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UP INTERNATIONAL TRADE SHOW

25TH-29TH
SEPTEMBER, 2026

4TH
EDITION

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UP International Trade Show 2026:

Can Uttar Pradesh Turn Its Local Strength into Global Economic Power?

The fourth edition of the Uttar Pradesh International Trade Show 2026 is being organised at a time when Uttar Pradesh is aggressively positioning itself as one of India's major economic, industrial and investment destinations. Scheduled from September 25 to 29 at the India Expo Centre and Mart in Greater Noida, the event is expected to bring together manufacturers, exporters, investors, buyers, entrepreneurs, artisans and international business representatives on a common platform. On paper, the ambition is impressive. Uttar Pradesh has enormous economic potential, a massive domestic market, a large workforce, a diverse industrial base and thousands of traditional products that carry strong regional identities. But the real question is not whether the state can organise a large and attractive trade show. It clearly can. The more important question is whether the Uttar Pradesh International Trade Show can convert visibility into sustained commercial activity.

A trade exhibition should not be judged merely by the number of stalls, visitors, foreign delegates, business meetings or memoranda of understanding signed during five days. Its real success should be measured by what happens six months or one year later. How many new export orders were generated? How many were actually fulfilled? How many small businesses gained permanent international buyers? How much investment actually reached the ground? How many new jobs were created? How much did the income of artisans, manufacturers and entrepreneurs increase? These are the questions that will ultimately determine whether the 2026 edition becomes an important economic milestone or simply another large government-backed exhibition.

The biggest strength of Uttar Pradesh is that it does not suffer from a shortage of products. The state has an extraordinary diversity of manufacturing, handicrafts, agricultural products, food items, textiles, leather goods, carpets, brassware, glass products, wooden crafts and other traditional industries. Cities and districts across the state have developed specialised economic identities over generations. Moradabad is internationally known for metalware, Bhadohi for carpets, Firozabad for glass, Varanasi for textiles and handicrafts, Lucknow for chikankari, Saharanpur for woodcraft and Agra for footwear and leather-related industries.

Rishi

RISHI KUMAR SHARMA

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“Our government is fully committed to the welfare of artisans and weavers. Handloom and powerloom are not just an industry, they are a source of livelihood and pride for Uttar Pradesh.”

Yogi Adityanath
Chief Minister, Uttar Pradesh

NATIONAL HANDLOOM DAY

Our Heritage | Our Artisans | Our Pride

Weaving a Stronger Uttar Pradesh, Weaving a Stronger India



Local Threads Global Recognition



30 LAKH people in UP earn their livelihood through handloom and powerloom.



₹109 CRORE benefit provided to more than **40,000** artisans towards electricity expenses.



The world is demanding UP's handicraft products; government focusing on design and technology.



Bhadohi carpets adorned the new Parliament of India, enhancing UP's identity in the global market.



5 textile parks in the name of Sant Kabir and PM MITRA Park being developed over 1,000 acres in Lucknow.



Bhadohi Carpets in New Parliament
A proud symbol of Uttar Pradesh's craftsmanship

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**YOGI
GOVERNMENT
ACCELERATES
EFFORTS TO
MAKE THE
GOMTI
CLEANER**

Yogi Government's Bullet-Speed Progress

More than 5.23 lakh teacher personnel complete e-KYC in Basic and Secondary Education departments within 22 days

During the Winter Session of the Legislative Assembly on February 20, 2026, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath had announced the provision of cashless medical facilities for teachers and non-teaching employees. Thereafter, the state government completed the scheme framework, portal, arrangement of empanelled hospitals, and other departmental preparations in a time-bound manner. Within just 138 days of the announcement, the Chief Minister launched the Chief Minister Shikshak Cashless Chikitsa Yojana for the Basic and Secondary Education departments from Varanasi on July 8. Eighteen days later, on July 26, the Higher Education Department was also brought under the ambit of the scheme from Agra. This progress achieved in a short period is evidence of the effective implementation of the scheme and continuous monitoring at the government level.

Out of a total of 12,89,018 eligible teacher personnel across the three education departments, 5,40,878 teachers, non-teaching employees, and their dependants have completed e-KYC and joined the Chief Minister Shikshak

“

“Teachers are the builders of the nation and its future. That is why our government is working to provide cashless healthcare facility worth ₹5 lakh to all of them under a flagship initiative, and the ‘Mukhyamantri Shikshak Cashless Chikitsa Yojana will be implemented from 8th July.’”

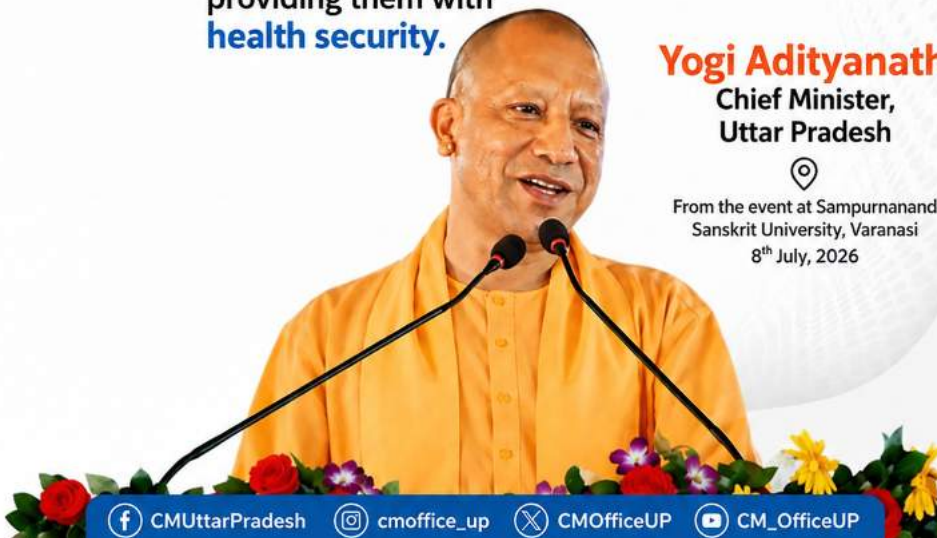


This scheme will benefit 12 lakh teachers/teaching and non-teaching staff and their families, providing them with health security.

Yogi Adityanath
Chief Minister,
Uttar Pradesh



From the event at Sampurnanand
Sanskrit University, Varanasi
8th July, 2026



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Cashless Chikitsa Yojana. The objective of the scheme is to provide a robust health security cover to the state's education fraternity. This is why the government is implementing it in mission mode and moving rapidly to connect the maximum number of eligible beneficiaries with the scheme in a short period.

Under the scheme, 11,03,464 eligible teacher personnel have been included in the Basic Education Department. Of these, 4,57,390 beneficiaries have completed e-KYC so far. The campaign is being regularly reviewed at the departmental level in every district to ensure that all eligible teachers, non-teaching employees, and their dependants are connected with the scheme within the stipulated time-frame.

In the Secondary Education Department, e-KYC has been completed for 65,754 teacher personnel out of 1,47,543 eligible beneficiaries. Departmental officials have been directed to monitor institution-wise progress and ensure the registration of 100 percent of eligible beneficiaries.

After Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath brought the Higher Education Department under the scheme from Agra on July 26, the campaign gained rapid momentum. Out of the department's 38,011 eligible beneficiaries, 17,734 beneficiaries completed e-



- **Chief Minister Shikshak Cashless Chikitsa Yojana achieves record speed, e-KYC completed for 42% of teacher personnel**
- **Nearly 47% of beneficiaries complete e-KYC within just four days of the scheme's launch in the Higher Education department**
- **Mission mode campaign to link 12.89 lakh eligible beneficiaries across all three education departments with the scheme**

KYC within just four days. This accounts for nearly 47 percent of the total eligible beneficiaries, reflecting the rapidly increasing participation in the scheme.

Director General of School Education Monica Rani stated, "Continuous review is being carried out at both the departmental and government levels to ensure the effective implementation of the scheme. All

districts and educational institutions have been directed to ensure the timely completion of e-KYC for every eligible teacher, non-teaching employee, and their dependants. After the completion of e-KYC under the Chief Minister Shikshak Cashless Chikitsa Yojana, beneficiaries will be provided the facility of cashless treatment at empanelled hospitals."

Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath to gift Ambedkar Nagar 194 development projects worth 706.81 crore

- Tanda, Alapur and Jalalpur in Ambedkar Nagar to receive a fresh boost in development works



Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath is set to give a major boost to development in Ambedkar Nagar district by inaugurating and laying the foundation stones for 194 development projects worth 706.81 crore. The Chief Minister will visit Govind Sahib, a prominent religious and spiritual tourism destination located in the Ramnagar Development Block of Alapur tehsil, on Friday.

