

No dual fees to be charged from industries under zila panchayats

Collect Tax & Provide Civic Facilities

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Lucknow: Industrial areas under zila panchayats in UP will no longer have to pay additional fees to the development authority. Only zila panchayats will collect the fees and will be duty bound to provide municipal facilities to industrial areas.

“Earlier, these industrial areas were paying to the development authority and zila panchayat, even though the latter was not doing any work for them. Now, only the zila panchayat will be collecting

fees which will be deposited in a separate fund. Out of this, 60% will be used for development and maintenance of the industrial area while the remaining 40% will be used for development of the area outside the industrial zone,” said Alok Kumar, additional chief secretary (infrastructure and industrial development).

Zila panchayats have been collecting Rs 6 crore each year from industrial areas, which will now be spent on the development of industrial areas. The system will be similar to the one already implemented for 35 industrial estates under urban local bodies where UP state industrial development authority (UPSIDA) does not take any maintenance charge but the urban local body collects tax and provides all municipal

facilities.

The order comes after chief minister Yogi Adityanath had directed officials to sort out the matter when representatives of industrial associations raised it in a high-level empowered committee meeting of ‘Invest UP’ on September 21.

The directions were issued by additional chief secretary (panchayati raj). The order also mandates the formation of committees which will be responsible for the spending of 60% of the collected funds in the industrial areas. These committees will be headed by respective divisional commissioners and consist of the district magistrate, regional manager of UPSIDA and additional chief officer of the zila panchayat as its members.

UP artisans get a platform at Ghaziabad export bazaar

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Lucknow: An export bazaar started in Ghaziabad on Friday. The event was inaugurated by MSME minister Sidharth Nath Singh digitally.

It will run for three months and has been organised by the export promotion bureau under the MSME department, export promotion council and a private limited company based out of Ghaziabad. More than 70 industrialists have taken part in this exhibition.

Singh said Covid-19 pandemic had impacted artisans and industrialists alike and an event like this would help them reach out to a market.

“These industrialists should also be linked with the global exhibition which will begin from October 15. I also appeal to organisers and participants to follow all Covid guidelines like social distancing and wearing masks,” Singh said.

The exhibition is being held in an area of 40,000 sq feet. Exhibitors have been allocated stalls for free while their food, stay and publicity for the exhibition is also free. The exhibition includes Lucknow’s chikankari work, Moradabad’s metal artware, Firozabad’s glassware, leather from Unnao and Kanpur, sports goods from Meerut and apparel from Gautam Budh Nagar.