

Uttar Pradesh biggest user of GeM portal

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LUCKNOW: The Uttar Pradesh government has emerged as the leading buyer on the Government-e-Marketplace (GeM) portal in the country. Sharing details of the purchases made by various state governments and its departments on Friday, a compiled list of the spending done during the 2021-22 fiscal year was made public.

Between April 1, 2021 and March 31, 2022, various departments in UP had procured items and products worth Rs 11,228 crore through the portal. And its consolidated purchase in the past five years amounted to Rs 20,642 crore, the highest in the entire country.

Additional chief secretary to the UP government Navneet Sehgal said, "It shows that all departments in UP and their heads have been procuring the required items, products and material in a transparent manner. During the 2021-22 fiscal year purchases amounting to more than Rs 11,000 crore had been made through the portal."

Gujarat was the second most active state on the portal which bought items worth Rs 7,400 crore, while Madhya Pradesh took items worth Rs 5,000 crore in the 2021-22 fiscal year. In the fiscal year 2020-21, UP purchased items worth Rs 4,611 crore. Officials added that micro, small and medium enterprises of UP have benefitted the most owing to the increased purchase and such units have also generated increased employment due to higher demand.

A resident of Jiyamau in Lucknow, who runs an investment fund, Viplove Katiyar said, "The increased purchase in UP has been seen only a year before the assembly elections. I hope the same momentum will continue and revenue will also be increased in the same proportion."