The projects will cover the three Assembly constituencies of Tanda, Alapur and Jalalpur, with significant investments planned in roads, drinking water, electricity, tourism, public works and skill development. The programme is expected to strengthen infrastructure, improve basic civic facilities and create new opportunities for the people of the district.

Out of the total investment, 217.69 crore has been allocated for 69 projects in Tanda, while 312.18 crore will be

spent on 75 projects in Alapur. Similarly, 176.93 crore has been earmarked for 50 projects in Jalalpur. The Chief Minister will lay the foundation stone for 36 new projects worth 145.98 crore and inaugurate 158 completed projects worth 560.83 crore.

Several important road projects will be inaugurated across the district. In Alapur Assembly constituency, projects include the link road from Ojhanagar Badi Pandauli Pitch Road to Kathwat Kol village, the road connecting NH-233 through Kanakpur to Rustampur, Manjhariya Link Road and several connectivity projects benefiting villages and Harijan Bastis.

In Tanda, development works include the construction of Dihwa Link Road in Semra Nasirpur, Pandauriya Link Road in Lakhanpur, Khas Link Road in Wahid Patti, Purwa Link Road in Naurahni Rampur Bihari and Usra Bharauti Link Road in Bibipur,

among other projects.

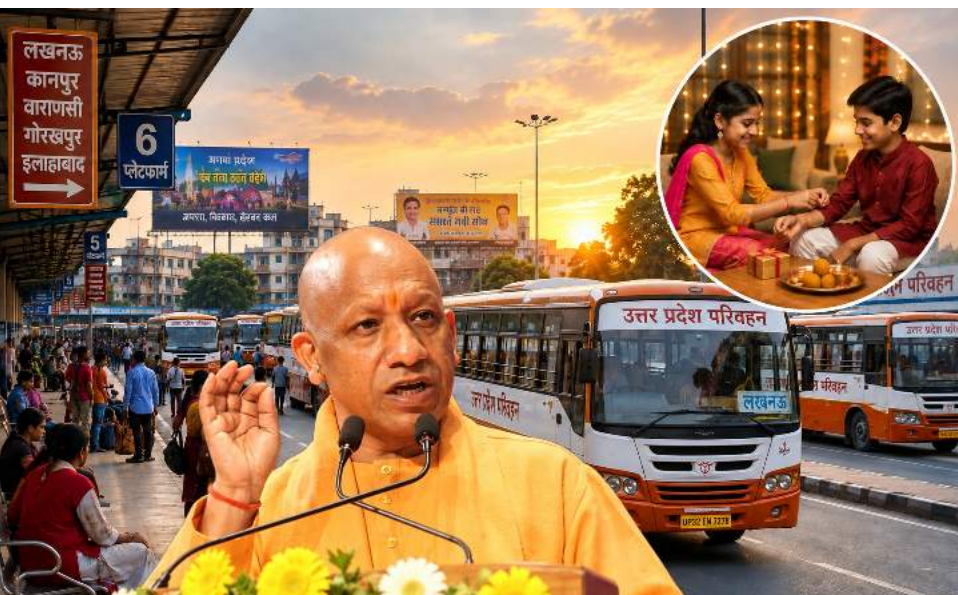
Jalalpur will also receive improved road connectivity through projects such as the reconstruction of Bandipur Road-Jaitpur Dakshin Purwa Road, Newada Amola-Udaya Link Road, Ajanpara-Chakiya Link Road, Jamlapur Chamaraut Link Road, Malipur-Dhamrua Nempur Ghat Road and Malipur-Jalalpur Ramgarh Road.

During the visit, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath will address a large public gathering and distribute sanction letters and certificates to eligible beneficiaries of various government welfare schemes. The programme will also focus on expanding the reach of public welfare initiatives and providing momentum to sectors such as skill development and tourism.

District Magistrate Isha Priya said that all preparations for the Chief Minister's visit have been completed. She said that arrangements related to security, traffic management, drinking water, medical facilities and other essential services have been continuously reviewed. Responsibilities have been assigned to concerned departments, and officials have been instructed to remain vigilant to ensure the programme is conducted safely and smoothly.

The visit is expected to mark another significant step in Ambedkar Nagar's development journey, with the government aiming to ensure that infrastructure and welfare benefits reach every section and every corner of the district.

More than 88.94 lakh passengers availed free bus travel over three days on Raksha Bandhan



- Yogi government has been providing the gift of free travel since 2017

Since the first year after the formation of government, CM Yogi has worked for the safety and upliftment of women. Along with this, free bus travel for women on Raksha Bandhan was also started from the very first year and it continues to date. In 2017, 11.16 lakh women passengers availed this facility. In 2018, the number was 11.69 lakh, in 2019 it was 12.04 lakh and in 2020 it was 7.36 lakh. In 2021, 9.63 lakh, in 2022, 22.32 lakh, in 2023, 29.29 lakh and in 2024, 19.78 lakh women passengers travelled free of cost. In 2025, after co-passengers were included along with women, the total number of free tickets was 78.26 lakh.

- 55.17 lakh women travelled free of cost, while more than 33.76 lakh co-passengers also received the facility

The three-day free bus travel facility provided by Yogi government to women and their co-passengers on the occasion of Raksha Bandhan received widespread response across the state this year. Yogi government surpassed its own record of last year and enabled more passengers to avail free travel. According to the Uttar Pradesh State Road Transport Corporation (UPSRTC), a total of 88,94,730 passengers travelled free of cost from August 27 to 29, 2026. These included 55.17 lakh women and 33.76 lakh co-passengers. State government spent Rs 106.98 crore on this free travel facility. Additional Chief Secretary, Transport Department, Archana Agrawal stated, "On Raksha Bandhan, CM Yogi Ji had announced free bus travel for women and their co-passengers. In successfully implementing this facility, officers and employees of Transport

Corporation, along with drivers and conductors, contributed with complete commitment. At the same time, the arrangements were operated effectively with the guidance and cooperation of the departmental minister."

This year, the number of passengers availing free travel also surpassed last year's record. In 2025, 78.26 lakh passengers had travelled free of cost over three days on Raksha Bandhan. This time, the number increased to 88.94 lakh. That is, around 10.68 lakh more passengers availed free travel compared to last year.

The economic value of relief provided to passengers through free bus travel over three days was also higher than last year. In 2025, the government spent more than Rs 86.98 crore on free travel. This year, it increased to Rs 106.98 crore. That is, the government shouldered a burden of around Rs 20

crore more compared to last year.

According to the data, the highest number of passengers travelled free of cost on Raksha Bandhan day, August 28. On this day, 49.96 lakh passengers travelled by bus. These included 32.47 lakh women and 17.48 lakh co-passengers. On August 27, 9.26 lakh passengers, on August 28, 49.96 lakh passengers and on August 29, 29.71 lakh passengers availed free bus travel. The number of women among them was 6.03 lakh, 32.47 lakh and 16.66 lakh, respectively.

Before Raksha Bandhan, Transport Corporation had prepared to ensure the operation of as many buses as possible and strengthen arrangements at major bus stations. From August 27 to 29, free travel facility was provided from 6 am to 12 midnight. Due to better preparations, no passenger faced any inconvenience during the journey.

UTTAR PRADESH

- Rs 109 crore benefit provided to 40,000 artisans towards electricity expenses, govt focusing on artisans' welfare
- The world is demanding UP's handicraft products; the government is giving full attention to design and technology
- Bhadohi carpets adorned the new Parliament of India, enhancing UP's identity in the global market
- 5 textile parks in the name of Sant Kabir and PM MITRA Park being developed over 1,000 acres in Lucknow



National Ha

On National Handloom Day, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath reiterated the government's commitment to the welfare of artisans and weavers. He stated, "Around 30 lakh people in Uttar Pradesh earn their livelihood through the handloom and powerloom sectors. The government has provided electricity-related benefits worth Rs 109 crore to more than 40,000 artisans."

The Chief Minister stressed the need to connect handloom products with global markets through design, tech-

Handloom and powerloom livelihood for 30 lakh pe

nology, packaging and marketing.

He also appealed for increasing the procurement of handloom products by government departments and encouraged people to present locally made products as gifts.

The Chief Minister attend-

ed the Sant Kabir State-Level Handloom Award Distribution Ceremony organized at Lok Bhavan Auditorium on the occasion of National Handloom Day 2026. During the program, he honored weavers for their outstanding work and distributed cheques to weavers



Handloom Day

**have become a source of
people in UP CM Yogi**

and beneficiaries under various schemes. The Chief Minister also visited the exhibition organized at the venue and appreciated the various products on display. Memorandums of Understanding were also exchanged during the program with major buyers of handloom products.

