

17. Though the provisioning for basic facilities such as land, labor and capital is listed as the last in the list, they become the necessary and a very important role played by Government. However, that is not the sufficient condition. The type of institutions required to increase the competitiveness of the cluster are:



18. An entrepreneur is a catalyst for economic development, a change agent with vision and creativity. Potential entrepreneurship development requires to be supported by a business ecosystem that is conducive to its emergence, easy finance, expertise, infrastructure, skills and a high level of motivation for change. Government of Uttar Pradesh has conceived an Integrated Business Development, which integrates various government schemes, provides integrated business development services, handholding of MSMEs starting from registration to promotion of their product/service in a competitive landscape and networking of entrepreneurs. The export promotion policy conceives of providing necessary export-related assistance and services in key focus areas of handicrafts, agriculture and processed food products, engineering goods, handloom and textile, leather products, carpets and rugs, glass and ceramic products, wood products, sports goods, defence products, services sectors covering education, tourism, IT and ITES, medical value travels and logistics. The scheme offers funding for participation in international fairs, study tours abroad, trade delegations, publicity, etc. Knowledge is now the key driver of growth.

Box 9 : Sources of Knowledge Using and changing capacities		
	Sources of increasing knowledge using capabilities	Sources of increasing knowledge changing capabilities
Intra Firm Sources	Learning by doing	Learning by changing
	Improved process & practices derived from trial and error	Absorption and adoption of changing technologies
Intra cluster sources	Cluster mobility of skilled labour	Creative collaboration between firms
	Knowledge spillovers and diffusion between producers	Training and skill development through cluster based initiatives
	Knowledge spill over between suppliers, production related activities	Collaboration between entrepreneurs in clusters
		Association between stakeholders
Sources outside cluster	Externally linked technical advantages	Understanding testing needs and use of facilities
	Customers' and traders' knowledge	Availability and use of factoring services
	Machinery and input suppliers	

19. Meerut has widespread industrial spectrum and each sector has their unique concerns, strategy and development targets. Each sector has different expectations. While generalisation does help in policy formulation, it is appropriate that industry specific concerns are taken note of. The involvement of stakeholders and understanding their concerns is equally important as what is being delivered. After all, it is these industries and entrepreneurs who would not only push the growth and facilitate getting to the target. They are both the contributors and beneficiaries of the growth process.

For the study, discussions were held with representatives of major industry and services segments. In Table 21 below, we look at the concerns and expectations of each important industry in Meerut.

Table 21 : Industry Specific Issues

Sports Goods Industry



Current Status: There are more than 3500 units, employing nearly 50-70 thousand workers and producing goods worth Rs. 200 crores annually. The major products are items related to cricket, boxing gloves, football, badminton, and lawn tennis. The cluster comprises both SMEs and household units. The SMEs are largely located in the sports goods complex, while the sub-contracting units are spread all over the city and even in the nearby villages. The cluster is growing at an average annual growth rate of 8 per cent for the last few years.

Some units like those producing boxing gloves have been growing at a comparatively faster rate. With new technology and a competitive stimulus could push the growth to nearly 20 per cent annually. Meerut sports goods industry contributes to roughly around 25 per cent of India's sports goods export.

Support Required: The cluster draws technical support from the Process and Product Development Centre (PPDC) for sports goods, which is a central government organization. The cluster firms mostly use manual manufacturing processes. The cluster produces items only for few sports, leaving a large chunk of the segment out of its domain. Sector is MSME dominated and that constraint in getting large orders. The cluster is facing immense competition from mechanized units manufacturing similar products. The technology is changing rapidly and the cluster firms are too small to make the required investments. The cluster has immense scope for technical up gradation within the existing set of manufactured items. Even greater scope lies in diversifying to other sports good segments. Facilitation in acquiring technology, inter firm collaboration in getting orders of large scale, product standardization and easy finance together with an improved infrastructure is critical.

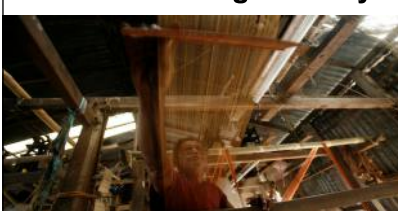
Scissors Industry



Current Status: 175 units exist in this sector with direct and indirect employment of nearly 25,000 persons. Scissors are being manufactured in Meerut households since long. There are many families involved in this industry; conventionally family tradition: However pathetic health conditions of old streets of Meerut, health-hazardous production process and lack of any research, any directional change or product diversification remains restricted to scissors used by tailors.

Support Required: To address the tool room and other problems a Cluster facility centre was initiated. Industry took up with MDA and got 300 industrial plots. Though all plots stand allotted but shifting process is very slow. The main problem of industry is its inability to match Chinese imports. New techniques of production process have not been adopted. Setting standards, higher import duty and facilitation in technology acquisition together with Skill development is critical.

Textile Weaving Industry



Current Status: Reportedly number of units 1200 with direct and indirect employment of nearly 50,000. These units are being operated from households and residential areas since long and are conventionally a family tradition. Reportedly Meerut has around 1000 household specialized in intricate designing and needle work. Mostly female workers and are exploited because of lack of market, aggregator and design upgradation.

Support Required: Industry remains restricted to conventional methods. Problems are like costly input thread, power cost, not able to match import pricing, out of jobs due to new technology machines coming up etc. There is a demand for industry-park, increase in import duty, developing centralized designing, testing facility, yarn shining, finishing and latest packing facilities. Marketing and technology are the concerns. Cluster and SHG are the possible options.

Brass Band Industry



Current Status: Reportedly number of units 600 with direct and indirect employment of around 10,000. These units have been based out of households or mahollas/residential areas since long. There are many families involved in this industry and the industry is conventionally a family tradition.

Support Required: DJ a substitute, though with sound pollution, puts restrictions on demand. Sector needs a 200 units' industrial area. Here too competition from China is causing problems. High

cost of brass, the basic raw material is another problem. Being a highly labour-intensive industry, it is very difficult to find skilled workforce for the Brass Band manufacturers. The Manufacturers desire that MDA should provide them land at subsidized rates for setting up their units. The State Governments should support these units in the procurement of metals and other raw materials and with provision for subsidy on electricity. Cheap quality imports could be restricted through an appropriate duty and product standards.

Leather Industry



Current Status: Meerut had around 1000 house hold units hand making shoes.

Support Required: Labour cost per pair in Meerut is about Rs 50-60 whereas in Agra the same is Rs 30. Besides marketing and other problems and customer shift to branded products has impacted the cluster.

Textile Printing & Processing Industry



Current Status: Reportedly numbers of units 15 big and around 100 small household types with direct and indirect workers around 500. Small units are households or in mahollas.

Support Required: Technology upgradation fund allocated in 2018 did help partially but it is a continuous process. Reliance has monopoly on polyester which has input cost 40-60 per cent and is 20 per cent costlier than China putting industry out of global rates. On participation in foreign exhibitions there should be government aid like China does it.

Handicrafts Industry



Current Status: It is very interesting sector to take effective steps as growth potential exists. Mudali has around 2000 household units working on items developed from artificial pearls such as curtains etc. Of these items substantial part is finally exported but the advantage of high pricing of exports is generally not available to households or is passed on to them.

Support Required: There is need for an aggregator for exports. Product design could considerably increase export base.

Print & Publishing Industry



Current Status: Reportedly numbers of units 8 big and around 80 small, employing around 3000 workers. Turnover is estimated at around Rs. 500 crores. Meerut is also hub of education book publication with an equal turnover.

Support Required: The availability and cost of paper are the issues. Digital technology is both helpful but increases competition. A cluster kind of arrangement with scattered location could be useful.

Electronic Switch Gear



Current Status: Around 15 units and small house hold repair units are in this sector with a turnover of around Rs 70 crore of which exports constitute around 30 per cent. Number of workers may be close to 500 but mostly on contract. There is big scope because of higher application of electronics.

