

Uttar Pradesh Footwear, Leather, and Non-Leather Area Development Policy 2025

Why in News?

In a move to enhance UP's status in the global footwear, leather sector, the Uttar Pradesh (UP) government has approved the **Uttar Pradesh Footwear, Leather, and Non-Leather Area Development Policy 2025.**

Key Features of Policy

- Export Boost: The policy seeks to boost Uttar Pradesh's share in <u>leather and non-leather</u>
 exports by attracting international investments, with dedicated investment drives conducted in countries like China and Japan.
- Modernization: Emphasis on upgrading technology, modernizing production facilities, and launching training programs to improve product quality and generate employment.
 - Establishment of Centres of Excellence (CoEs) in the leather and footwear sector.
 - Grants to support <u>IPR (Intellectual Property Rights)</u> development, covering up to **Rs. 1** crore per unit.
- **Skill Development**: Training centers will focus on **upskilling youth**, with specialized courses designed in partnership with educational institutions.
 - Targeted to create approximately 22 lakh jobs in the sector over the next five years, with a significant focus on employing women and people with disabilities.
- Dedicated Leather Parks: The government will create large plots of land and establish dedicated leather parks with plug-and-play facilities, waste treatment plants, and state-of-the-art infrastructure.
 - Kanpur, Agra, and Unnao will see the establishment of mega-leather parks to cater to growing demand.
 - Special incentives for setting up operations in underserved areas like Bundelkhand and Purvanchal.
- **Financial Incentive:** The policy includes provisions to support both new and existing businesses by **providing incentives and subsidies** for setting up new leather parks and clusters.
 - 25% Capital Subsidy for setting up leather parks or clusters on 50+ acres.
 - 100% Exemption on Stamp Duty for land purchase related to the project.
 - Reimbursement of 50% transportation costs for exporting products to markets outside Nepal, Bangladesh, and Bhutan for the first three years.
- Sustainability Focus: 50% Reimbursement for adopting <u>carbon credit certification</u>, renewable energy certifications, and energy audits.
 - **75% Subsidy** for obtaining international sustainability certifications.
 - Support for adopting biodegradable tanning agents and <u>waterless dyeing</u> technologies.

Industry Insights

- Market Positioning: UP is one of India's leading hubs for leather and footwear, contributing nearly 46% of India's total leather exports.
- Key Locations: Agra is renowned as the 'Footwear Capital of India,' while Kanpur is a major

- player in leather accessories and saddlery.
- Estimated Market Size: The market size of UP's leather industry is valued at approximately \$3.5 billion, with the footwear segment being a significant contributor.

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