Addressing the gathering, the Chief Minister observed, "This is our heritage. About 2.5 lakh families, which means nearly 14 to 15 lakh people, depend on this occupation. If the powerloom sector is also included, this number reaches around 30 lakh. The handloom and

powerloom industry has become the source of livelihood for more than 30 lakh people."

He further added, "Through this, lakhs of people are advancing their work, industries, and employment without depending on the government. Our government resolved that these artisans should receive respect as well as every possible facility. Accordingly, last year more than 40,000 artisans associated with the handloom sector were provided electricity-related benefits worth Rs 109 crore."

CM Yogi stated, "This is an era of competition. We can remain competitive only if we prepare designs and textiles according to the demands of the time and the market. Looking at the global demand for such products, this is also a golden opportunity for us. Lucknow, Gorakhpur, Barabanki, Ambedkar Nagar, Sant Kabir Nagar, Gorakhpur, Mau, Azamgarh, Varanasi, Bhadohi and Mirzapur, among others, are known for their outstanding handicrafts. Our artisans have given local products global recognition and identity. The state government stands firmly with artisans, craftsmen and entrepreneurs for their welfare at all times."

The Chief Minister remarked that before 2017, the carpet cluster in Bhadohi had become almost defunct. Today, carpets worth hundreds of crores of rupees are being exported from

there to markets across the world. Bhadohi carpets were also installed in the new Parliament of India. At various places in Parliament, one can see the recognition of Uttar Pradesh's handicrafts and artisans.

He further informed, "With the support of the Central Government, a Carpet Expo Center has also been established in Bhadohi. A Trade Facilitation Center has already been established in Varanasi. The government is also fully committed to further strengthening tech-

NATIONAL HANDLOOM DAY

Our Heritage | Our Artisans | Our Pride

Weaving a Stronger Uttar Pradesh,
Weaving a Stronger India

"Our government is fully committed to the welfare of artisans and weavers. Handloom and powerloom are not just an industry, they are a source of livelihood and pride for Uttar Pradesh."

Yogi Adityanath
Chief Minister,
Uttar Pradesh



30 LAKH

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₹109 CRORE

benefit provided to more than **40,000** artisans towards electricity expenses.



The world is demanding UP's handicraft products; government focusing on design and technology.



Bhadohi carpet adorned the Parliament to enhance UP's identity in the global market.



Bhadohi Carpets in New Parliament

A proud symbol of Uttar Pradesh's craftsmanship on a global platform.

MAJOR CENTRES OF HANDICRAFTS IN UTTAR PRADESH



Lucknow
Chikankari



Bhadohi
Carpets



Varanasi
Sarees



Mirzapur
Handicrafts



Gorakhpur
Textiles



Mau
Weaving

PM MITRA Park in Lucknow over 1,000 acres

FOCUS AREAS



Design



Technology



Packaging



Marketing



Global Markets

"Let us present products made by our local artisans as gifts. When we promote indigenous products, India's money will remain in India, bringing prosperity to the lives of our artisans."

Yogi Adityanath
Chief Minister, Uttar Pradesh

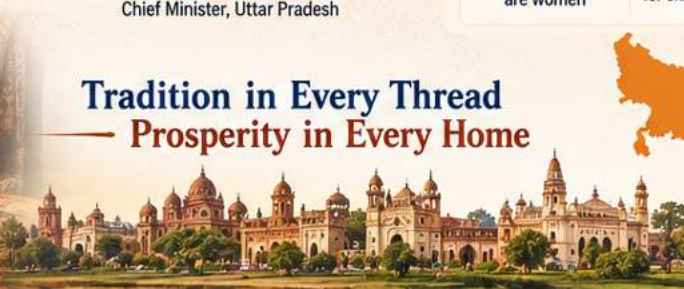
EMPOWERING ARTISANS



More than 70% handloom workers are women

So... for skill...

**Tradition in Every Thread
— Prosperity in Every Home**



nology, design, packaging, exports and marketing. When we promote indigenous products, India's money will remain in India. This will bring prosperity and happiness to the lives of our artisans."

The Chief Minister stated that scholarships are being provided to students associated with the Facilitation

Center in Varanasi. Last year, 450 students received scholarships. Through this, they are being trained in design, technology, and packaging. To strengthen the textile industry, the PM MITRA Park is being developed over 1,000 acres in Lucknow.

He continues by saying, "After agriculture, the textile

industry is the sector providing the highest employment. The government is moving forward with the establishment of 5 textile parks in the state in the name of Sant Kabir to provide employment to youth and ensure work for every hand."

The Chief Minister observed, "Such development works



5 textile parks
in the name of Sant Kabir and PM MITRA Park being developed over 1,000 acres in Lucknow.

GOVERNMENT INITIATIVES

MITRA
Park
Lucknow
1,000 acres

5 Textile Parks
in the name of
Sant Kabir

One District One Product (ODOP)

NS, BUILDING A BRIGHTER TOMORROW

Scholarships
and training
for skill development

Government departments
to procure handloom products

Strengthening MSMEs
and employment opportunities

A Self-Reliant A Prosperous Uttar Pradesh

Handloom Empowers Lives

could have been undertaken even before 2014 and 2017, but the previous governments lacked the vision to do so. Those governments viewed every issue only through the prism of vote-bank politics. As a result, the dignity of the poor, artisans and craftsmen was neglected. Before 2017, Uttar Pradesh did not even have adequate electricity or good

roads for transportation. Law and order was so poor that daughters, traders, artisans and craftsmen - none of them felt safe."

He added, but today, more than 70 percent of those working in the handloom sector are women. This is remarkable. Prime Minister Modi also presents handicraft products from Uttar Pradesh as gifts to heads of state during his foreign visits. This is an honor for all artisans and craftsmen.

The Chief Minister stated, "Through One District-One Product, branding was achieved, and markets also became available. The double-engine government has connected this sector with technology, design and packaging. Today, 96 lakh MSME units are operating in Uttar Pradesh. Handloom has now become the largest cottage industry. The double-engine government is fully committed to protecting the interests of those associated with this sector."

The Chief Minister directed the department to connect products made by artisans and craftsmen with the market in accordance with technology and demand. He stated that artisans should also take full advantage of the toolkit and training facilities available under Vishwakarma Shram Samman and PM Vishwakarma. He urged those honored with the Sant Kabir and Veerangana Jhalkari Bai Awards to continue bringing innovation to their work. The Chief Minister appealed to the public to present products made by local artisans and craftsmen

as gifts. During festivals such as Deepawali, Holi, Eid and other occasions, products from Uttar Pradesh are now increasingly being presented as gifts.

The Chief Minister informed, "A system has been put in place for government departments to procure handloom products. Departments should act on this immediately. If handloom products are used in hospitals, hotels, guest houses and other places, it will be an added advantage. This will also increase the income of weavers, artisans and everyone associated with the industry."

The Chief Minister observed that National Handloom Day is not merely a commemorative day but also an important milestone in India's freedom movement. On this day, August 7, 1905, the movement gained a new direction when the Swadeshi movement emerged. The message of Swadeshi united the entire country - North, South, East and West - and helped break the chains of slavery.

He further informed, "Father of the Nation Mahatma Gandhi adopted Khadi and Swadeshi as the guiding principles of the freedom movement. He made the spinning wheel the greatest weapon of the movement. Prime Minister Modi decided to observe August 7 as National Handloom Day. It is a tribute to lakhs of entrepreneurs, traders and artisans associated with the handloom sector across the country."

UTTAR PRADESH



- Kanwar pilgrims said: Yogi Ji showered not flowers, but respect
- Flower shower from a helicopter infused Kanwariyas with renewed energy

Flower Shower Boosts Enthusiasm Among Shiva devotees

Scorching roads, blisters on the feet and a journey of hundreds of kilometres on foot. For Kanwariyas immersed in devotion to Lord Shiva, Saturday became memorable when Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath welcomed them with a shower of flowers on the soil of Meerut. In addition,

Kanwariyas became emotional on witnessing flowers raining down from the sky through a helicopter. Some greeted the Chief Minister with folded hands, while others expressed their joy with chants of "Har Har Mahadev." The flower shower from the helicopter seemed to infuse new

energy into the Kanwariyas' enthusiasm.

As soon as the flower shower from the helicopter began, Kanwariyas walking on the road raised their hands in gratitude while chanting "Har Har Bam Bam." The entire atmosphere became immersed in devotion to Lord

Shiva. During this time, excitement and pride replaced fatigue on the faces of the Kanwariyas.

