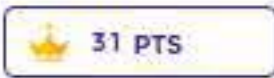


Uttar Pradesh government for ensuring smooth industrial operations amid pandemic

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Representative image

LUCKNOW: State [MSME](#) minister Sidharth Nath Singh on Wednesday said the government will allow operation of transport delivery offices and movement of consumables required for [maintenance](#) of plants and machineries so that [industries](#) can run without hindrance even during coronavirus curfew.

After an interaction between the representatives of [Indian Industries Association \(IIA\)](#) and MSME minister Sidharth Nath Singh and industrial development minister Satish Mahana on Wednesday, it was decided that industrial units can issue passes for transportation on their letterheads and no one will be stopped anywhere.

“To encourage medical sector, the government is working on a sector-specific policy which will provide subsidies and incentives to promote MSMEs in the field,” Mahana said. The policy will be announced shortly.

During the online meeting, the ministers and the organisation of micro, small and medium industries also discussed the impact of Covid-19 pandemic on the sector.

National senior vice president of IIA, Manmohan Agrawal, spoke about the various problems being faced by the industry. He said the government should allow transport delivery offices to operate during curfews so that raw material or other items can be supplied to industries for operations. “Consumables required for maintenance of plants and machinery must be allowed to operate for at least two days in a week to allow maintenance work in factories,” he added.

“Bills related to UPSIDA and power bills should be deferred for at least six months. Due to the problem of liquidity, it would help MSMEs tremendously if UPSIDA and DIC convert industrial leasehold land into freehold so that entrepreneurs with spare or unused land can dispose it of. EMI dues can also be deferred for a year to reduce financial burden on MSMEs while a one-year moratorium on interest should also be introduced,” Agarwal said.