## Uttar Pradesh to expand exports to 31 nations, says minister Sidharth Nath Singh



MSME minister Sidharth Nath Singh felicitated exporters from UP

LUCKNOW: The MSME department felicitated 65 exporters from Uttar Pradesh for their contribution to the total exports from the state. The event took place on the final day of the two-day state level commerce festival, organised by MSME and export promotion departments, in association with FICCI, in Lucknow as part of the weeklong Vanijya Mahotsava (Commerce festtival).

MSME minister Sidharth Nath Singh, who distributed the awards to 34 exporters for 2019-20 and 31 for 2020-21, said that to make India a net export country, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has set certain targets for which UP will cooperate fully to realise the goal. "The world economy is going to undergo changes in the coming days and India will leave China behind in terms of economy and become a part of the global supply chain. In this financial year, the state will increase exports from Rs 3 lakh crore to Rs 5 lakh crore," the minister said, adding that the government was considering giving subsidy on air freight for products manufactured in the state.

The minister said that 100 products had been identified in 15 sectors and exports will be expanded to 31 countries. "A saarthi app will also be launched for exporters to resolve their problems. A separate app will be prepared for export products," he said.

Joint secretary, commerce department, Government of India, Anant Swarup said that in the 17th century, India's contribution to world trade was 26% but currently it is just 1.5%. "China is at the top with a share of 14%. However, India has a huge potential and can easily leave china behind. Exports from UP have gone up from Rs 80,000 crore some time back to Rs 1.25 lakh crore," he said.