- **Rahul, a Shiva devotee travelling from Haridwar to Faridabad carrying Gangajal, said, "It is a matter of pride that the Chief Minister came among the Kanwariyas and honoured us. Yogi Ji did not merely shower flowers upon us; he honoured our faith, penance and devotion. This moment will be remembered for a lifetime."**
- **Rohit, a resident of Delhi, said, "After walking continuously for several days, the body had become tired. Travelling amid humidity, heat and crowds is not easy, but when flowers rained down from the helicopter and Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath appeared before us, all the fatigue disappeared in a moment."**

Other Shiva devotees travelling with Rohit said, "We have set out for the darshan of Baba Bholenath. The way Yogi Ji welcomed us in Meerut is nothing less than a blessing for us."

- **Mukul, a Kanwariya from Ghaziabad, said, "The manner in which the Chief Minister is monitoring arrangements throughout the journey shows how serious the Yogi government is about our pilgrimage. The Chief Minister himself is inspecting the Kanwar route. By showering flowers upon us, he has conveyed the message that Kanwariyas are not merely travellers for the government, but devotees and guests of Lord Shiva. Truly, Yogi Ji has won our hearts."**
- **Anuj, a resident of Delhi, said, "After returning home, I will certainly narrate the story of the grand welcome received in Meerut. We are carrying Gangajal back to our city, but we will also carry this memory of Meerut with us. We will never forget witnessing flowers raining from the helicopter and seeing the Chief Minister welcoming the Kanwariyas."**

- **Lakshmi, who arrived carrying a Kanwar from Bulandshahr, described the flower shower as an extremely emotional moment. She said, "Seeing flowers being showered upon Shiva devotees who have set out with faith in Lord Shiva filled my heart with happiness. This honour from the Chief Minister is a matter of joy and pride."**
- **Shiva devotees Vijaya and Jayanti from Hapur said, "Receiving such honour along with devotion to Lord Shiva during the Kanwar Yatra is a very pleasant experience. Very good facilities have been provided in Uttar Pradesh during the Kanwar Yatra, especially for women Kanwariyas. The welcome received in Meerut will always remain in our memories."**

After the flower shower, a remarkable level of enthusiasm was visible among the Kanwariyas. Shiva devotees continued towards their destinations chanting "Bam Bam Bhole" along routes decorated with flowers. Some carried the Tricolour, while others moved ahead waving saffron flags. Flowers raining from the sky and the chants of "Har Har Mahadev" echoing across the roads made this stage of the Kanwar Yatra special.

The Kanwariyas said that the honour shown by the Chief Minister had infused them with new energy and that they were now moving forward with even greater enthusiasm to offer Gangajal to Baba Bholenath.

• Glimpses...

After receiving information about the Chief Minister's arrival, many Kanwariyas from other states had stayed at camps near the venue since Friday night. Everyone was eager to catch a glimpse of



Gorakshapeethadheeshwar Yogi Adityanath. As soon as Yogi Adityanath arrived on the stage, the enthusiasm of the Kanwariyas doubled. Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, who arrived to shower flowers upon the Kanwariyas, continued the flower shower uninterrupted for 20 minutes. During this period, he and other public representatives remained present on the stage, while a team of administrative and police officers showered flowers on the Kanwar route from a helicopter in the sky.

A large number of decorated Kanwars accompanied by DJs were also passing along the Kanwar route. Whenever a DJ-equipped Kanwar approached the stage, the enthusiasm of Shiva devotees increased upon seeing Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath. During this time, on several Kanwars, devotees replaced the religious songs playing on the DJs and started playing the song "Jo Ram Ko Laaye Hain, Hum Unko Laayenge."

During the flower shower, thousands of Shiva devotees were standing on both sides of the National Highway.

Critical minerals are rapidly becoming the new strategic resources of the global economy, and India's growing emphasis on the subject through BRICS reflects a much deeper transformation in international economics, technology and geopolitics. For decades, crude oil and natural gas remained at the centre of global strategic competition because modern economies depended heavily on conventional energy. The next phase of industrial development, however, is increasingly dependent on a different set of resources. Lithium, cobalt, nickel, graphite, copper and rare-earth elements are becoming indispensable for electric vehicles, batteries, renewable-energy systems, advanced electronics, telecommunications, semiconductors and modern defence technologies.

This is why the competition over critical minerals is no longer simply a question of mining. It is becoming a question of who controls the technologies, processing facilities, manufacturing capabilities and supply chains required to transform these resources into products that power the modern economy. India's BRICS strategy has to be understood against this larger backdrop. The 2026 BRICS summit in New Delhi is taking place at a time when the grouping is seeking a greater role in global governance, trade, technology and economic decision-making. Recent reporting from the summit shows that Prime Minister Narendra Modi has called for BRICS unity to be converted into



Modi's Big BRICS Mo

concrete outcomes and has emphasised that the Global South should have a greater role in shaping global decisions.

The importance of critical minerals becomes clearer when we look at the technologies that are expected to drive economic growth over the coming decades. An electric vehicle requires sophisticated batteries, electric motors and power electronics. Large renewable-energy

projects require enormous quantities of copper and other materials. Modern communication equipment, high-performance electronics and several defence technologies depend on specialised minerals and rare-earth elements. Semiconductor manufacturing also requires a complex ecosystem of minerals, chemicals and advanced industrial materials. As countries attempt to reduce carbon emissions and build domes-



ve on Critical Minerals

tic manufacturing capacity, demand for these resources is expected to rise. The result is a new form of strategic competition in which access to minerals can influence industrial policy, national security and technological independence. A country may have enormous mineral reserves and yet remain strategically vulnerable if it lacks the ability to process those minerals. Similarly, a country may possess world-class

manufacturing facilities but remain vulnerable if its raw-material supply depends on a small number of foreign suppliers. The real contest, therefore, is increasingly about building a complete and reliable value chain.

- **BRICS' Mineral Advantage**

BRICS has an important advantage

in this emerging competition because its members possess highly diverse natural resources. China is a major force in rare-earth mining and processing. Brazil has significant mineral resources, including lithium and other strategic materials. Russia possesses substantial reserves of several important metals and minerals. Indonesia has emerged as a major global player in nickel. South Africa has important platinum-group-metal resources. India also possesses deposits of rare-earth elements and other strategic minerals while simultaneously offering one of the world's largest and fastest-growing consumer markets.

This combination is strategically significant. A grouping that brings together resource-rich nations, large industrial economies and enormous consumer markets has the potential to create alternative supply chains. However, the existence of resources alone does not guarantee such an outcome. Mining projects require capital, technology, infrastructure and environmental clearances. Processing facilities require specialised technology and enormous investment. Manufacturing requires skilled workers, stable energy supplies and access to markets. The challenge for BRICS is therefore to connect these different strengths into practical economic partnerships.

The 2025 BRICS declaration had already recognised the importance of critical minerals for low-emission technologies and resilient energy supply chains.

PM Modi Concludes Uzbekistan Visit

- **PM Modi Concludes Uzbekistan Visit, India-Uzbekistan Relations Elevated to Comprehensive Strategic Partnership**

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- **Two-day visit to Tashkent strengthens strategic, economic and cultural ties**
- **11 agreements cover critical minerals, uranium, trade, defence, digital payments and education**
- **Five-billion-dollar trade target and long-term energy cooperation to drive economic engagement**
- **Cooperation expanded to Hindi, Sanskrit, sports and heritage conservation**
- **Uzbekistan confers its highest state honour on Prime Minister Narendra Modi**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has concluded his two-day State Visit to Tashkent, Uzbekistan, following high-level discussions with Uzbek President Shavkat Mirziyoyev aimed at giving a fresh direction to bilateral relations. The most significant outcome of the visit was the decision by both countries to elevate India-Uzbekistan relations to a Comprehensive Strategic Partnership, marking an important step in the development of India's engagement with Uzbekistan and the wider Central Asian region. According to the report published by News On AIR, the visit produced outcomes across a wide range of sectors, going considerably beyond the signing of 11 agreements. The two countries discussed and advanced cooperation in critical minerals, uranium, trade, defence, digital payments, education, language, sports and heritage conservation, while also setting a five-billion-dollar trade target and strengthening the framework for long-term energy cooperation.

The elevation of bilateral ties to a Comprehensive Strategic Partnership reflects the growing importance attached by both India and Uzbekistan to their relationship. The two countries have maintained close diplomatic relations, but the

latest decision indicates an intention to move beyond conventional political engagement and build a broader partnership covering strategic resources, economic cooperation, technology, security and people-to-people connections. The agreement comes at a time when Central Asia has assumed greater importance in global economic and geopolitical affairs, particularly because of its natural resources, energy potential, strategic location and expanding markets. For India, deeper engagement with Uzbekistan can provide opportunities to strengthen its presence in the region, while Uzbekistan can benefit from India's growing capabilities in technology, education, digital systems and other areas.