Support Required: The sector has high import content and duty structure of inputs and outputs needs a review. It is a capital-intensive segment and also technology driven which changes rather fast.

Technology facilitation and incentives on investment with assured power availability are the main issues.

Gems & Jewellery



Current Status: Meerut is the largest producer of both precious metals and artificial jewellery. Units are scattered and no brand name has been acquired. Basically, units cater to other sellers. Price realization is therefore low. Local designing is not of high quality so job workers and even producers copy the design or produce for a given design.

Support Required: There is need for an organisation/association which could facilitate their technology acquisition. Adequate and

affordable credit is another major concern.

Food Processing Industry



Current Status: Food processing is a sunrise sector. The growth potential for this sector is enormous as the demand for processed food products is increasing in the domestic as well as in the overseas markets.

Support Required: The State Government could promote this sector through public investment and by facilitating private investment in development of processing industry and supportive infrastructure. Private/ Public/Joint Sector initiative for development

of cold chains, grading, and transportation and post-harvest storage facilities will be given strong impetus. Meerut being a leading District in agriculture and horticulture should have a Mega Food Park.

Meerut Power Loom Cluster



Current Status: Cluster has 3,000 power loom units employing over 30,000-35,000 workers. Most units (almost 95 %) are micro-scale units. Main products are grey fabric and fabric for home furnishing, which are then supplied to traders located at Delhi, Ghaziabad and Panipat. The cluster annually produces goods worth Rs. 40 crores.

Support Required: Like most other power loom clusters, the traders or master weavers control the market. Female members of the family mostly indulge in embroidery work on job work basis. The power

loom sector has generally seen a decline in the last few years. Meerut has very few units that have modern looms and are relatively inefficient when compared to the power loom cluster of Panipat. This cluster faces a number of challenges, including limited market linkages. The turnover is very low, and the cluster needs sustained support to make it more productive.

Auto Parts industry



Current Status: Units produce both electrical and mechanical parts. This cluster has about 5000 units, of which almost 95% are related to mechanical parts. Apart from manufacturing, significant number of units is also into repairing. Approximately 26,000 workers are employed in this cluster. The cluster has an annual turnover of Rs 100 crore. The major products are auto rubber parts, auto brakes, auto engine spare parts, nuts and bolts, spring pills, etc. All the units are either small or micro in nature, and are spread throughout Meerut city.

Support Required: The cluster is highly fragmented and hence cannot produce any single item in large volumes, affecting both manufacturing costs and quality. The workforce is unskilled and quality culture is by and large absent. There is a strong requirement for technological up-gradation. In most of the units, simple cutting and drilling machines are being used. There is a need for introducing advanced equipment, to improve shop floor practices, induce quality systems and to promote standardization.

Khadi and Textiles Weavers



Current Status: The Khadi production is expected to rise by 40% in coming years. The Government of India through the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) is establishing a Centre of Excellence for Khadi (CoEK) to promote Khadi industry.

Support Required: On the aspect on the impact of Technology, the weavers stated that the new technologies are driving traditional handloom weavers out of work. Therefore, they expect that the Government should focus more on skill development in the areas of

Designing, Testing, Cloth shining, Finishing, Packaging, Dying etc. Setting up of a cluster, easy access to credit would be helpful.

20. For many of the issues raised by Industry, industrial park or an industrial could be an answer. A typical cluster could be turning point for excellence in production, inter firm learning, technology upgradation, labour mobility beside being articulating common concerns more effectively (Box 10).

Box 10 : A Typical Cluster				
	Benefits from Central Government schemes		Can avail State subsidies through awareness and association	
Conglomerate of Producers, Input Suppliers and Traders				
Suppliers/ Dealers	Direct Production	Supporting Trade		
Machinery	Producing Units	Export Producers	International Agents	
Raw Materials		Export Traders		
Intermediate Inputs	Supporting Units	Domestic Suppliers	Surplus/Defective Pieces	
Packing Material	Ancillary Units	Whole sellers		
Supporting Infrastructure				
Industry Associations		Skill/ Education	Banking/Logistics	
MDA	Industrial Institution	Labour Employability	Banks	Transport/Freight

21. The industry specific analysis, however, leads to three interesting observations. First, the employment in manufacturing sector is significantly higher than what the other data sources tell. Most of these workers operate from home and may have not surfaced in official data. Second, the industry is scattered and unorganised to a significant extent and an innovative approach could only improve their conditions. Finance, technology, marketing and recognition are their common problems. A fixed location cluster may not be an answer to their concerns. Third, while these industries are to an extent vocal, they have not been able to articulate their concerns effectively. These industries have significant potential and also non-farm employment source with possibility of a significant increase in female labour force participation. Further since they are outside the LFPR and workers, their GDP contribution may perhaps be underestimated.

22. While skill development and training (including the craftsmen training) has been recognised as a necessary input, their accessibility is still an issue. Further, training and placement are two sides of the coin and without placement, only the unutilized potential will be created. In PM Kaushal Vikas Yojana and the Craftsman Training, placement record is not satisfactory. Industry Associations' involvement, regular updating of course design and continuous research on skill sets that are in demand are essential ingredients.

23. While traditional industries are needed to be nurtured, there is tremendous scope for new set of industries in the district. The digital technology has changed the environment and eco system of manufacturing. It is kind of destructive construction and it needs to be recognised upfront. There are four areas where there is additional scope of green field investment. In case of Meerut, with somewhat innovative workforce such transition and adoption of new emerging industries/sectors is less difficult.

24. Government of India, along with Make in India has also introduced a scheme of product linked incentives. State Government has also identified Sports Goods and Textiles as the two industries as part of One District One Product. These are innovative schemes and entrepreneurs need to inform of the opportunities that these schemes offer.

Box 11 : The Production Linked Incentive Scheme- March 2020

This scheme was introduced to reduce India's dependence foreign countries It supports the labor-intensive sectors and aims to increase the employment ratio in India.

This scheme works to reduce down the import bills and boost up domestic production.

It invites foreign companies to set up their units in India & encourages enterprises to scale up.

The incentives, calculated on the basis of incremental sales, range from as low as 1% for the electronics and technology products to as high as 20% for the manufacturing of critical key starting drugs and certain drug intermediaries.

So far, the government has announced PLI schemes for 14 sectors including automobile and auto components, electronics and IT hardware, telecom, pharmaceuticals, solar modules, metals and mining, textiles and apparel, white goods, drones, medical devices and advanced chemistry cell batteries.

Services Sector

25. Services have been an important segment of GSDP of Meerut accounting for 44 per cent of district GDP. The share of tertiary sector gross value added in Meerut has been around 2.9 per cent of the aggregate GSVA from this sector in Uttar Pradesh. Sector wise GSVA of tertiary sector in Meerut is in Table 22. Services are further categorized as market driven and non-market driven. The other services which comprise mainly education, health and other miscellaneous household services are usually not market driven. Particularly, for education and health are considered merit goods and often considered obligatory for the public sector, directly or through outsourced mechanism. Basic education and preventive healthcare have externalities and are not fully left in market domain. While public administration and professional services (including real estate) are the fastest growing services, contact intensive sector of trade and hotels grew much slower. Further, Meerut is yet to fully exploit the tourism potential of the district.

26. Overall persons engaged in tertiary sector in 2013 in Meerut were estimated a little over lakhs in 2013. Nearly half of these were in the trade sector followed by other services, education and transport sector (Table 23). Given the growth of services during this period and Meerut being an education and publishing hub, total number of persons engaged in mix of services could be anywhere between 5-6 lakh.

