

PM to Host Dinner for State Heads

Several foreign leaders are set to attend global investment summit from Jan 18

Our Bureau

Gandhinagar: Prime Minister Narendra Modi will host a dinner in Gandhinagar for the heads of states of Denmark, Czech Republic, Uzbekistan, Malta and Rwanda, who are expected to attend the biannual Vibrant Gujarat Global Summit, which begins on January 18.

According to the state government, 15 countries have officially come on board as partners for the 9th edition of the investor summit. This year's event will also see 11 international organisations participating in the event. Further, around 22 countries, including Germany, Canada, Japan, South Korea, Denmark, the Netherlands and Australia, will be represented at the event with their own seminars and pavilions.

On Friday, Gujarat chief secretary JN Singh told reporters the Prime Minister

would also hold an exclusive round table interaction with the heads of sovereign wealth funds, pension funds and institutional investors, during the event. "The aim of the session is to get these funds to become an integral part of investment for the state and national infrastructure needs," Singh said. "This round table will provide a platform for detailed deliberations between heads of global funds

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with the Prime Minister, finance minister and chief minister of Gujarat, along with other important government dignitaries on opportunities in India and Gujarat," said Singh.

For the first time the summit will also have a dedicated 'Africa Day'. The January 19 event will provide a platform to discuss opportunities for strategic partnerships, trade and investments and to

enhance bilateral trade relations between India and Africa. Special seminars will be held to showcase investment opportunities for Indian investors in the African countries.

According to the state government, an important topic will focus on immense potential of medical tourism that Gujarat provides to Africa. Additionally, an exclusive Africa Pavilion will be set up to showcase products and services of mutual interest. More than 40 of the 54 African nations have already confirmed their participation and several countries are still expected to join in the coming days, Singh said.

The summit will also see eight states—Andhra Pradesh, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Odisha and Punjab—holding seminars to present investment opportunities. The event will also see a convention on the MSME sector.