

# U.P. govt to give artisans electric wheels, pug mills

**LUCKNOW** : Aiming to support traditional clay artisans by integrating modern technology, the state government plans to provide them with electric pottery wheels and pug mills. Craftsmen associated with clay art can apply online until June 25.

The Mati Kala Board has set a target to distribute electric wheels to 35 craftsmen and 9 pug mills to groups in Gorakhpur.

“Over the past seven years, clay products have witnessed a surge in demand, particularly clay kulhars (cups) and other utensils used in eateries,” said a press statement from the state government on Wednesday.

AK Pal, district village industries officer of Gorakhpur,

stated that the Mati Kala Board aims to provide electric wheels and pug mills to artisans still using manual wheels. This time, 35 electric wheels and 9 pug mills will be distributed in Gorakhpur by forming groups. Artisans aged 18 to 55 can apply online on the Mati Kala Board’s website by June 25.

This trend not only contributes to environmental conservation but also propels traditional clay craft into a lucrative business.

Large-scale distribution of electric wheels and pug mills has already benefited terracotta artisans. The campaign to distribute these tools to other clay artisans by the Mati Kala Board is ongoing.