Table 22 : Gross Value Added from Tertiary Sector (Rs crore)

	2011-12	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	CAGR
Trade, hotels and restaurants	1,802	3,441	3,691	4,082	3,025	5.9
Transport & communication	937	2,230	2,812	3,029	2,371	10.9
Financial services	634	1,153	1,272	1,531	1,615	11.0
Real estate & professional services	2,384	5,397	6,053	6,418	7,013	12.7
Public administration	831	3,226	3,793	4,265	4,155	19.6
Other services	984	1,679	1,973	2,265	2,288	9.8
Tertiary Sector	7,571	17,127	19,594	21,590	20,467	11.7
Uttar Pradesh	310,326	626,642	699,899	767,433	714,629	9.7
Share of Meerut	2.7	2.7	2.8	2.8	2.9	

Source: Directorate of Economics & Statistics, Uttar Pradesh

Table 23 : Number of Establishments and persons engaged

Sector	Rural	Urban	Total	Rural	Urban	Total
	Number of Establishments/ Units			Number of Persons Engaged		
Total	33,660	79,158	112,818	54,966	151,400	205,706
Uttar Pradesh	2,138,418	1,865,811	4,004,229	3,832,363	4,056,915	7,889,278
Share	1.6	4.2	2.8	1.4	3.7	2.6

Source: Uttar Pradesh- District Fact Book: India state Publications 2022

27. Given the structure of economy of Meerut, it would need to pursue a unique strategy of development. It has a vibrant agriculture, but its long-term sustainability is seriously constrained, it has a diversified manufacturing base, but that is relatively shrinking, due to both to its internal constraints and also as competition from neighboring districts is intensifying, it has a diversified and well entrenched service sector, but trade and tourism potential is hardly exploited and education and health sector not getting into the competitive mode. Public administration and defense, though has been a fast-growing sector, has limitations and digital revolution and delivery of services moving to that mode, further expansion possibilities are not that significant.

28. Services sector is more heterogeneous by its very nature. It has purely monetised sector comprising trade and transport. It covers mixed sector such as health and education and purely non monetized sector as public administration. Further, while trade and transport by and large private sector dominated, health and education have both public and private sector presence and public administration by definition, a government driven. Further, dependency of this sector on infrastructure as roads is as significant as manufacturing. In services sector, we have also included construction because its problems are more similar to services sector and it is partly driven by professionals. Like manufacturing, we look at different sectors (excluding the financial sector) of services to identify the constraints and what the stakeholders' expectations are in Table 24 below:

29. Besides the hard infrastructure, there is need for soft interventions. Some of the common problems and a possible menu of solutions have been outlined in table below. This is not an exhaustive list, but a tentative one and more can be added as identified. But soft interventions are equally important as hard interventions and infrastructure. In the entire analysis so far, we have not touched the infrastructure of power, roads and civic amenities. Adequate power at affordable rates is a pre requisite for economic activities. Meerut is relatively better placed with power with overall technical losses under 20 per cent. Road network is expanding and State has an extensive programme of connectivity. Digital connectivity is a dynamic concept and is rapidly changing.



Table 24 : Services sub sectors, their issues and way forward

Construction Advisers & Contractors



Current Status: Meerut derives significant GDP from construction sector. New residential and commercial complexes indicate a significant scope for this sector. The district has significant number of Construction Engineers, Architects, Designers and workers. Meerut also has adequate number of reputed colonizers, real estate developers for both commercial and residential properties.

Support Required: Major constraint is the haphazard development of District and frequent regulatory changes. There is hardly a collective voice of the group. Municipal Corporation and MDA need to be considerate of their concerns. A cluster kind of approach would suit this sector. Fiscal support and institutional finance are equally important. Another problem in construction sector is the actual cost/valuation and the declared valuation which acts as collateral.

Doctors & Health Clinics



Current Status: Meerut has sizable number of clinics and specialized hospitals with care cost just under half of which prevails in Delhi, the nearest centre. But sector has not grown to its potential due to frequent regulatory changes and statutory requirements. Meerut has significant number of reputed doctors and specialists. Meerut has potential to become a hub for medical instruments, dental care and orthopaedics. Hospitals have significant forward and backward linkages with technicians, nurses, paramedics, pharmacists, civic amenities, sewage disposal. By ignoring one, we are blocking the prospects of an entire chain.

Support Required: A similar approach as that of Constructions needs to be adopted. Old clinics built on the then prevailing regulation cannot be expected to move to new regulations, particularly with regard to location and size.

Education



Current Status: Meerut is an education hub with 5 universities in the district. It is one of the biggest centres in North India of printing and publishing of textbooks and other literature. But, quality of education has remained subpar compared to Delhi and other places leading to exodus. Further, at school level, most of these have not adjusted themselves to medium of instruction which has moved to English as preferred one.

Support Required: Municipal Corporation and District Education Officer have significant responsibility of improving the quality of education. There is need for more active collaboration between administration and institutions. Further, the syllabus of the higher education needs to be relevant to current requirements. The New Education Policy has hardly found to have been assimilated even by teachers.

Professionals



Current Status: Meerut has significant number of reputed professionals, particularly lawyers, chartered accountants and business professionals, Chartered Accountants who can make an important contribution to economy.

Support Required: The problem of these professionals is also apathy of administrative set up and articulation of their views collectively at a decision-making platform. As a result, many professionals such as Chartered Accountants leave Meerut for better opportunities. Initiatives should be taken to encourage these professions to take up Consultancy, Chartered Accountancy services in Meerut district. Setting up of IT parks under the aegis of STPI

(Software Technology Parks of India) could be explored. A strong aggregation/association and a cluster will mutually be beneficial. Exchange of knowledge and networking is most important in this sector.

Tourist Aggregators



Current Status: Meerut has tourist hotspots, historical and religious. But there is hardly any understanding and publication of this potential. Meerut is yet to emerge on the tourist destination network. While its proximity to Delhi and Agra, which are tourists' centres put it in a disadvantageous position, but it could turn into its strength.

Support Required: Meerut Corporation needs to improve the image of the city as peaceful and tourist friendly. Besides, a tourist aggregator could considerably improve its position. Meerut could also

be showcased as health care destination, an education hub besides the other tourist hotspots. The connectivity network further opens up the avenues in this sector and it is right time to ride on.

Street Hawkers/Eating Joints



Current Status: This is the largest and most vulnerable group, always at the mercy of police and municipal corporation. The usefulness of this segment is hardly recognized.

Support Required: Municipalities should consider providing them fixed locations for their activities, legal and transferable. Authorities should ensure compliance with Street Vendor act 2014.

Box 12 : Grinding wheel of justice: Justice system in Meerut

The Meerut District faces significant economic challenges due to high number of non-hearing days in Court. It is estimated that Meerut District Court has hearings on less than 100 days in a year. The main reasons for loss of hearing days are abstinence from work by lawyers, 'no working days' declared by the Bar Association, and absence of judges. Lawyers in Meerut call strikes far too often and for various reasons, e.g., for demanding a High Court bench in West UP, any tussle with local administration, on cultural & political events, etc. Lawyers also observe condolence days to mourn the death of a fellow lawyer or judge, which are frequently misused and sometimes extended to observe the death of family members. Bar association-declared "no adverse order" days on not so perfect weather conditions, etc further contribute to no-hearing days. Non-hearing days also include the numerous holidays declared by High Court. Moreover, the absence of judges due to leaves, transfers, or not hearing cases adds to the problem.

The economic impact of these non-hearing days is substantial. The entire judicial establishment remains present but non-operational, incurring costs for court staff, facilities, police personnel, and utility bills. Litigants face wasted time and resources due to travel for hearings. The delay in adjudication of matters leads to a significant lock-up of capital, amounting to thousands of crores, in prolonged disputes. To address these issues, several solutions are proposed. The last day of the month can be designated for condolence references after lunch to streamline and reduce the impact of condolence days. E-courts can be utilized to track judge vacancies and absenteeism, daily hearings should be conducted using 'digital display boards' and cause list, and non-hearing days should be marked in the e-court calendar with specified reasons. Management Information System (MIS) should be generated to track non-hearing days for each reason. Finally, there is a need to sensitize and create awareness among the bar association members regarding the negative economic consequences of non-working days.

