

UK pact will help increase market access, trade: Maharashtra CM

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Maharashtra government will strengthen export facilitation and support small and medium industries to take advantage of business opportunities unleashed by the India-UK comprehensive economic and trade agreement (CETA), Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis said on Wednesday.

Calling the trade deal a defining moment in the country's economic history, Fadnavis said it will help grow trade, increase market access and aid mobility of professionals. Fadnavis was speaking at event to celebrate the implementation of India UK CETA.



Maharashtra Chief Minister
Devendra Fadnavis

Maharashtra is uniquely positioned to lead as it has competitive advantages, he said, adding that there are opportunities for each district in the state to benefit from the trade deal.

"I was in the UK two weeks ago and spoke to busi-

nesses in ten cities. All of them are looking to India with excitement," said Harjinder Kang, UK's trade commissioner for India. Kang was chief negotiator from the UK side before taking over the current post.

He said the trade deal provides a platform for both countries to build upon the strong relations. The two countries have signed India UK vision 2035 to strengthen bilateral co-operation.

"What is that we can do together over the next few years. Education, climate, defence, technology and security will play a huge part in our relationship. This is from where we can build and take the relations to highest possible level," Kang said.