

SAYS SCHEME INSPIRED BY SANT KABIR'S IDEALS OF LABOUR, SIMPLICITY & SELF-RELIANCE

Chain of 'Sant Kabir' textile parks to boost employment, exports: CM

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CHIEF MINISTER Yogi Adityanath on Tuesday announced a plan to establish a chain of textile and apparel parks across Uttar Pradesh under the banner of "Sant Kabir", with skill development and large-scale employment generation as the primary goals, according to an official statement.

Speaking at a review meeting with senior officials, the chief minister said the state with its rich heritage of handloom and textile products, has the potential to secure a strong position in the global textile market, projected to reach \$2.3 trillion by 2030.

"This scheme, inspired by Sant Kabir's ideals of labour, simplicity and self-reliance, will strike a balance between tradition and modernity while creating new opportunities for investment, production and employment," he said.

According to official data, Uttar Pradesh is among India's top textile and apparel exporters. In 2023-24, the state exported goods worth USD 3.5 billion, 9.6 percent of the country's total textile exports. The sector contributes 1.5 per cent to the state's GDP and employs nearly 22 lakh people directly, with traditional clusters in Varanasi, Mau, Bhadohi, Mirzapur, Sitapur, Barabanki, Gorakhpur and Meerut playing a key role, the

statement said.

The statement said that 659 proposals have been received on the Investment Sarathi portal, requiring 1,642 acres of land. These proposals amount to Rs 15,431 crore in investment and are expected to generate around 1,01,768 jobs. Each park will cover a minimum of 50 acres and include a common effluent treatment plant along with facilities for ancillary industries such as buttons, zippers, packaging and warehousing.

The scheme will be implemented through the PPP model, or a designated nodal agency, with the government ensuring priority infrastructure such as roads, electricity and water supply. The Chief

Minister directed officials to expedite land identification and development work to enable quick implementation, the statement said.

Taking another major decision, CM Yogi instructed officials to engage directly with powerloom weavers to reduce their production costs, boost incomes and strengthen the traditional textile industry.

He emphasized that the government is already providing subsidized electricity to weavers and should also explore solar energy integration. "Weavers are the symbol of hard work and tradition; their handmade fabric is recognized across the world. It is our duty to support them," he said.