Refer Annexure 2: Meerut District Judiciary: Critical role in economic wellbeing

Chapter V : Strategy for Development- going beyond the basics

1. While the most recent data in respect of Meerut is hardly available, other than for the GDP numbers, an assessment has been made of future growth based on assumptions relating to the sources of growth in an economy. Quantity and quality of inputs and factor productivity are the sources of growth. A Study by Reserve Bank of India has revealed that oif the overall inflation adjusted growth of 6.1 per cent during 1981-2017, labour and capital inputs had contributed to 4.7 per cent growth (3.4 per cent by capital), another 0.46 per cent was contributed by capital and labour quality and only 0.96 per cent came from total factor productivity.

Box 13 : Sources of Growth				
Capital Inputs	Labour Inputs	Quality of Capital	Quality of Labour	Total Factor Productivity
New Investment	Increase in Workers	Technology	Skill Development	Systemic Improvement
Expansion/Modernization	Higher Female Participation	Scale of operation	On the Job Training	Agglomeration Effect
Reallocation of Labour & Capital		Digital Technology	Improved Employability	Institutional Factors

2. But growth in itself a dynamic concept and there are leakages and slacks which, if covered properly, an accelerated growth could be achieved. There has been both direct and disguised unemployment. Labour Force participation is low and has so far been sticky. However, a reasonable part of this low participation of labour force as job seekers may have to do with poor quality jobs, these being less remunerative compared to the transaction costs involved in relocating, social structure or lack of proper facilities of child care and other amenities for female labour force. There is considerable scope for new capital being injected and the Investment Summit of Uttar Pradesh is indicative of investor interests. There is possibility of relocating already employed persons occupationally through proper skilling. The data of Uttar Pradesh as in Chapter II clearly indicate that value added per person engaged in different sectors vary considerably. While a person engaged in agriculture gets about 50 per cent of the average of all sectors, it is goes up to 23 times in professional services. Even in construction and communications which are low skills, the value added per person engaged is more than 10 times the value added in agriculture. While the quality of labour could be improved through skills, quality or productivity of capital could also be improved through better technology. There could be institutional settings which could reduce transaction cost of business and industry, through Single Window, Ease of Doing Business, appropriate factoring services, inter firm learning and others.

3. Our assessment indicates that it is possible to raise labour force participation by 5-10 percentage points. In 2021-22, labour force participation rate across the States had varied from 27 per cent for Bihar (LFPR of Uttar Pradesh was 36 per cent) to 58 per cent for Sikkim and Himachal Pradesh. The female participation in labour force in Uttar Pradesh at 18.7 per cent was just about a third of Himachal Pradesh. Even among the educated persons, the LFPR for Diploma holders, graduates and above in Uttar Pradesh was around 60 per cent compared to 84 per cent in Himachal Pradesh. The Investment Summit of Uttar Pradesh and the discussions and presentation made in Meerut indicate additional investment commitment of Rs. 26,554 crores over next five years (Table 25). In addition, there has been a proposal for logistic park and additional infrastructure on Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor in Meerut. Besides, the Government of Uttar Pradesh has unveiled an infrastructure development package and additional capital expenditure in Uttar Pradesh. Assuming that Meerut will get a proportionate share, an additional public investment of Rs. 10,000 crores could flow to Meerut in next five years.

Table 25 : Investment Intentions Indicated (Rs Crore)

Sector	Number	Investment	Sector	Number	Investment
Agriculture	5	71	Residential & Industrial Estate	20	2304
Livestock	12	21	Industrial Development	1	325
Dairy	39	2303	IT	2	150
Renewable Energy	9	3430	Health	3	23
MSME	390	10407	Technical Education	7	1126
Skill Development	1	3	Tourism	9	570
Food Security	2	554	Transport	2	760
Forestry	3	295	Urban Development	3	620
Handlooms & Handicrafts	14	1675	Industrial Estate	5	173
Higher Education	2	190	UPIDA	1	1600
Horticulture	7	232		537	26554

Box 14: Finding a way out of city riddled with encroachments and unauthorized construction

Unauthorised constructions in various cities of Uttar Pradesh have a profound impact on the local economy, particularly the GDP. These constructions are prevalent in each development authority, with compounding fees under current rules being impractical for individuals to pay. Consequently, unauthorised constructions neither get demolished nor compounded, especially those situated along main roads. This results in a reduction in road width as per the master plan, hindering efforts to increase road width in most areas. Additionally, the negligence and corruption surrounding unauthorised constructions lead to revenue loss for the authority, adversely affecting development works in the district and impacting the local GDP. Unauthorised colonies further exacerbate the problem, with a significant number of constructions not conforming to existing rules regarding road width, frontage, setbacks, and parks. Unauthorised construction in these colonies can reach up to 100 percent, primarily driven by commercial activities along main roads. The master plan lacks provisions to address these issues effectively, allowing unauthorised construction to persist without consequences. Consequently, the authority fails to collect map fees and other charges, which further compounds the negative impact on revenue and, subsequently, the GDP.

Unorganised sector workers play a crucial role in the unauthorised colonies mentioned above and significantly contribute to the local GDP. However, their livelihoods are constantly under threat due to the unauthorised nature of these colonies. This uncertainty affects their work and has a direct impact on the GDP. Additionally, the lack of comprehensive assessment of unauthorised construction and the absence of clear responsibility in this matter further exacerbate the challenges. To address these issues, a committee comprising experts should be established, empowered with flexible rules to prioritize and resolve unauthorised constructions. This approach would generate revenue, boost the GDP, and foster development within the city.

Chapter VI : Arithmetic of GDDP growth of Meerut

1. There are two ways to look at the future growth possibilities. First is to assess the growth in each sector and sub sector and aggregate that to arrive at the Gross District Domestic Product (GDDP) or District level GDP. Second approach is to take the current GDP of the District as surrogate and extrapolate based on certain assumptions. We have preferred the second approach; though in earlier Chapters have outlined sector specific concerns and options because it is always possible for some of these sectors to emerge as lead sectors. Further, a surrogate measure allows policy shifts more easily.

2. With a little over 3 per cent share in overall GSDP of the State, the GSDP of Meerut need to reach US\$ 30 billion by 2026-27, in line with the State perspective of a trillion-dollar GSDP. Overall growth that has observed for Meerut during 2011-12 to 2020-21 at 9.4 per cent is somewhat lower than the growth recorded by the State. Yet, Meerut has obvious advantages for scaling it up better than the State as a whole. At a normal base line growth scenario of 13 per cent, the GSDP reaches barley US \$ 20 billion. The required rate of growth for Meerut to reach US \$ 30 billion is in excess of 30 per cent, assuming a moderately depreciating rupee (Table 26).

Table 26 : Arithmetic of GDP (Rs crore)

	Base GDP	GDP at 13% Base Growth	Additional Growth				Base GDP for Next Year
			Institutional Improvement	Labour Participation	Relocation of Labour	New Investment	
2023-24	67,765	76,574	678	678	1,355	2,963	82,248
2024-25	82,248	92,940	822	822	1,645	2,963	99,193
2025-26	99,193	112,088	992	992	1,984	2,963	119,019
2026-27	119,019	134,491	1,190	1,190	2,380	2,963	142,215
2027-28	142,215	160,703	1,422	1,422	2,844	2,963	169,355
2028-29	169,355	191,371	1,694	1,694	3,387	2,963	201,108
2029-30	201,108	227,252	2,011	2,011	4,022	2,963	236,156

3. Some key assumption in the forecast includes, additional growth at 1 per cent for institutional improvement and labour participation, 2 per cent on account of labor relocation for one sector to another, an Incremental Capital Output Ration (ICOR) of 2.7 in nominal terms for new public and private investment that has been targeted. If the base growth increases there would be an early realization of target.

