

Exports Grew From ₹86K Cr To ₹2L Cr: CM

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Lucknow: Recalling his visit to the UP international trade (UP ITS) show held last year, chief minister Yogi Adityanath on Thursday said that he was left amazed by the vastness of the potential in the state.

“I was totally amazed by what I saw. Everything possible was being showcased by people from the state. After a while I started feeling that we have so much still the state was called Bimaru,” the CM said at the curtain raiser ceremony for the second UP ITS.

“It took me no time to understand that UP’s Bimaru tag was an outcome of a sick political mindset that demotivated people and deprived the state of the opportunity for growth and development,” he said, adding, “the picture changed after 2017 as we came with the resolve to give a double engine push to UP and make it the engine of India’s growth story.”



CM Yogi Adityanath being presented a memento at the UP international trade show curtain raiser ceremony, in Lucknow on Thursday

CM fetes enterprising skilled persons

Several skilled persons who have made a mark for themselves and are now giving jobs to others were felicitated by chief minister Yogi Adityanath at the curtain raiser ceremony for the second UP ITS. Carpenter Rahul (Barabanki), tailor Nidhi Malhotra (Lucknow) and cobbler Firoz Ahmad (Sitapur) were presented the Vishwakarma Shram Samman, while Krishna Kumar Prajapati (Gorakhpur), black pottery artisan Puspa Prajapati (Azamgarh) and decorative flowerpot maker Dharmu (Sonbhadra) bagged the UP Mati Kala Puraskar. The state level village industry awards were presented to Shabana Khatoon from Lucknow, Shishupal from Meerut and Krishnpal from Amroha. The ODOP training and toolkits were also distributed on the occasion. **TNN**

He also said the resolve had turned into a reality, which is winning accolades from leaders and business houses across the world and has propelled the state on the path to become a one trillion-

dollar economy soon. “Our current objective is to propel UP into the position of the leading economy in the nation,” Yogi emphasised.

Pinning his hopes on UP’s rich talent pool, he added:

“Artisans, craftsmen and young entrepreneurs in UP had the capability, but they lacked encouragement from the government and a suitable platform. The numerous MSME units in the state were dying at the hands of the inspector-raj that compelled entrepreneurs to migrate. The launch of ODOP scheme in 2018 filled in the gaps and became the building block for a self-reliant India while giving a sense of pride to UP.”

He added that presently, entrepreneurs are filled with confidence to take on global competition. “Their change reflects in numbers, like UP’s exports growing from Rs 86,000 crore (in 2017-18) to over Rs two lakh crore now.”

Asserting that the state will continue to support the sector, the CM said that to encourage young entrepreneurs, UP has started the Mukhya Mantri Yuva Udyami Yojana in the current budget. “Under this, interest-free loans are being provided to those willing to become employers instead of jobseekers,” he said.

MSME minister Rakesh Sachan, chief secretary Durga Shankar Mishra, IIDC Manoj Kumar, ACS Amit Mohan Prasad, India Expo Mart president Rakesh Kumar were also present.