

FICCI and Udaipur Municipal Corporation sign MoU for Smart City project

New Delhi, 01 December 2015: FICCI and Udaipur Municipal Corporation (UMC), Rajasthan signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) at Udaipur for developing Udaipur as a Smart City.

After signing the MoU, a workshop to brainstorm on the challenges faced by the city of Udaipur and the solutions to address these challenges was organized by FICCI in co-operation with UMC. Sectoral experts from various companies made technical presentations in the areas of solid waste management, urban mobility and heritage conservation.

Shri Gulab Chand Kataria, Home Minister, Rajasthan was the chief guest on the occasion. Udaipur Mayor Shri Chandra Singh Kothari, Shri Rohit Gupta, District Collector, Udaipur and Shri Himmat Singh Barhat, Commissioner, Udaipur were the other dignitaries who spoke at the workshop.

FICCI and UMC along with other stakeholders such as industry experts, civil society and other stakeholders will jointly work on the vision, goals and strategies to develop Udaipur as a Smart City. FICCI will align the interest of industry members with those of the government and will also provide technology support to the Udaipur Smart City project through FICCI smart city committee. FICCI will assist the UMC through required consultation and advisory inputs on policy advocacy relevant to the development of Udaipur under the smart cities initiative.

FICCI, through its members, will work in collaboration with UMC in the following areas:

- Creation of Financial plans for various sectors and creation of innovative sources of the Municipal Finance
- Project based support for projects in areas like Transport, Solid Waste Management, Heritage Conservation, Tourism, Water Supply, Housing, Sewerage, Health, Education, Storm Water Drainage
- Capacity building to plan, design and execute projects efficiently
- Workshop to identify the challenges and solutions
- Advise on appropriate governance and implementation frameworks

In his inaugural address, Shri Gulab Chand Kataria expressed happiness for Udaipur to be the first city in Rajasthan to formally enter into a MoU with FICCI for smart city cooperation. He emphasized on the importance of cooperation between the civic body and FICCI for ensuring good results which may lead to Udaipur getting place in the list of first 20 cities in the “100 Smart Cities” mission of the Government of India.

Speaking at the MoU signing ceremony, Shri Chandra Singh Kothari, Mayor, UMC said that the partnership with FICCI would enable them to work closely with industry and help prepare a robust smart city plan.

Shri Rohit Gupta, District Collector, Udaipur in his address sought FICCI’s support in setting up of a control and command center in Udaipur where all the city departments providing civic services like, health, fire, waste, urban transport, etc. could be integrated.

In his concluding remarks, Shri Himmat Singh Barhat, Commissioner, Udaipur emphasized that this partnership will result in a collaboration that will enable to create a platform for improving urban services in the future. This cooperation will also work towards capacity building of the UMC officials to plan, design and execute projects efficiently and also to create a smart city vision for the city which will be vital for achieving the goals of UMC in the coming years.

Dr. A Didar Singh, Secretary General, FICCI expressing his views on this engagement said that our association with the Udaipur Municipal Corporation will go a long way in handholding the local body to achieve its vision of a smart city. We will bring expertise from private sector to provide best solutions to the city in upgrading its services. We will need support from the State Government of Rajasthan in making this partnership successful.

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