Table 27 : Additional growth drivers

	Proposed Intervention	Increase estimated in GDP	Caveat
1	ICOR	2.7 %	Committed investment Rs. 10,000 cr for districts materializes; Political leadership & district administration.
2	Labour participation & Institutional investment	1 %	Greater participation of women with improved law & order & skills training.
3	Labour relocation	2 %	Migration from Agriculture through expansion of industry/ services & skills training.
4	Institutional Improvement	1%	Improving ease of doing business, reducing delays and multiple visits, interface with State and Central agencies.

4. Institutions have a significant role in accelerating growth. The role of District institutions basic functions is summarized in Box 15.

Box 15 : Role of District Level Institutions			
	Minimal Functions	Intermediate Functions	Activist Functions
District Administration	Maintaining law and order, ease of living.	Infrastructure development, contingency planning.	Supporting business, reducing legal burden and reduce transaction cost through timely delivery.
Municipal Corporation	Basic civic facilities, property tax and ensure accessibility & affordability of civic amenities.	Medium term perspective of civic amenities demand and availability.	Supporting business through proper land development, long term view of accessibility & affordability of civic amenities Regularization of unauthorized construction.
Industry Associations	Act as representative of business to understand and speak for their concerns.	Have a working relation with each business, set up business specific groups and understand their concerns.	Built effective communication channel with Administration and Corporation at highest and Corporation at highest grievances.
Development Authority	Industrial Corridors, Development of new residential & commercial areas.	Be conscious of regulatory changes over time. To provide a rational land use pattern.	Ensure that development grievances under previous regime is recognized and not have a long-drawn process of ratification, re-approval.
Public Representatives (MPs and MLAs)	Exercise legitimate political authority on the district administration on public works projects.	Engagement with public officials, interaction with constituents to understand their needs and concerns, as well as by pursuing investments.	Review Union government schemes. Politicians have an important role to play in overseeing that regularization drives are being carried out to prevent unauthorized constructions.

Chapter VII : The Way Forward: Actionable Agenda

There is a dominant trend to think of GDP growth as a factor of investment. This is evident from the emphasis on inviting mega projects and announcing big-ticket investments by all governments. The approach presupposes that investment at top creates trickle down impact on economy leading to higher GDP growth. The result of such a strategy has been patchy. Secondly, mega projects tend to concentrate in a certain geography whereas the population and habitats are scattered all over. Such a growth fails to create growth which is equitable and sustainable.

The current study posits a contrarian view and proposes to imagine GDP growth from bottom-up. If districts are the units of the States, higher GDP growth at District level can create higher aggregate GDP at the State (and National level). Like in rest of India, the GDP in the States is largely contributed by self-employed, household enterprises and organized and unorganized.

The impact of local administration on economic actors is significant. Districts can achieve higher GDP growth by improving their institutions, increasing female labor force participation, relocating labor from low-paying agriculture to higher-skilled industries, and attracting new investments. Taking them into account, the proposed strategy therefore rests upon these four pillars.

1. Institutional improvements and reforms:

i. **Ease of Doing Business'**: for self-employed household enterprises should be a priority for the local administration. Almost 85% of people are employed and sustained by them. That could be achieved through a series of measures:

- a. Regularizing / allowing working from home and residential areas with suitable caveats of size. Establishing a committee comprising of experts with suitable flexibility in rules to prioritize and resolve unauthorized constructions through a pragmatic compounding scheme.
- b. Below a threshold, people working from home should not be levied House Tax at par with Commercial enterprises (Shops/ industries)
- c. Similarly, they should not be charged Electricity & Water tariff at par with Commercial entities
- d. The administration also has to come out with a policy for Street Vendors and earmarking spaces for them.

ii. **Municipal Corporation**: Waterlogging and clogged drainage systems are a persistent problem in urban and industrial areas. They can spread diseases, cause traffic congestion, damage property, and reduce economic activity. Addressing this issue requires recognizing the severity of the problem and prioritizing its solutions.

iii. **Meerut Development Authority**: Needs of business and industry in terms of industrial/commercial space are not static and they change with time. The current regulatory dispensation is frozen in time. A transparent time mechanism needs to be evolved to dispose of pending cases in time. Secondly, the task should not be treated as a revenue generating activity by MDA but as the role of facilitator for creation and sustenance of employment. The Master plan should not be seen as frozen but much like the new Foreign Trade Policy, is made dynamic allowing flexibility to accommodate emerging needs. For industries, 10% of the area should be allowed to be constructed as per emerging needs on an approved map without seeking fresh approval.

iv. Industrial Infrastructure: It requires urgent attention of the administration. A run-down infrastructure does not only create a poor impression on existing and potential investors, it is a cause of serious pollution and accidents. Firstly, trade & industry associations of the respective areas should be vested the responsibility of upkeep and maintenance of their industrial area. The Partapur Industrial Area model could be immediately replicated in all other industrial areas. Secondly, an interface needs to be developed for joining the national projects with existing infrastructure of the districts.

v. Education: The role of education in the economic growth is highly understated. As the study notes, the human resources and labour (participation and relocation to higher skilled jobs) can add more than 2% to GDP of the District. The National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 provides a blue print how human resources could be equipped with technical and life-skills to be self-employed or employed elsewhere. Schools and Colleges need to be sensitized towards the expectations of NEP 2020 and capacitated with participation of civil society institutions and associations. For implementing NEP in secondary education, a resource center could be established in the district in participation of schools, MP/ MLAs, District administration and civil society institutions working in the field.

vi. District Industry Center: It needs to be the fulcrum for coordinating the development agenda of the different industrial and service sectors along with associations. The DIC may be provided adequate resources for holding regular meetings to develop detailed sector wise plans.

vii. Law and Order: There are two aspects here- Policing and Judiciary.

- a. Participation of women in UP and more so in Meerut is among the lowest in the country. This straightway drags down GDP. One of the chief reasons is lack of trust on safety of women in the street. With civil society institutions and associations of trade and industry campaigns need to be run to create needed trust. A higher women participation in labour force is the lowest hanging fruit to push GDP upward.
- b. As if the continental distance between Meerut and Allahabad High Court was not a deterrent enough in access to speedy justice (almost 800 Km), the Meerut courts have self-imposed brakes on themselves. There is an urgent need to increase working days of the Courts, provide sufficient hard and soft infrastructure to Courts, Enable Courts to function digitally and produce a cause list; and, to increase the number of Judges employing criteria of number of cases. (*Refer Annexure 2: Meerut District Judiciary: Critical role in Economic wellbeing*).

vii. Fire Department: Balancing pragmatism with unwavering commitment to saving lives is crucial for the Fire Department, particularly in dealing with older industries facing new Fire Licensing Policies. These industries present challenges like low structures and limited space, making strict compliance difficult. Approving low-height constructions, accepting narrower aisles, and establishing common water tanks in industrial areas offer practical solutions without compromising safety. Reintroducing utility certificates for fire equipment further aids older industries. Striking this balance ensures the protection of lives while sustaining the economic viability of these long-established businesses. (*Refer Annexure 1: Suggestions for Fire Licensing Policy*)

2. Agriculture: Large tracks of agriculture land in Meerut are under compulsory natural farming. Government is also encouraging farmers to adopt. However, most farmers have not yet shifted to natural forming due to lack of knowledge and fear of loss. Immediate steps are starting short and long courses on Agro-ecology and support for marketing linkages through institutions like NABARD. The support mechanism needs to be demonstrated through successful pilots to create confidence among farmers.