- 11 agreements broaden the scope of cooperation
- One of the major outcomes of Prime Minister Modi's visit was the conclusion of 11 agreements, covering a diverse set of areas. The areas identified in the official report include critical minerals and uranium, trade, defence, digital payments, education, Hindi and Sanskrit, sports and heritage conservation. This wide-ranging agenda demonstrates that the partnership is being built on several interconnected pillars rather than being restricted to one particular sector.
- The focus on critical minerals is particularly significant. As countries around the world seek to develop advanced manufacturing, electronics, clean-energy technologies and other strategic industries, reliable access to critical minerals has become an important economic and national-security consideration. Cooperation with resource-rich countries can help India diversify supply chains and reduce vulnerabilities associated with dependence on limited sources. The inclusion of uranium and energy cooperation similarly points towards a longer-term approach to India's energy security and strategic resource



requirements.

- Five-billion-dollar trade target
- Economic cooperation was another central theme of the visit. India and Uzbekistan have set their sights on a five-billion-dollar trade target, signalling an ambition to substantially expand commercial engagement between the two countries. Achieving such a target would require stronger business-to-business contacts, increased investment, greater market access and more efficient trade mechanisms.
- The trade target also provides a measurable framework for the economic relationship. Government-level

agreements can create the necessary conditions, but sustained private-sector participation will ultimately determine how quickly bilateral trade grows. Greater cooperation among businesses, financial institutions, exporters and investors could help diversify the range of goods and services traded between the two countries.

- Long-term energy cooperation
- Long-term energy cooperation was another important element of the new partnership. Energy security remains a major concern for countries seeking stable economic growth, and Central Asia has significant relevance in this context.

Sashakt Bahna Utsav Gives New Momentum to Women Empowerment and Self-Employment in Uttarakhand

- CM Pushkar Singh Dhami inaugurates stalls set up by women self-help groups in Dehradun

UTTARAKHAND

Sashakt Bahna Utsav Yojana

Stronger Women
Stronger Uttarakhand



Local Women Brighter Futures

CM Pushkar Singh Dhami inaugurated stalls in Dehradun, hails women's contribution to a stronger Uttarakhand



4,480
stalls organised in last 3 years



70,000+
self-help groups across the state



₹12.50 crore
worth products sold in 95 development blocks



15 days
From next year, event to begin 15 days before Raksha Bandhan and run for a fortnight

Women Build Stronger Communities

 Local Products
Real Opportunities

ATMANIRBHAR UTTARAKHAND

- Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami inaugurated Sashakt Bahna Utsav stalls in Dehradun.
- Women self-help groups displayed handmade rakhis and other locally produced goods.
- The Chief Minister also purchased handmade rakhis from women groups.
- 4,480 stalls have been organised over the last three years.
- The stalls have been set up across 95 development blocks.
- Products worth approximately 12.50 crore have been sold.
- From next year, the festival will begin 15 days before Raksha Bandhan.
- The event will be organised for a full fortnight.
- Uttarakhand has more than 70,000 self-help groups.
- These groups are connected with more than 5.20 lakh rural families.
- More than 8,000 village organisations support the network.
- There are around 615 cluster-level federations.
- More than three lakh women associated with self-help groups have become 'Lakhpati Didis', according to the state government.
- The initiative seeks to promote women's economic empowerment and self-employment.
- Better branding, packaging, digital sales and permanent market access can further strengthen the programme.

Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami inaugurated and inspected stalls organised under the Chief Minister Sashakt Bahna Utsav Yojana in Dehradun on August 24, 2026, highlighting the growing role of women self-help groups in strengthening rural livelihoods, promoting local products and creating opportunities for self-employment. During the programme, the Chief Minister interacted with women members of various self-help groups, examined products prepared by them and purchased handmade rakhis produced by the groups. The initiative is being positioned as an important platform through which women can directly showcase and sell products to consumers while gaining practical experience in marketing, pricing and business management. According to the report, the Sashakt Bahna Utsav has provided a significant boost to women's economic participation by creating dedicated opportunities for the sale of products made by women-led groups.

The Chief Minister said that the objective of the initiative is not limited to providing financial assistance to women. The broader aim is to enable women to become economically independent by connecting their skills and locally produced goods with markets. In rural and hill areas of Uttarakhand, women are traditionally involved in agriculture, food processing, handicrafts, handloom-related activities and several other forms of household production. However, lack of access to markets has often remained a major



challenge. Programmes such as Sashakt Bahna Utsav attempt to bridge this gap by bringing producers and consumers together.

• 4,480 Stalls and Sales Worth 12.50 Crore

One of the most significant figures highlighted during the programme was the scale of the initiative over the past three years. According to the state government, 4,480 stalls have been organised across 95 development blocks, through which products worth approximately 12.50 crore have been sold. The figures indicate that women-led self-help groups are increasingly becoming participants in the local economy rather than remaining dependent only on conventional livelihood activities.

For women entrepreneurs, setting up a stall provides more than just an opportunity to sell products. It gives them direct exposure to customers and allows them to under-

stand market preferences, pricing, packaging and product presentation. Such experience can help transform small household-level activities into more organised businesses.

Direct sales can also reduce dependence on intermediaries. When producers interact directly with consumers, they can receive immediate feedback regarding product quality, design and pricing. This feedback can help women groups improve their products and develop goods that have stronger demand in local and regional markets.

• Sashakt Bahna Utsav to Become a Fortnight-Long Event

Chief Minister Dhami made an important announcement regarding the future expansion of the programme. From next year, Sashakt Bahna Utsav will begin 15 days before Raksha Bandhan and will be organised as a fortnight-long event.

Bihar's Big Push for Women Empowerment

Three New Initiatives Aim to Create More 'Lakhpati Didis'

- CM Samrat Choudhary launches three major initiatives focused on women's safety, education and entrepreneurship



Bihar Chief Minister Samrat Choudhary has announced and launched a series of major initiatives aimed at strengthening women's safety, education, economic independence and participation in entrepreneurship, presenting women's empowerment as an important pillar of the state's development strategy. The initiatives were rolled out in Patna ahead of and around Raksha Bandhan, with the government placing particular emphasis on creating a safer environment for girls and women, expanding opportunities for higher education and research, and enabling more women to establish sustainable liveli-

hoods. Among the most prominent initiatives is the 'Police Didi' campaign, under which women police personnel will be deployed around schools, colleges, universities and other locations frequented by women and girls. To strengthen their mobility and field presence, around 2,700 scooters and more than 2,000 motorcycles have been provided under the wider deployment of 4,700 two-wheelers.

The initiative reflects a shift towards more visible and mobile policing in areas where female students may face harassment or feel unsafe while travelling to and from educational institutions. The Bihar Police's Abhaya Brigade, popularly referred to as 'Police Didi', is intended to maintain a dedicated presence around educational institutions and adjoining areas. Police officials have said that patrols will focus particularly on the times when students arrive at and leave schools and colleges. In cities, two-hour beats have been planned around colleges, while teams

will also patrol surrounding areas when educational institutions are closed. The objective is to make policing more accessible, visible and responsive in places where women and girls are particularly vulnerable.

• 4,700 Two-Wheelers for Police Mobility

One of the most visible components of the initiative is the distribution of 4,700 two-wheelers. Of these, 2,700 scooters have been allocated to women police personnel, while 2,000 motorcycles are being provided to male constables. The vehicles are intended to improve the ability of police teams to cover larger areas, respond to incidents and maintain regular patrols around schools, colleges, universities, markets, parks, isolated routes and other public spaces.

The deployment is particularly significant for the Abhaya Brigade because mobility is directly linked to the effectiveness of preventive policing.

A police team that can move quickly between educational institutions and surrounding neighbourhoods can maintain a stronger deterrent presence than a team restricted by limited

transportation. The government has therefore attempted to combine personnel deployment with logistical support.

Bihar currently has around 40,000 women police personnel, according to statements cited during the programme. The expansion of women's participation in the police force provides the state with a substantial pool of personnel who can undertake specialised responsibilities relating to women's and girls' safety. Bihar Police officials have described women's safety as one of the most important responsibilities of the police and said the new vehicles would enable women personnel to undertake dedicated patrols more effectively.

• Faster Emergency Response Through Dial 112

The government has also highlighted improvements in the emergency response system. Chief Minister Samrat Choudhary said the response time for Dial 112 has fallen below 10 minutes, while the administration is working towards reducing it further to approximately 5 to 7 minutes. Faster emergency response can be particularly important in cases involving harassment, threats or other situations where women require immediate assistance.

The combination of faster emergency response and visible local patrolling is intended to create multiple layers of protection. While Dial 112 provides an emergency channel, the Police Didi model focuses on prevention and regular presence. The broader objective is to make women

feel safer not only after an incident has occurred but also while travelling through public spaces.

