People’s Manifesto for

Uttar Pradesh

ENVISIONING GREEN AND INCLUSIVE ECONOMY

Most Populous State in India – 16.5% of total population

Third Largest Economy – 8%

Fifth Largest Area – 7.3%
**People of Uttar Pradesh deserve better**

- **Infant and Child Mortality**: 4.8% and 5.7% respectively – Higher than national average.

- **Anemia**: In children (6-59 months old) and pregnant women is 80% and 49% respectively.

- 79% of villages are electrified, but only 60% of all households have access to electricity.

- Only 20% of rural and 52% of urban households have a piped water supply.

- UP has India’s largest child population – 200 million - but the smallest number of teachers per student.

- UP has the highest number of Scheduled Caste/ Scheduled Tribes atrocities, has one of the highest gender crime rates, and one of lowest gender ratios.

**Uttar Pradesh has poor environmental performance**

This is a problem now and for future generations

- 4 of the 20 most polluted cities in the World are in Uttar Pradesh

- Uttar Pradesh contributes nearly 14% to India’s total greenhouse gas emissions.

- 33 of the 75 districts in UP ‘over-exploit groundwater.’

- In UP, more than a 100 million litres of waste is released every day into the Ganga by tanneries.

- Forest and tree cover is only 9% of the total land area against the target of 33%.

- UP is one of the largest producers of solid waste in the country.
PEOPLE’S MANIFESTO FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Economic Development of Uttar Pradesh must cater to the needs of its people, and at the same time take care of the environment.

Agriculture policies must focus on sustainability in production solutions, value addition and market links for doubling incomes of small farmers by 2022.

- **Sustainable production systems** that practice diversification, optimize use of fertilizers, manage water resources (watershed approach, micro-irrigation), and involve low cost technologies that make agriculture profitable for small farmers must be supported. Indigenous knowledge on agriculture practices needs to be documented and promoted.
- **Investing in and nurturing farmer collectives** is critical for value addition and economies of scale in agriculture marketing for small farmers. The government of Uttar Pradesh must invest in organizing and evolving these farmer institutions through institutions like NABARD. A breakthrough is needed to ensure an adequate flow of credit at an affordable rate to farmers’ institutions and micro entrepreneurs through reliable and stable financial institutions.

Greening and developing MSMEs clusters that have organically evolved in the state is the key to UP’s manufacturing policy. It is a strong source of local livelihoods.

- **Reliable, affordable, decentralised, renewable energy** must be considered as a solution to the problem of access to energy for all the people of UP. These will also create local entrepreneurial and employment opportunities. All policies such as RE policy and mini-grid policy should be streamlined and implemented.
- The government should **invest in the skills** of the young, explore social and green entrepreneurship opportunities, and support the growth of its MSMEs clusters.
- The government of Uttar Pradesh must incentivise investments in handicrafts, carpet, chikan and other MSMEs, and help them to connect to local and global markets, while at the same time ensuring decent livelihoods and greener technologies among the producers.

Every person must have access to basic needs, health, and education. The state must take proactive steps to address inequalities among gender, caste and religion.
Every person in Uttar Pradesh should have access to basic housing, public services, and adequate infrastructure. Green, affordable and sustainable.

- Promote and incentivise appropriate green building materials and construction technologies like Micro Concrete Roof tiles, Fly ash brick, Brick tile arch panel, Compressed stabilized earth block (CSEB) which are locally available and boost local economies.
- Government must demonstrate the use of appropriate and affordable building material and construction technologies. House designs should showcase integrated water, and sanitation and energy facilities.

Local Panchayat Institutions must be strengthened and decentralized. District planning must be at the core of governance and the state planning processes.

- Long-term vision, assessment, and planning capacities must be provided for panchayat, block, and district level officials for strengthening local governance institutions.
- Community awareness, engagement, and ownership of governance processes are critical for good governance and the government must proactively promote such processes.
- UP must invest in their large network of Self-Help Groups to enable them with financial inclusion and access to credit for exploring entrepreneurial opportunities.

Land and water systems must be conserved and managed for everyone, today and in the future. The state must integrate climate change and disaster risk reduction in all areas.

- The Government must build green spaces, develop green corridors with an aim to develop a healthy ecosystem, creating more green public spaces and restoration of natural endowments. It must develop an action plan to achieve 33% forest cover in the state.
- Releasing untreated sewage into the river systems must be banned. All towns and cities must have proper solid waste management systems and a strict ban on dumping waste in river bodies or as landfills. Structured steps must be taken towards recycling and segregation of waste.
- The government must invest in land planning; this is critical for efficient, productive and sustainable use of resources.