3. **Industry:** The study identifies more than 14 major industrial agglomerations or clusters in the district namely Sports Goods, Scissors Textile Weaving, Brass Band, Leather, Textiles, Handicrafts, Electronic Switchgear, Publishing & Printing, Gems & Jewellery, Food Processing, Power Loom, Auto Parts and Khadi and Textile Weavers. The district also houses six major Services agglomerations namely Construction Advisers & Contractors, Doctors & Health Clinics, Education, Professionals (CAs, Lawyers etc.), Tourist Aggregators and Street Hawkers/Eating Joints.

Almost all of the segments have their representative associations that have a fair understanding of their potential growth trajectory. What they lack, firstly, is access and heft to administration and relevant government officials to resolve their issues. Secondly, a coordinating office to handhold them access various schemes and programmes of the state and the central government.

4. In the decades which led to spurt of a wave of entrepreneurship in India during 70s to 90s, office of the District Industry Center (DIC) used to be the nodal point for the budding entrepreneurs. The DIC offices, set up through a centrally sponsored programme, coordinated with regulatory and promotional agencies of state and central government on their behalf. The office worked to ensure access to inputs and factors of production- from finance to raw material to land among others, in a highly controlled environment characterized by licensing and quota regime. After liberalization in 1991 and removal of all import restrictions, that role became largely redundant. The DICs in different states are trying to rediscover their role since then with varying degree of success. The role increasingly taken up by DICs in industrialized states is that of attracting, aiding and sustaining investment.

The DICs need immense capacity building to discharge a role found meaningful by industry to deliver desired growth and create jobs in today's world. There are several models. One being used by Odisha called District Invest Promotion Agency (DIPA) is worth considering. The set-up is created under the Chairmanship of District Magistrate employing professionals to help industry associations to tap the funds of central and state schemes and also help resolve issues with administration.



Annexure 1 : Suggestions for Fire Licensing Policy

Challenges for old industries under new Fire Policy	Solutions
Due to low height of the old factories, NBC code could not be regulated.	For old established factories/units, low height construction should be approved for availing NOC.
There is not enough space around the existing factory premises for movement of fire brigades. As per NBC code, 4-meter-wide road all around is required. So, this regulation cannot be practically complied with in old factories.	An Aisle width of less than 4m should be accepted in case of old factories.
Installation of water storage of prescribed capacity is not possible due to paucity of space or less capacity of existing building.	There should be a common water tank in the parks of industrial areas which could be used for rain water harvesting as well as work as a fire reserve water tank. This would ensure less financial burden on the units. This work should be in the domain of UPSIDA, DIC and private developers.
Earlier the enterprises were getting utility certificate for fire extinguishing equipment by the Fire Department on the right to have equipment for prevention of fire.	The same system should be revived again. This facility will be a big relief for old industries who cannot get NOC under NBC. This system is not only practical to implement but will also help in installing firefighting equipment.

- Under new policy Fire NOC for units with size less than 1000 sq. mtr. is issued by Joint Director. For units with size 1000 sq. mtr. or above Fire NOC is issued by the Director and the CFO is empowered to check and attach his report.
- Self-attestation to be done within 15 days of upload of application for Fire NOC if any objection has not been raised. The verification by the CFO should be done in automated mode within the above time limit. Verification by Registered Fire Integrator/Chartered Engineer may be done through the website.
- Self-certification in auto mode should be considered as an alternate method for issue of NOC. (As is the case in Gujarat). Micro or small-scale units should be allowed to have only firefighting equipment as Fire protection systems are very expensive.
- Certified Experts and Specialists in the domain of fire emergency and risk management should be recognized by the government. These experts and specialists could certify fire accident preparedness and response mechanisms in factories. For the units which have a license for dealing in explosives, the license should be recognized for the purpose of registration in Factories Act and issue of Fire NOC.

Annexure 2 : Meerut District Judiciary: Critical role in Economic wellbeing

Meerut District Judiciary : Economic impact

The number of courts functioning in Meerut district are in between 58 to 65 nos., in which only courts of District Judge, JSCC, Civil Judge (Senior Division), Civil Judge (Junior Division) City, Civil Judge (Junior Division) Hawali, Commercial Courts -2, Family Courts -1, Motor Accident Claim (MAC) Tribunals -2, Land Acquisition Rehabilitation & Resettlement Authority (LARRA) Tribunals-1 are permanent.

The stipulated tenure for the judges is of 3 years, except that of District Judge and Presiding Officers of Commercial Courts, Family Court, MAC & LARRA Tribunals. Earlier transfers can happen on personal request of judge, or on administrative grounds. There are approx. 8000 practicing lawyers in Meerut Judgeship.

Status

The data reveals that district courts in Meerut have actual hearings for less than 100 days in a year that has impeding effect on the case disposals.

Case Disposal: A comparison of no. of civil cases 'instituted' & 'disposed off' for month of April-2023 in district courts of Meerut & Delhi South West are as below.

	Meerut	Delhi South West
Cases Instituted in April'23	28	1429
Cases Disposed in April'23	19	1562
Total Civil Cases	31836	20547

Source: National Judicial Data Grid

The above table indicates that the 'new cases instituted' in Delhi District Court are 50 times more than Meerut. Still the total civil cases pending are 60% higher in Meerut as the 'case disposal rate' of Meerut is very low (1/82 times of Delhi). The excess time taken in case disposal has consequential adverse impact on economy of Meerut.

Reasons For Low Case Disposal

A) Holidays: Affects All Courts in Meerut Jurisdiction

Reason	Description	No. of calendar days Lost b/w May '18 up to May '23
2nd Saturdays every month	Declared off by High Court	60
Other Holidays	Summer Holidays, Winter Holidays, Festivals, National Holidays If any holiday is falling on Saturday / Sunday, it is accommodated on a working day	254 days
	Total	314 days (1y 2.5 m)

Source: Court Calendar

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Total Court days lost} &= \text{Avg. no. of courts} \times \text{Total No. of days lost due to abstinence} \\ &= 60 \text{ courts} \times 314 \text{ days} = 18,840 \text{ Court days} \end{aligned}$$



B) Abstinance From Work by Lawyers: Affects All Courts in Meerut Jurisdiction

Reason	Description	No. of calendar days Lost b/w May '18 up to May '23
1st, 3rd & 4th Saturdays every month	In 1981, West UP High Court Bench Establishment Committee headed by Meerut Bar Association passed a resolution declaring Saturday as strike days in all 22 district courts of Western Uttar Pradesh. Since then, in last 42 years more than 4 years have been lost due to this resolution.	180 days
Strike	Meerut Bar Association has called strikes for various reasons like an altercation between a lawyer and local administration, on Mahavir Jayanti, Ambedkar Jayanti, Ravidas Jayanti, etc. The strikes have also been called for elections of Bar Associations (there are 2 Bar Associations in Meerut), and of Nagar Nigam, Assembly elections, Parliament Elections, etc. The court working is disrupted during Kanvad Yatra as well for 8 to 10 days.	316 days
Condolence	Meerut Bar Association had previously decided to keep abstinance from work for full day, without protest on condolence days declared by bar association in view of the death of any advocate. Now at present, bar association passed a resolution to designate a day in week for condolence reference, but a group of lawyers opposed/overruled the resolution in 'General House' meeting and forcefully got full day off on death of their colleague.	163 days
No adverse order	Days close to festivals, summer or winter break, or rainy / foggy days, are declared by Meerut Bar Association as 'no adverse order' days. Some days are lost due to mismatch between holiday calendar of District Court and Collectorate.	210 days
	Total:	869 days (2y 4.5 m)

Source: Bar Association

Total Court days lost = Avg. no. of courts x Total No. of days lost due to abstinance
= 60 courts x 869 days = 52,140 Court days

C) Absence Of Judges on account of leaves: Affects One Court

Reason	Description	No. of calendar days Lost b/w May '18 up to May '23
Judge not sitting / hearing	A judge gets following leaves which can be availed anytime: Casual Leave: 14 days / year & Special Casual Leaves: 4 days/year Earned Leave: 30 days / year Medical Leave: Up to 1 year in whole of service Casual leaves are generally availed by most judicial officers. Approx. 5 judicial officers avail medical or Earned Leaves in a year.	5000
Judge Transfers	7 days joining time is available to Judicial Officer on transfer. On an average 33% judges are transferred each year.	700
	Total	5700

Economic Impact of Non-Hearing Days

Direct Loss: The direct economic impact of non-hearing days in terms of cost of HR, utility bills etc. amounts to nearly 100 crores.