• Education as Another Pillar of Women's Empowerment

The state government has linked women's safety with educational opportunity. The argument is straightforward: girls and young women cannot fully participate in education and employment if concerns about safety restrict their mobility.

Alongside Police Didi,

Bihar has introduced the Mukhyamantri Balika PhD Fellowship Scheme, under which nearly 1,000 female students will receive financial assistance of 10,000 per month for four years to pursue higher education and research. The initiative seeks to encourage more women to enter advanced academic and research fields and to reduce financial barriers that may prevent talented students from continuing their studies.

BIHAR

“Empowered women build a stronger Bihar.”
Samrat Choudhary
Chief Minister, Bihar

Safer Educated Self-Reliant Bihar

3 NEW INITIATIVES FOR WOMEN EMPOWERMENT
MORE OPPORTUNITIES. BRIGHTER FUTURES.

1 POLICE DIDI
A SAFER BIHAR FOR EVERY GIRL

- Women police deployed around schools, colleges and key public places
- 2,700 scooters for women police
- 2,000+ motorcycles for male constables
- 4,700 two-wheelers in total
- Dial 112 response time now under 10 minutes (aim: 5-7 minutes)
- Around 40,000 women police personnel in Bihar

VISIBLE POLICING SAFER TOMORROW

2 MUKHYAMANTRI BALIKA PHD FELLOWSHIP
HIGHER EDUCATION BRIGHTER OPPORTUNITIES

- 1,000 girl students to receive fellowship
- ₹10,000 per month for 4 years
- Encouraging more women in research and higher education

EDUCATE TODAY LEAD TOMORROW

3 BIHAR KI BETI STARTUP CHALLENGE
IDEAS TO ENTERPRISES WOMEN LEAD THE CHANGE

- 2,100 women entrepreneurs to receive support
- ₹50,000 – ₹2 lakh financial assistance for innovative ideas
- Supporting women-led businesses and self-employment

INNOVATE TODAY A STRONGER BIHAR TOMORROW

Lakhpati Didis: Empowering Millions

- 1.81 crore women associated with JEEVIKA
- 70 lakh+ JEEVIKA Didis actively working
- 43 lakh women have become 'Lakhpati Didis'
- Target: 1 lakh more women to become Lakhpati Didis in the next 2 years

Bihar ki Betiyan Bihar ka Bhavishya

SASHKI NARI | SAMRIDH BIHAR



Yogi Government accelerates efforts to make the Gomti cleaner Major Sewage Management Action Plan Prepared

Action to be taken on 45 drains flowing into the Gomti after drone survey identifies 12 new drains



- Preparations underway to stop sewage from entering the Gomti; plan for diversion of 160, 150 and 65 MLD flows
- Namami Gange scheme set to transform the Gomti; sewage from drains to be tapped and routed to STPs

- Master plan prepared to curb pollution in the Gomti; PFR sent to NMCG
- Modular STPs planned at Pipraghat and Ghaila; Bharwara and Daulatganj plants to be upgraded

Lucknow,

The Yogi Government is working extensively to reduce river pollution across Uttar Pradesh. As part of these efforts, a comprehensive action plan has been prepared under the Namami Gange programme to free the Gomti River in Lucknow from sewage pollution. Work is being undertaken to prevent sewage generated in the city from flowing directly into the Gomti through drain tap-

ping, flow diversion, enhancement of sewage treatment capacity and the installation of new Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs).

Following a drone survey, 45 drains discharging into the Gomti have been identified. Plans are now being developed to ensure that sewage entering the river through these drains is treated by linking them to various STPs.

Lucknow's estimated population in 2026 is around 45.56 lakh. The city has 110 wards and approximately 7.52 lakh households. Of these, about 4.01 lakh households, or 53.32 percent, are connected to the

sewerage network.

Expanding the sewerage network and preventing polluted water from reaching the Gomti through drains remains a major challenge for river conservation.

According to available data, approximately 546.77 MLD (million litres per day) of domestic sewage is generated in Lucknow based on its population, while the actual discharge is about 880.70 MLD. Of this, 690.33 MLD flows through drains and 190.71 MLD through the sewer network.

Executive Director of the State Drinking Water and Sanitation Mission, Joginder Singh, said that keeping rivers clean is a priority for the department. He added that newly identified drains would soon be brought under treatment, helping improve the condition of the Gomti River, which passes through a large part of the city.

A total of 10 Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs) have been installed in the city to treat sewage. Their combined treatment capacity is about 629.5 MLD.

Available data indicates a gap between actual sewage discharge and the existing treatment capacity. Therefore, preventing untreated sewage from directly entering the Gomti and ensuring effective utilization of available treatment facilities has become essential.

The Gomti River flows for approximately 30 kilometres through Lucknow. Municipal Corporation records earlier listed 33 drains discharging into the river. Following the

drone survey, 12 additional drains were identified, taking the total number of drains flowing into the Gomti to 45.

Out of these 45 drains, approximately 75 MLD of discharge from 12 drains has already been tapped. Five drains were found not to require tapping. The remaining 28 drains, including untapped and partially tapped drains, account for approximately 260 MLD of discharge.

Under the Namami Gange programme, construction of a 39 MLD STP was completed on

November 4, 2024. Operation and maintenance of the plant have been underway since November 5, 2024.

In addition, work is in progress to tap one untapped drain and treat 3.5 MLD of sewage at the Barikalan STP. The project is targeted for completion by October 2026.

Similarly, construction is underway to tap two untapped drains and one partially tapped drain and connect them to the 50 MLD Loniapurwa STP for sewage treatment. This project is expected to be completed by June 2027.

CLEAN RIVERS
BRIGHTER CITIES
STRONGER UTTAR PRADESH

A CLEANER GOMTI

YOGI GOVERNMENT
STRENGTHENING EFFORTS
FOR A HEALTHIER LUCKNOW

- CLEANER RIVERS
- HEALTHIER CITIES
- A GREENER UTTAR PRADESH
- A BETTER TOMORROW

NAMAMI GANGE
CLEAN TODAY
FOR A BETTER
TOMORROW

*Reviving
Gomti
Enriching
Lives*

GOMTI TODAY A CLEANER TOMORROW

KGMU Successfully Performs Robotic Surgery on Five-Year-Old Boy for Treatment of Choledochal Cyst



In a significant achievement in the field of advanced pediatric surgery, the Department of Pediatric Surgery, King George's Medical University (KGMU), Lucknow, has successfully performed robotic surgery on a five-year-old boy suffering from a congenital bile duct anomaly known as a choledochal cyst.

A choledochal cyst is an abnormal dilation of the bile duct that can hamper the flow of bile into the intestine. The surgical

procedure involves removal of the abnormal bile duct followed by reconstruction of the bile drainage pathway into the intestine.

Choledochal cysts are rare, occurring in approximately 1 in 100,000 to 150,000 live births in Western populations, although their incidence is notably higher in some parts of Asia. The condition can cause abdominal pain, jaundice and recurrent infections. Early diagnosis and timely surgical correction

are important to prevent long-term liver problems and other complications.

- **Child Had Been Suffering from Symptoms Since the Age of One**

The five-year-old boy, Raj (name changed), from Sitapur, Uttar Pradesh, had been suffering from intermittent abdominal pain and vomiting since the age of one. His parents consulted several doctors in Sitapur, but the child did not get

relief.

The family subsequently consulted Professor (Dr.) Archika Gupta at the Pediatric Surgery OPD of KGMU. Following detailed clinical and radiological evaluation, she diagnosed the child with a choledochal cyst and recommended definitive surgical removal to prevent further complications.

Professor (Dr.) Archika Gupta explained the advantages of robotic surgery, particularly its precision and faster recovery, to the family. After understanding the benefits, the family consented to the robotic approach.

• **Surgery Performed Through Four Keyhole Incisions**

Professor (Dr.) Archika Gupta and her team performed the robotic surgery through four small keyhole incisions. The affected bile duct was removed, followed by reconstruction of the normal bile drainage pathway into the intestine.

The operation was completed without complications. The child experienced a faster recovery with minimal postoperative pain and tolerated feeds within a short period. After a brief hospital stay, he was discharged and is doing well.

• **Surgical Team**

The surgical team comprised Prof. Archika Gupta, Dr. Piyush Kumar, Dr. Manish Rajput, Dr. Amol Agarwal and Dr. Swapnil Singh.

Anesthesia services were provided by Dr. Ramgopal

Maurya and his team under the guidance of Dr. Monica Kohli, Professor and Head, Department of Anaesthesia.

