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## Industry wants Fadnavis to rekindle Shanghai dream

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*They expect radical changes in government policies*

As Maharashtra is all set for a brand new government, the industry wants the new regime to rekindle the 'Shanghai and International Financial Centre dreams'.

There is a sense of despair among the captains of industry and commerce as well as ordinary citizens in the State that though the financial capital of the country contributes to 60 per cent of customs duty, 30 per cent of income tax collections and over Rs. 40,000 crore in corporate tax, it is fast dipping on the index as a preferred destination for business and investment.

The the corporate honchos expect Chief Minister-elect Devendra Fadnavis to follow the 'Modi model' of governance, development and making the State business-friendly.

They expect radical changes in government policies and faster implementation to restore investors' confidence as well as to make Mumbai a vibrant and liveable city.

"There has to be lot of infrastructure focus. Mumbai needs to have roads like Delhi. A lot of emphasis has to be given to cleanliness. Slum rehabilitation needs to be taken up in the right earnest. There has to be much more transparency in property related laws and the Mumbai Metropolitan Region (MMR) should have multiple central business districts to decongest Mumbai," said Anuj Puri, Chairman & Country Head, Jones Lang LaSalle India.

Godrej Group Chairman and one of the long standing residents of Mumbai Adi Godrej said that that the Fadnavis government should implement the same policies of the Narendra Modi government at the Centre to benefit faster. "There is great scope to improve. The potential is huge. The State government needs to bring industrial, real estate and infrastructural reforms," Mr. Godrej said.

New investments in Maharashtra have dropped from Rs.1.8 lakh crore in FY financial year)09 to Rs 51,933 crore in FY13. Competition from Gujarat, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka has hit the state hard.

In Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) while the State still receives maximum FDI inflows in the country, it has seen a 30 per cent decline in the quantum of FDI from \$12.4 billion in FY09 to \$8.7 billion in FY13 as per CARE Ratings data.

Mumbai is no more the preferred destination for business.

The Doing Business Survey of 2009 had put Mumbai at 10 with Hyderabad and Ahmedabad being ahead at 2 and 5 respectively.

"What we need is good governance and transparent polices, faster implementation of single window clearance mechanism, simplified and credible policy framework, easy availability of land, good infrastructure, industry favoring tax regime, cost effective power supply, and development of industrial zones," said Rajesh Mokashi, Deputy Managing Director, CARE Ratings.

Assocham Secretary General D.S. Rawat said "More incentives are required like special rebates on commercial property rates for specified period. This is the main reason for the flight of capital from Mumbai due to more incentivized packages from Gujarat and Karnataka".

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