Average daily expense estimate of one court = 15000/- (Incl HR cost, utility bills, etc.)

S.No		No. of courts days lost	Direct Loss @ 15000/- per day
1	Due to Holidays	18,840	28.26 crores
2	Due to abstinence of work by lawyers	52,140	78.21 crores
3	Due to judge on leave & transfers	5,700	8.55 crores

On S.N.1 & 2, entire judicial establishment is present but not operating.

Indirect Loss: The litigants have to travel for hearing and their time / resources are also wasted. Most importantly, the loss of dates leads to colossal delay in adjudication of matters and massive capital (1000s of crores) is locked in disputes for extended time.

दिनांक 02.10.2023 दैनिक जगवाणी | www.dainikjanwani.com |

पानी निकासी का नहीं कोई प्लान

बागपत रोड पर उफन रहे नाले, हो जाती है बद से बदतर स्थिति



जिले में 665 किमी सड़कों को किया जाना है गह्वरमुक्त, शहर की प्रमुख सड़कों का मामला निगम के टेंडर में फंसा

जिले की 303 किमी सड़कों में कदम-कदम पर गह्वे



मेरठ/समाना/सधना, विन्डुपान टीम। शहर के अंदर के बाक्युव मेरठ मेंकन और जिले में सड़कों को गह्वरमुक्त करने का कार्य बोरी में से पार हो है। इसका सदा काला नीच-बीच में जाति है।



मेरठ जिले की यह है स्थिति 665.760 किमी है मेरठ जिले में गह्वरमुक्त कार्य बने सड़कों की कुल लम्बाई फौजवाड़े की रिपोर्ट के अनुसार



दो लाख करोड़ तक पहुंचेगी मेरठ की जीडीपी

तन ट्रिलियन डॉलर के मिशन में योगदान देने को पांच वर्ष में मेरठ के सकल घरेलू उत्पाद की वृद्धि को चार गुना करने की योजना



मेरठ, मुख्य संवाददाता। भारत सरकार के पूर्व वरिष्ठ आर्थिक सलाहकार जगदीश शर्मा ने कहा है कि मेरठ जिले



मेरठ का सकल घरेलू उत्पाद दरम्यान में हजार करोड़ है 67 2029 30 करोड़ तक करेड़ करने की योजना इसे ते रकत प्रतिशत

ग्राउंड ब्रेकिंग सेरेमनी में जमीन पर उतरने को तैयार 150 प्रोजेक्ट

पंजीकरण करके गौट योजनाओं का काम पाओ मेरठ। 15 जून तक के लिए रुक, लघु एवं मध्यम उद्यम प्रकल्पों के कार्यों को तेज पर चलाकर के लिए अतिरिक्त धन कर दिया गया है। पंजीकरण करने के लिए अद्यतन की जानकारी के उपरान्त कि निम्नलिखित सारकई न पंजीकरण कर लेना शिस्टी का कर पार

To improve GSDP, U.P. for more coverage of unorganised sector

mesh Raghuvanshi | ghuvanshi@indianexpress.com | THE STATE GOVT'S BUDGET PROJECTS GSDP OF 224,000 crore while chief secretary D.S. Mishra has proposed...

दिनांक 02.10.2023 दैनिक जागरण

सड़क पर धूल का गुबार...आखिर कैसे होगा वायु गुणवत्ता में सुधार

MoHUA panel on urban reform to hold meet with states in July

Snehl Sinha | snehl@indianexpress.com | NEW DELHI: Setting up an IAS and IPS-like service in the field of urban planning, a national and regional urban planning authority with the Prime Minister as its head, central support to placement of qualified urban planners in the states and cities and modernisation of state town planning...

- ### IDEAS FOR LIVEABLE CITIES
- Modernising state recruitment rules and filling sanctioned urban planner posts
 - Nagar Niyojak Scheme (central support to placement of qualified urban planners in states)
 - National framework for accelerated urban capacity building programme for administrative leaders
 - Launching annual platform of India urban forum
 - National communication and outreach on cities
 - Urban planning institutional streamlining

overhauled. Delays in modernising state town and country planning laws would continue to hold India back from willingly embracing our urban future," the report said. Mass recruitment and replacing town and country planning officers with urban planners The committee further specified standards The committee recommends creating a national economic gateway programme for 25 city-regions, with an allocation of 200 crore per city-region per year for a period of five years, along with similar committees at the state level as well led by the state chief minister. "We recommend the drafting of national urban design standards..."

औद्योगिक क्षेत्र में जल्द बनेंगी सड़कें-नाले

नए टेंडर पर सड़कों

मेरठ, वरिष्ठ संसभागार में हु समिति की वे अफसरों ने विकास के स

10 साल बाद साफ हुई सड़क, शुरू होगा आवागमन



56 कुल सफाई कर्मचारी हैं वार्ड 44 में

2 डोर टू डोर कूड़ा

30 हजार जलपात्र

दिनांक 27.09.2023 दैनिक जागरण

किस काम की जिला योजना वजत के इंतजार में बीते छह माह

जिले के विकास की रफ्तार को गति देने के लिए जिला योजना



देश की पहली रैपिडएक्स ट्रेन अगले सप्ताह से चलाने की तैयारी

■ दीपक शिलोही
राजिवाबाद। देश की पहली रैपिडएक्स का परिचय अगले सप्ताह शुरू की जायेगा। प्रारंभिक रैपिड एक्स सेवा 16 अक्टूबर को राजिवाबाद से दुर्गा नगर 17 किलोमीटर लंबे क्वीक ट्रेन का उद्घाटन करने राजिवाबाद आ सकेगी।

उम्मीद है। प्रारंभिक खंड पर जनवरी से रैपिडएक्स का परिचय शुरू होगा। प्रारंभिक खंड पर इस साल जून में रैपिडएक्स चलाने की तैयारी की जायेगी। लोकल अपग्रेड कार्गो से इसे टाल दिया गया था। मंत्र प्रदेश सरकार और राष्ट्रीय राजधानी क्षेत्र परिवहन निगम (एनसीआरटीसी) के सहयोग

पांच से 10 मिनट में उपलब्ध होगी

रैपिडएक्स 180 किलोमीटर की गति से चल सकेगी है, लेकिन परिवहन मंत्री 100 किलोमीटर प्रति घंटा रखेंगे। योजना

परियोजना की स्थिति

राजिवाबाद में प्रारंभिक खंड तैयार है। दिल्ली, मोदीनगर और मेरठ में विभिन्न कार्य रफ्तार के साथ प्रिये जा रहा है। दिल्ली से मेरठ तक एरिस्टोड की काम करार कर



चिंता : मेरठ देश का चौथा सबसे प्रदूषित शहर

मेरठ, प्रमुख संवाददाता। हवा की गति धीमी पड़ने और तापमान में हो रही गिरावट के साथ ही शहर के मेरठ में प्रदूषण ने शिकंसे देशभर के प्रदूषित शहरों में और मेरठ चौथे नंबर पर प्रदूषित शहरों में हापुड़, दूसरे और तीसरे नंबर पर बजे जयभीम नगर में अत्यधिक खराब