The procedure also received dedicated support from Mrs. Reeta, Sister-in-Charge of the Robotic OT, nursing staff Mr. Sanjay Singh, Mr. Rajeev Yadav, Mr. Akash Babu and Mr. Pawan Kumar, and OT technicians Ms. Sonam Gupta and Mr. Kuldeep Singh.

• **Professor Archika Gupta on the Procedure**

Professor (Dr.) Archika Gupta, lead surgeon, said that robotic surgery enabled the team to operate with enhanced visualization and precision, facilitating meticulous dissection in a very small operative field.

She said the team was able to safely remove the cyst and reconstruct the bile drainage pathway while causing minimal trauma to the surrounding tissues. The entire procedure was proctored by Professor Ravi Prakash Kanojia from PGIMER, Chandigarh.

“Our priority was a safe operation with the quickest possible recovery for this young child,” she said.

• **Professor Ravi Prakash Kanojia Congratulates the Team**

Professor (Dr.) Ravi Prakash Kanojia said that the robotic platform is an excellent tool for complex pediatric biliary surgery as it combines magnified 3D vision with fine instrument control.

He noted that robotic pediatric biliary surgery is still per-

formed at only a handful of centres across the country. According to him, the successful case reflects the growing capability of the Department of Pediatric Surgery, KGMU, Lucknow, to provide world-class, minimally invasive surgical care to children.

He congratulated the team for the well-executed procedure and the excellent early outcome.

• **A Significant Step in Advanced Pediatric Surgery**

The successful use of robotic surgery in this young child reflects the growing availability of advanced minimally invasive techniques, particularly robotic surgery, in pediatric surgery at KGMU, Lucknow.





Yogi Government allocates major funds for Revenue Department in Supplementary Budget; **development works to gain momentum**

The Yogi Government, while presenting the Supplementary Budget 2026-27 in the Legislative Assembly, has made several significant provisions to strengthen the Revenue Department and the administrative framework. The government has proposed an allocation of Rs 1,014.11 crore for the Revenue Department in the Supplementary Budget. Out of this, a provision of Rs 739 crore has been made for the State Disaster Mitigation Fund (SDMF).

The Supplementary Budget also provides funds for the construction of a new Integrated Collectorate-cum-Non-Residential Building at Bahjoi, the headquarters of Sambhal district. At the same time, a provision of Rs 140.65 crore has

been proposed for the non-residential building of the new Integrated Collectorate in Varanasi. This will help improve administrative facilities in the districts and make government functioning more systematic.

The government has also laid emphasis on the construction of Integrated Residential Complexes in Bahjoi, Sambhal, as well as on the construction, expansion, reconstruction, and strengthening of residential buildings at the Division, District, and Tehsil levels across the state. For this purpose, a lump sum budgetary provision of Rs 85 crore has been proposed. This amount will be utilized for various works, including land acquisition, as required. This budget will strengthen the basic infrastructure of

the Revenue Administration. The construction of new Integrated Collectorate Buildings in Bahjoi, Sambhal, and Varanasi will provide better workplaces for officers and employees, while people are also expected to receive improved access to government services. The construction, expansion, and strengthening of residential buildings at the Division, District, and Tehsil levels will improve residential facilities for employees. The allocation for land acquisition will help advance essential projects. At the same time, the provision of Rs 739 crore for the SDMF will strengthen the government's capacity to carry out relief and rescue operations during disasters.

कैसी खुशबू से महक उठा है घर सारा माँ ने फिर आज जूड़े में फूल लगाया है

खा लूंगा मैं कुछ भी बाहर जाकर
तूने दो मिनट रुकने के लिए मनाया है

घेर लिया ज़िन्दगी की आँधियों ने जब भी मुझे
मेरा हर मसला तूने चुटकियों में सुलझाया है

जाग जाती है रूठी हुई किस्मत मेरी
तूने दुआओं में जब भी हाथ उठाया है

माँ कर दे मुराद मेरी ये भी अब पूरी
इस जहाँ ने तो मुझे सिर्फ रूलाया है

आशिया अफ़रोज़

IAS Masoom Ali Sarwar: From Transport Corporation to Jal Nigam MD

A New Chapter in His Administrative Journey

- Senior IAS officer Masoom Ali Sarwar has taken charge as the Managing Director (MD) of Uttar Pradesh Jal Nigam (Urban), marking another significant chapter in his administrative career.

- Along with the responsibility of Jal Nigam (Urban), Sarwar has also been entrusted with the charge of State Mission Director, AMRUT. The new assignment places him at the helm of key urban infrastructure and water-related programmes across Uttar Pradesh.

• From Public Transport to Urban Water Infrastructure

- Masoom Ali Sarwar's administrative journey has seen him handle responsibilities across diverse sectors. One of his prominent assignments was as Managing Director of the Uttar Pradesh State Road Transport Corporation (UPSRTC).
- During his tenure at UPSRTC, Sarwar was associated with the management and modernisation of one of the state's largest public service organisations. His responsibilities included overseeing transport operations, passenger services, fleet-related initiatives and the adoption of technology in the corporation.
- His tenure also coincided with efforts to strengthen technology-driven monitoring and improve operational efficiency within the state transport system.

• A New Administrative Responsibility

- In October 2025, Sarwar was given another important assignment as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Uttar Pradesh Sunni Central Waqf Board.
- The posting brought him into an



administrative domain involving institutional management, waqf properties and coordination on matters related to the board.

- His subsequent assignments further expanded his experience in governance and policy implementation.

• Now Leading Uttar Pradesh Jal Nigam (Urban)

- The latest posting brings Sarwar into one of the most crucial areas of urban governance—water supply, sewerage and urban water infrastructure.
- As MD of Uttar Pradesh Jal Nigam (Urban), he will be responsible for overseeing major projects related to drinking water supply, sewerage systems, pipeline infrastructure and other urban development initiatives.
- His additional responsibility as State Mission Director, AMRUT further connects his role with the implementation and monitoring of major urban infrastructure programmes.

• A Career Across Diverse Administrative Domains

- From public transport to waqf administration and now urban water infrastructure, Masoom Ali Sarwar's career reflects experience across varied areas of governance.

- Each assignment has involved a different set of administrative challenges—from managing a large public-sector transport network to handling institutional administration and now overseeing urban water and sanitation infrastructure.

- His latest posting is particularly significant as Uttar Pradesh continues to expand and modernise its urban infrastructure.

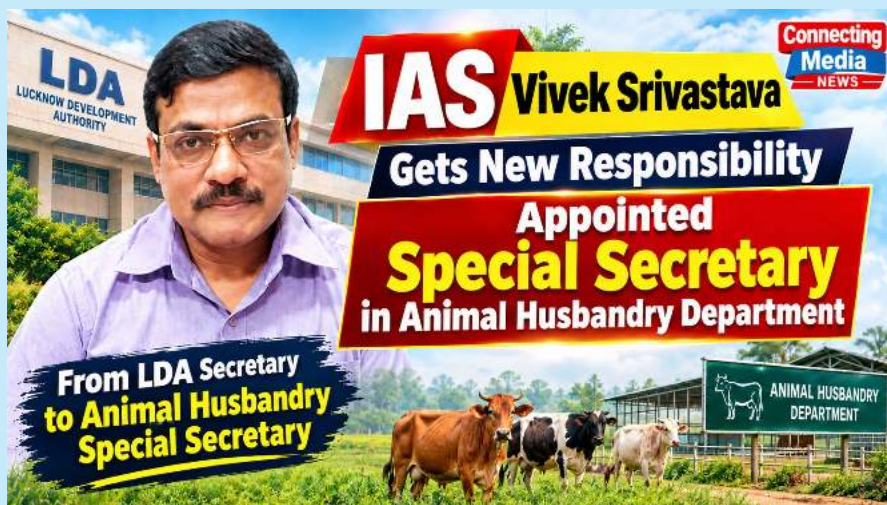
• Focus Now on Water, Sewerage and Urban Development

- With rapid urbanisation across the state, reliable drinking water supply, efficient sewerage systems and sustainable urban infrastructure have become key priorities.
- The Jal Nigam (Urban) MD will therefore have an important role in ensuring that projects are implemented efficiently, monitored effectively and completed within stipulated timelines.
- For Masoom Ali Sarwar, the new assignment represents another major responsibility in a career marked by diverse administrative roles.
- From the roads and buses of Uttar Pradesh to the water and sewerage networks of its cities, IAS Masoom Ali Sarwar's administrative journey has entered a new and significant phase.

