

LAST WORD: PIYUSH GOYAL, Union Minister of Commerce and Industry

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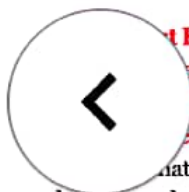
(L-R) Top row: Dhir Jhingran, Prashant Tewari, Sunish Jauhari, Farsana. 4th row: Piyush Sohani, Parveen Shaikh, Vipin Sharma, Anupam Jain, Gyan Prakash, Gaurav Mathur and Smita Bharti. 3rd row: Kyra Sama, Jayant Rastogi, Ankit Aggarwal and Nishit Sangomia. 2nd row: Satyam Dixit, Jasmeet Singh, Shridhar Venkat, Pujja Kapoor and Chetan Kapoor. Bottom row: Varun Sheth, Subhashree Dutta, Ashwajit Singh and Anoushka Sinha



KARNATAKA IS LEADING THE FUTURE, THIS IS THE RIGHT TIME TO INVEST: CM SIDDARAMAIAH

The **Chief Minister of Karnataka** discusses the upcoming Invest Karnataka 2025 Summit, the state's industrial growth trajectory, sustainability initiatives and its position as a global innovation hub.

By **Ruhail Amin**



Invest Karnataka Summit has a new platform to showcase investment potential. How is this edition different?

Invest Karnataka 2025 will be larger in scale and more dynamic in approach, focusing on innovation, entrepreneurship, and inclusivity. We are introducing key initiatives such as the Future of Innovation Expo, which will highlight advancements in AI, green energy, space technology, and semiconductors, reinforcing Karnataka's leadership in these emerging industries. Another key component is SME Connect 2025, which will support small and medium enterprises by integrating them into the global economy.

Karnataka is already a leader in IT and manufacturing. How is the state preparing to attract investments in AI, green energy and quantum computing?

Karnataka is leveraging its strong R&D ecosystem and startup culture to attract investments in deep-tech sectors. We have over 500 Global Capability Centers and leading institutions such

as IISc and IITs driving research in AI, semiconductors, and green energy. Special industrial zones like the Knowledge, Well-being, and Innovation City (KWIN City) will cater to high-tech industries, and international collaborations with South Korea, France, Japan and the US will further enhance Karnataka's role as a global innovation hub.

Bengaluru continues to be Karnataka's economic hub but also faces infrastructure challenges.

What steps is the government taking to address this?

We are addressing this through major industrial infrastructure revamps across Karnataka. The development of KWIN City will create a new hub for advanced manufacturing and high-tech industries. Additionally, we are fast-tracking land acquisition to support industrial expansion and decongest Bengaluru. Our focus is on improving transport, logistics and smart industrial parks, ensuring that Karnataka remains an attractive destination for businesses.

Karnataka's economic growth has largely been Bengaluru-centric.

How is the government ensuring investments reach Tier 2 and Tier 3 cities?

We are actively decentralizing investments to ensure balanced development. Karnataka's strategy focuses on developing clusters for specific sectors. Our Industrial Policy 2024-29 provides higher incentives and subsidies for companies investing in Tier 2 and Tier 3 cities, ensuring a more equitable distribution of economic growth across the state.

Global partnerships play a key role in Karnataka's investment strategy. How is the state strengthening its international ties?

The summit will feature exclusive country sessions where partner nations will showcase their investment potential and technological advancements. We are also holding B2B and B2G meetings to strengthen trade, technology transfer and joint ventures. Country pavilions will highlight Karnataka's global partnerships and opportunities. Our goal is to establish Karnataka as the preferred destination for high-value foreign investments.





As the state gears up for Invest Karnataka 2025, **Minister for Large & Medium Industries and Infrastructure Development M.B. Patil** shares insights on how Karnataka is attracting global investments, expanding its startup ecosystem and driving sectoral transformation.

KARNATAKA IS SETTING A NEW BENCHMARK FOR INDUSTRIAL GROWTH: MINISTER M.B. PATIL



Mail Amin

Karnataka has seen a remarkable 182% rise in the number of startups. How is the state leveraging this growth to position itself as a global innovation hub?

Karnataka has long been at the forefront of India's startup ecosystem, with nearly 15,000 active startups spanning IT, biotechnology, fintech and deep-tech sectors. This growth is backed by a strong network of over 1,500 venture capital and corporate venture funds and nearly 17,000 angel investors, making Karnataka an attractive destination for entrepreneurs. In 2023 alone, venture capital investments in the state crossed \$4 billion, reinforcing our position as India's innovation capital. The Karnataka Startup Policy and initiatives like Elevate 100 have played a crucial role in supporting early-stage startups through funding, mentorship, and infrastructure development.

How is Karnataka strengthening global partnerships and attracting investments in EVs, semiconductors and green energy?

We have introduced a single-window clearance system powered by AI in collaboration with Microsoft to streamline approvals and facilitate ease of doing business. To cater to emerging industries, Karnataka has implemented sector-specific policies, such as the Karnataka Global Capability Center Policy, which encourages investments in AI-driven research and innovation and the Green Mobility Policy, which promotes electric vehicles and sustainable energy solutions.

What initiatives are being taken to expand industrial development beyond Bengaluru?

We are driving industrial growth beyond Bengaluru through the New

Industrial Policy, which offers financial incentives for investments in Tier 2 and Tier 3 cities. The Karnataka Industrial Area Development Board (KIADB) has developed over 200 industrial areas, spanning 85,000 acres and supporting 25,000+ business units. To accelerate this, SWIFT City is transforming Sarjapura into a high-tech startup hub, while KWIN City is being developed as a futuristic ecosystem for Education, Health care, research.... built on a walk-to-work model to foster innovation and sustainable urban living.

How is Karnataka integrating green energy and circular economy principles into its industrial policies?

Karnataka's Industrial Policy 2024-29 offers financial incentives for industries adopting sustainability initiatives, including zero liquid discharge systems, energy efficiency measures and green manufacturing practices. The state has launched the Karnataka Multisector Disaster & Climate Resilience Project, a World Bank-funded initiative aimed at strengthening climate resilience and urban infrastructure.

Karnataka has hosted successful Global Investors Summits in the past. How will Invest Karnataka 2025 set a new benchmark?

This year, the summit is introducing several groundbreaking initiatives, including an AI-enabled investment clearance system, a dedicated SME Connect program and the Future of Innovation Expo, which will showcase advancements in AI, green energy and next-gen manufacturing.