248 दर्ज हुआ एक्जुआई मेरठ का

दिल्ली में आज से ग्रैप की पाबंदियां लागू

नई दिल्ली। राजधानी की हवा के खराब स्तर में घटवने के साथ ही दिल्ली-एनसीआर में ग्रैप के तहत

17 किलोमीटर लंबा राजिवाबाद से दुर्गा तक प्राथमिक खंड तैयार है

सिटी लॉजिस्टिक प्लान को हरी झंडी

कमिशनर के निर्देश

- मंडलायुक्त ने दोनों प्लान को शॉर्ट टर्म में बदलने को कहा
- सीडीपी की लागत और आय का आंकलन करने के निर्देश

मेरठ, वरिष्ठ संवाददाता। रैपिड सिटी को विकास की

अपना मेरठ : स्मार्ट सिटी : कूड़े का ढेर, हर ओर जाम और जर्जर खंभे



बढ़ावा 54 करोड़ ए साल पोर्ट, रोड क के

Stakeholder Consultations





Participants in stakeholder discussions

1. Mr. Yogesh Dixit (Indian Ordnance Factory Services)
2. Mr. Mahesh Chand (Retd. IAS)
3. Mr. Sunit Kumar (Planning Department, Government of Uttar Pradesh)
4. Mr. Dinesh Singhal (Meerut Citizens Forum and Kanohar Electricals Limited)
5. Mr. Vivek Singhal (President, MCF and Director, Kanohar Electricals Limited)
6. Dr. Niraj Singhal (Director, Sir Chhotu Ram Institute of Engineering and Technology, CCS University, Meerut)
7. Mr. Debashis Bandyopadhyay (Retd. Industrial Advisor to Government of India)
8. Mr. Anil Bhardwaj (Secretary General, FISME)
9. Mr. Pramod Bansal (Meerut Industrial Development Forum)
10. Mr. Puneet Mohan Sharma (President, All India Sports Goods Manufacturer Federation)
11. Mr. Ravi Prakash Agrawal (Patron, Meerut Bullion Traders' Association).
12. Mr. Ajay Kumar Gupta (Dayal Spun pipes Pvt. Ltd., Member Delayed Payments council)
13. Mr. Ashok Kumar Goel (Indian Industries Association and Meerut Management Association)
14. Dr. Sanjay Gupta (Sr. Radiologist, Health Care Imaging Centre, Meerut)
15. Dr. A.D Agarwal (Aggarwal and Associates)
16. Mr. Suresh Jain (SaruAikoh Chemicals Private Limited)
17. Dr. Virender Gangwar (Agriculture University, Meerut)
18. Dr. R.K Aran (Consulting Physician and Diabetologist)
19. Mr. Ajay Gupta (Builder and Developer)
20. Mr. Girish Gupta (Film Electronics Pvt. Ltd)
21. Dr. Vikas Vaibhav (Assistant Professor, Indra Global School)
22. Dr. Neha Sharma (Kanohar Girls College)
23. Mr. Varun Kumar Das (Faculty member, Delhi School of Economics)
24. Ms. Tanu Goyal (Senior Fellow, ICRIER)
25. Ms. Radhika Kapoor (Senior Fellow, ICRIER)
26. Mr. Puneet Agarwal (MIET College)
27. Mr. Vaibhav Gupta (Chartered Accountant)
28. Mr. Vishnu Anand (Chartered Accountant)
29. Mr. Ajay Mittal (Chartered Accountant)
30. Mr. D.K Saxena (Meerut Citizens Forum)
31. Mr. Adesh Singhal (Meerut Citizens Forum)
32. Mr. Mayank Gaur (FISME)
33. Mr. Archit Tripathi (FISME)
34. Mr. R.P Singh (FISME)
35. Mr. Avnish Garg (Real Estate Developer, Meerut)

About author: M.C. Singhi

Shri Manak C. Singhi is a reputed economist and is from Indian Economic Services. He has been Sr. Economic Advisor, Ministry of Commerce and Industries. He brings with him vast experience of several economic Ministries besides Commerce & Industries, Finance, Corporate Affairs etc. He writes regularly in the Hindu Businessline.

About Meerut Citizens Forum

The Meerut Citizens Forum (MCF) is a not-for-profit foundation set up by a group of concerned citizens comprising of Architects, Businessman, Engineers, Professionals, Academicians, Doctors, Chartered Accountants, Lawyers, Educationists, Industrialists, Media persons, Social Workers, retired Govt. officials among others. The MCF strives for Meerut to be a city with good quality of life. The MCF realizes that it is only the citizens who are the permanent "owners" of the city and who enjoy or suffer the consequences of the quality of governance. And, it is they who need to come out and assume the responsibility and team up with both administrators and political leaders. MCF has carried out pioneering studies in the air, water and civic amenities of the city especially the waste management. It has forged linkages with national and international development agencies. It has commissioned the study to quadruple GDP of Meerut with the objective of orienting all stake holders towards the common goal of economic development and collective prosperity.

More at: <https://www.meerutcitizens.in>

About Federation of Indian Micro and Small & Medium Enterprises (FISME)

Federation of Indian Micro and Small & Medium Enterprises (FISME) evolved into a large national Federation of geographical and sectoral associations of MSMEs in 1995 following India's embarking upon liberalization in 1991 and India's accession to WTO in 1995. Till then it used to be known as National Alliance of Young Entrepreneurs which was established in 1967. FISME works in three thematic areas: Market access (including domestic public procurement and bilateral/ multilateral trade issues such FTAs and WTO), Advocacy for reforms for ease of doing business for MSMEs and execution of MSME development projects assisted by Gol and multilateral agencies.

More at: <http://www.fisme.org.in>



“This study has been a novel attempt to visualize growth potential from the ground. The exercise proved immensely instructive for all stake holders: political leaders, officials, economic actors both in organized and unorganized segments. Honestly, quadrupling GDP in 4 years looked a fanciful idea initially, but having participated in the process, I am convinced it is doable if all of us put our energies in removing bottlenecks that have leashed entrepreneurial spirit from blooming. It was an eye opener to see number of small businesses and self-employed working from home and streets and how it is them who employ the masses. If only we could ease their life by reducing unnecessary burdens.”

– Rajendra Agrawal, Member of Parliament, Meerut

“One important finding of the study on Meerut GDP is that in order to achieve higher growth trajectory, a solution needs to be found to regularize the large chunks of construction in the city currently dubbed as unauthorized due to unplanned growth. Prohibitive cost of regularization has resulted in most business activities being conducted from irregular spaces.”

– Amit Agarwal, MLA (Meerut Cantt)

“The target set by Hon’ble Chief Minister for the State to achieve the GDP of One Trillion Dollar by 2027 has the role of Districts cut out in achieving it. If the state is to realize its stated goal, Districts also have to quadruple their economic growth targets. The Study has helped sensitize the departments in District about their contribution.”

– Deepak Meena, District Magistrate, Meerut

“The study highlights critical link between education and entrepreneurship. It has forwarded many valuable suggestions for educational institutions to implement NEP 2020 for spurring economic growth.”

– N.K. Taneja, Former VC, CCS University, Meerut

“There is an urgent need to redesign the governance structure at the district level keeping the economic activity at the centre so that all the organs of the state work towards promotion of the economic activity.”

– Dinesh Singhal, CMD, Kanoor Electricals Ltd & Founder Member, Meerut Citizen Forum

“The experience of successful industrial clusters in India bears out the crucial role cluster based industry associations play in the sustenance and growth of small industries. In Meerut- having more than twelve industrial and six services clusters, the representing cluster based associations need capacity building so that they have strength to get the issues resolved with administration and also tap various schemes and programmes of central and state governments to help their sector upgrade and compete. Their role has become even more crucial in light of changing world order and emergence of green regulations in developed markets.”

– Anil Bhardwaj, Secretary General, Federation of Indian Micro and Small & Medium Enterprises (FISME)

Federation of Indian Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (FISME)

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