



# Sant Kabir Textile and Apparel Park Scheme

## Why in News?

The **Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh** presided over a **high-level meeting** to review the Sant Kabir Textile and Apparel Park Scheme, a flagship initiative designed to enhance the state's position in the global textile market.

## Key Points

- **About:** Inspired by Sant Kabir's ideals of labor, simplicity, and self-reliance, the scheme aims to strike a **balance between traditional handloom techniques and modern textile technology**.
- **Objective:** It will create new opportunities for investment, production, and employment, positioning Uttar Pradesh as a significant player in the global textile industry.
- **Current Status:** Uttar Pradesh ranks among India's top textile and apparel exporters.
  - In the 2023-24 period, the state contributed **USD 3.5 billion** to textile exports, accounting for 9.6% of the country's total textile exports.
  - The textile sector contributes **1.5% to the state's GDP** and employs nearly 22 lakh people.
- **Market Potential:** The global textile market is projected to reach USD 2.3 trillion by 2030, offering a significant opportunity for Uttar Pradesh to secure a strong presence.
- **Textile Clusters in Uttar Pradesh:** Traditional textile clusters in cities such as **Varanasi, Mau, Bhadohi, Mirzapur, Sitapur, Barabanki, Gorakhpur, and Meerut** play a pivotal role in the state's textile economy.
- **Investment and Employment Projections:** 659 proposals have been received on the **Investment Sarathi portal**, amounting to a ₹15,431 crore investment and expected to generate 1,01,768 jobs. These proposals cover 1,642 acres of land, with each park spanning a minimum of 50 acres.
  - The parks will include a **common effluent treatment plant** and facilities for ancillary industries such as buttons, zippers, packaging, and warehousing.
- **PPP Model and Infrastructure Support:** The scheme will be implemented through a **Public-Private Partnership (PPP) model** or a designated nodal agency, ensuring priority infrastructure such as roads, electricity, and water supply.
- **Government Initiatives for Weavers:** The state government is offering subsidized electricity to weavers and exploring solar energy integration to lower production costs and enhance their income.
- **Significance:** The Sant Kabir Textile and Apparel Park Scheme is expected to not only **bring large-scale investments and job creation** but also establish Uttar Pradesh as a global hub for the textile and apparel sector.

## Sant Kabir Das

- Sant Kabir Das, a **15th-century Indian mystic poet and saint**, was born in **Varanasi**, Uttar Pradesh to a **Hindu** family but was **raised by a Muslim** weaver couple.
- He was a notable figure in the **Bhakti movement**, which emphasised **devotion and love for the divine**.

- The Bhakti movement started in the **7th century in South India** and spread to **North India during the 14th and 15th centuries**.
- Popular poet-saints of the Bhakti movement, like **Ramananda** and **Kabir Das**, sang devotional songs in vernacular languages.
- Kabir sought spiritual guidance from teachers such as **Ramananda** and **Sheikh Taqi**, shaping his unique philosophy.
- Kabir is revered by both Hindus and Muslims, and his followers are known as "**Kabir Panthis**."
- His popular literary works include **Kabir Bijak** (poems and verses), **Kabir Parachai**, **Sakhi Granth**, **Adi Granth (Sikh)**, and **Kabir Granthawali (Rajasthan)**.
- His works, written in the **Brajbhasha** and **Awadhi dialects**, significantly influenced Indian literature and the development of the Hindi language.

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