

{ NATIONAL STATISTICAL COMMISSION'S VISIT NEXT WEEK }

Eye on trillion-\$ goal, UP requests panel to rework GSDP methodology

State govt feels current methodology does not portray the right picture of UP's economic growth as contribution of unorganised sector is not taken into account

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LUCKNOW: The National Statistical Commission (NSC) is scheduled to visit Uttar Pradesh next week (October 14) following the Yogi Adityanath government's request to consider a change in the methodology to work out the Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) to take into account the unorganised sector's contribution to the state economy.

The chief minister has set the target of taking the GSDP to a trillion dollars by 2029-30. While the GSDP is estimated to have reached Rs 29.6 lakh crore at the end of 2024-25, taking it to the trillion-dollar level within the stipulated period remains a major challenge.

Those aware of the development said the state government contended that the present method (to work out the GSDP) needs to be changed to take into account the unorganised sector that contributed a large chunk to the economy of Uttar Pradesh as the present methodology does



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not reflect the growth of the state's economy properly. If the contribution of the unorganised sector to the economy is taken into account, the GSDP would have been nearly Rs 32 lakh crore even now, those in the know of things said.

"Yes, the state government has requested the National Statistical Commission to consider changing methodology to work out the GSDP to portray the right picture of growth of UP's economy. The NSC led by chairman Rajeeva Laxman Karandikar, along with its members, is scheduled to reach here on October 14. The NSC will hold a day-long interaction on the issue and is expected to meet chief minister Yogi Adityanath as well," said Alok Kumar III, principal secretary state planning department.

The state government had earlier got a team of the state's economic and statistical division to undergo training in collecting,

compiling and disseminating the statistics.

A meeting was also held with the officers of the ministry of statistics and programme implementation and the issue of methodology and improvement in the GSDP was discussed there. It has been felt that a large number of educational institutes like the coaching institutes and hospitals/nursing homes are not adequately covered and thus their contribution to the economy is not properly accounted for in the GSDP.

A senior officer said the NSC may also visit some other states like Karnataka and study the situation there before submitting its report by the end of 2025-26. The state government is also conducting an annual survey of the unorganised sector.

It is also conducting a survey of the periodic labour force.

"With these surveys, we will be able to capture the ground realities," said the officer. The state government, in recent years, has been consistently publishing the District Domestic Product (DDP) and some suggestions have been worked out to modify the methodology to portray a right picture of growth of the economy. Another officer said once the NSC agrees to a new methodology, the same would be applied to work out not only the GSDP but the GDP as well in the coming years.