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## 'MSMEs given Rs 2.4L-cr inloans, employed 2 cr people'

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Lucknow: Highlighting the importance of the Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) for Uttar Pradesh, a state government spokesperson said that 76,73,488 entrepreneurs in the sector were given loans of Rs 2,42,028 crore in the past 4.5 years which in turn generated employment for about 2 crore people.

The phenomenal growth of the MSME sector has proved to be a game-changer for the state and will play an important role in the upcoming elections, he added.

Comparing the loan disbursal to MSMEs during the previous Samajwadi Party government with the current regime, the spokesperson said, "In 2016-17, when SP was in power, 6,35,583 MSMEs were provided loans worth Rs 27,202 crore. In 2020-21, 34,80,596 MSME units have been dispensed loans worth Rs 63,038 crore, while Rs 16,002 crore have been provided to 1,25,408 new MSME units between April 1 and November 10 this year."

About 14% of all MSME units in the country are in UP, and more than 1.5 lakh new units were set up in the state even during Covid times, he added.

"More than Rs 3 lakh crores have been invested in Noida and other districts. With the state's policies generating interest in the MSME sector, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath approved the setting up of MSME parks to bring maximum investment in this sector. The state's first MSME park is being set up in Sectors 29 and 32 of Yamuna Expressway Development Authority. MSME parks are also being built in Agra, Kanpur, Moradabad, Varanasi, Azamgarh and Gorakhpur," he said.

The MSME sector has been responsible for exports worth more than Rs 1.14 lakh crore for three consecutive years, he added.