IAS Vivek Srivastava Gets New Responsibility

Appointed Special Secretary in Animal Husbandry Department

- The Uttar Pradesh government has carried out an administrative reshuffle, changing the responsibilities of several IAS officers. As part of the reshuffle, IAS officer Vivek Srivastava has been transferred from the post of Secretary, Lucknow Development Authority (LDA), and appointed Special Secretary in the Animal Husbandry Department.
- Vivek Srivastava has administrative experience across several important assignments. During his tenure as LDA Secretary, he was associated with the implementation and administration of various development initiatives related to Lucknow. The Lucknow Development Authority plays a key role in urban planning, residential schemes, infrastructure development and other major development projects in the state capital.
- During his tenure at the LDA, emphasis was also placed on projects related to environmental conservation and the development of green spaces. The Gomti Biodiversity Park project, being developed along the Gomti river area, is one such initiative. The project covers around 25 acres and aims to promote biodiversity conservation, strengthen the city's environmental balance and provide improved green spaces for residents.
- Vivek Srivastava has also handled important responsibilities earlier in his administrative career. His experience at the district administra-



tion level, including serving as an Additional District Magistrate, provided him with exposure to revenue administration, government coordination and public grievance-related matters. His experience across different administrative assignments has given him an understanding of both field-level administration and government functioning.

- With his new appointment as Special Secretary in the Animal Husbandry Department, Srivastava will now take charge of a sector that has a direct connection with the rural economy and the livelihood of a large number of families across Uttar Pradesh.
- His responsibilities are expected to include monitoring departmental schemes, ensuring effective implementation of government programmes, strengthening livestock development initiatives and improving the delivery of benefits to farmers and livestock owners.
- Administrative transfers are a reg-

ular part of the government's functioning, with officers being assigned new responsibilities based on administrative requirements, experience and governance priorities. The transfer of Vivek Srivastava from the LDA to the Animal Husbandry Department is part of this broader administrative exercise.

- His move from an urban development-oriented assignment in Lucknow to a department closely linked with the rural economy marks a new phase in his administrative career. With the new responsibility, attention is likely to remain on effective implementation of departmental programmes and ensuring that government schemes reach beneficiaries at the grassroots level.
- The appointment also comes at a time when strengthening rural livelihoods, livestock development and efficient delivery of government schemes remain important components of the state's broader development agenda.

Sushil Pratap Singh Appointed LDA Secretary, Returns to Authority with Prior Experience

- The Uttar Pradesh government has appointed PCS officer Sushil Pratap Singh as the new Secretary of the Lucknow Development Authority (LDA) in a fresh administrative reshuffle.
- According to the transfer order issued by the state government, Singh has been relieved of his responsibilities as Registrar of Bhatkhande Sanskriti University and Additional Director, Directorate of Culture, and has been posted as Secretary, LDA.

• Previous Experience with LDA

- The new assignment brings Sushil Pratap Singh back to the Lucknow Development Authority, where he has previously served as Joint Secretary.
- During his earlier tenure with the authority, Singh handled several important responsibilities related to land acquisition, development projects, enforcement and vigilance. He was also involved in matters concerning landholders and farmers in connection with various development schemes.
- His previous experience is expected to help him understand the functioning of the authority and deal with several ongoing administrative and development-related matters.

• Experience in Land and Development Issues

- As Joint Secretary, Singh was associated with issues concerning land



acquisition, development projects, enforcement actions and land-related concerns of farmers and landholders.

- He also participated in discussions with farmers regarding development projects, connectivity, development facilities and other issues arising from planned projects.

• Recent Administrative Responsibilities

- During the major PCS reshuffle in May 2026, Sushil Pratap Singh was assigned multiple responsibilities, including Registrar, Bhatkhande Sanskriti University, and Additional Director, Directorate of Culture.
- He was relieved from his Joint Secretary position at LDA in August 2026 while continuing with his other responsibilities.
- He has now returned to the authority as Secretary, LDA, taking charge of a key administrative position.

• Key Responsibilities Ahead

- As LDA Secretary, Singh will be associated with several important issues linked to Lucknow's ongoing development. These include land-related matters, development projects, enforcement against illegal construction and encroachments, property-related issues and public grievances.
- With his previous experience at the authority, Singh is already familiar with its administrative structure and several of its key areas of work.
- His appointment is therefore being seen as significant for the LDA, particularly at a time when Lucknow is witnessing rapid urban expansion and a growing number of development projects.
- The focus will now be on how effectively the authority's pending matters, development-related issues and public grievances are addressed under his leadership.



Hanuman Ansh Box Office:- The 2 Crore Film Creates a Mega Storm, Beats Dhurandhar 2 in Its Fifth Weekend

The Hindi film industry has witnessed another extraordinary box-office surprise with Hanuman Ansh, a devotional drama based on the life and teachings of spiritual figure Neem Karoli Baba, turning into one of the most unexpected theatrical success stories of 2026.

The film, which reportedly had a production budget of only around 2 crore and opened with a modest collection of approximately 10 lakh, has now achieved a feat that even several major blockbusters could not manage. According to the latest trade reports, Hanuman Ansh collected approximately 49.25 crore net during its fifth weekend, comfortably surpassing the fifth-weekend performance of Dhurandhar 2: The Revenge, which reportedly earned around 12.55 crore during the corresponding period. It also went past the fifth-weekend collection of the original Dhurandhar, which stood at approximately 33.25 crore.

The numbers become even more remarkable when the two Dhurandhar films are considered together. Their combined fifth-weekend collection was reportedly around 45.80 crore, meaning Hanuman Ansh alone collected roughly

3.45 crore more during its fifth weekend.

This comparison, however, needs to be understood in the right context: Dhurandhar 2 remains vastly bigger in terms of overall theatrical business, scale, production, star power and absolute lifetime collections. The significance of Hanuman Ansh lies primarily in its extraordinary performance relative to its extremely small reported budget and its ability to attract audiences weeks after release.

The film's fifth-weekend performance was particularly impressive because its daily numbers continued to rise instead of falling. On Friday, Hanuman Ansh reportedly collected 10 crore net, followed by 16.50 crore on Saturday and an astonishing 22.75 crore on Sunday, taking the three-day weekend total to 49.25 crore. The Sunday figure was especially striking because it became the film's highest single-day collection up to that point and demonstrated that the movie was gaining momentum even after spending more than a month in theatres. Such a trend is extremely unusual in the Hindi film business.

UTTAR PRADESH

JAPANESE TEAM TO VISIT UTTAR PRADESH TO EXPLORE SEMICONDUCTOR COOPERATION GIVING FRESH IMPETUS TO NEW TECHNOLOGY PARTNERSHIP

Japanese Ambassador Ono Keiichi pays courtesy call on CM Yogi Adityanath



- *Uttar Pradesh ready to take economic and industrial ties with Japan to new heights: CM Yogi*
- *Uttar Pradesh to participate in 'Tourism Expo Japan 2026' following Japanese request, CM gives consent*
- *From Japanese investment in semiconductors to skill development, Uttar Pradesh-Japan cooperation set for a new push*
- *Wide-ranging opportunities for Japanese investment in UP, from MSMEs to large industries*
- *Youth to be skilled as per requirements of Japanese industries; Cooperation to be explored for development of skill development centers*

• **Lucknow,**

CM Yogi Adityanath on Friday received Japanese Ambassador to India Ono Keiichi for a courtesy call. The meeting focused on further expanding cooperation between

Uttar Pradesh and Japan in investment, advanced technology, semiconductors, human resource development, skill training, employment and tourism. Chief Minister said Uttar Pradesh is ready to take its economic and industrial ties with Japan to new heights. He said the state offers extensive opportunities for Japanese investors, ranging from MSMEs to large industries and that cooperation between the two sides can translate these possibilities into concrete outcomes.

Semiconductor cooperation between India and Japan was a key focus of the meeting. Japanese side informed that during Japanese Prime Minister Takaichi's visit to India in July 2026, semiconductors were identified as one of the five priority areas of Japan-India economic security cooperation. In this context, a team

from Japanese industry is scheduled to visit Semicon India and HCL Technologies in mid-September.

Discussions were also held on the possibility of the Uttar Pradesh Government participating in a meeting of the Semiconductor Committee of the Japan Chamber of Commerce and Industry. Japanese side expressed its intention to send a team to Uttar Pradesh to explore opportunities in the semiconductor sector. CM said there is significant potential for collaboration between Japan's technological expertise and UP's industrial capabilities in this critical area of advanced technology.

Chief Minister said Uttar Pradesh offers extensive investment opportunities for Japanese companies. Japanese investors are welcome across sectors, from MSMEs to large industries. The state's vast market, improved connectivity, strong industrial base and rapidly developing infrastructure provide a favorable environment for Japanese companies. 'Japan City in Noida' is emerging as an important center of this partnership. Major industrial clusters and excellent connectivity around the area further enhance its investment potential.

Japanese companies, including Yamaha, Denso, NTT DATA, Toyo Ink, and Panasonic, have already established a presence in Uttar Pradesh.



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