

Others

- 1) Latest information needed of Uttranchal Infrastructure Dev. Cooperative.(U-DEC).
- 2) Latest about the concept of UDYOG MITRA.
- 3) Information about "Shilpi Grams" proposed for the promotion of handlooms.

The traditional handicrafts like woollen carpet, wood carving, Ringal crafts and copper crafts, etc shall be encouraged through various iniatives like:-

- · Training by Master Craftsmen will be organised in situ and these locations will be developed as "Shilp Grams".
- · Action will be taken to promote and develop Handicraft products as souvenir items, and facilitation of their marketing in Tourist and Commercial Centres within and outside the State.
- · Efforts will be made to promote export of these items by organizing fairs, development of showrooms with private participation, an_u port in the area of publicity.
- An Urban Haat is being developed in Dehradun and Rural Handicrafts Centres (Gramin Shilp Kendras) are being developed in the other districts for the display and marketing of Handicraft products.
- · A Crafts Design Center is also proposed to be developed in district Nainital with a view to develop new designs and products in line with the market demand.

In order to encourage diamond cutting & polishing and gem industry, a Gem and Jewellery Park is proposed to be established in the State.

HANDLOOMS

This Industry is of vital importance for employment generation in rural areas.

Under the Deen Dayal Hathkargha Protsahan Yojna action will be taken to benefit Cooperative Societies or registered groups of Handloom weavers. Members of these groups would be imparted training as well as be provided with modern looms and designs.

Action will be taken for facilitating the marketing of their products by setting up showrooms in public private partnership and motivating them to export their produce.

Establishment, expansion and modernization of Design Centres will also be undertaken.

The State Government proposes to develop Integrated Handloom Complexes where facilities for dyeing, carding, development of designs, etc. will be provided.

Silk and silk products have been declared as thrust industries. Keeping in view the availability of high quality of silk in the State, silk production and its allied activities will be encouraged and steps will be taken to modernise the existing industries as well as to promote the measures for value addition.

WOOL BASED INDUSTRY

Special emphasis will be given on improving availability of good quality raw material, wool processing, grading, and quality and design improvement, providing training to artisans, strengthening of marketing arrangements and mobilize institutional finance for development of this Industry.

Non-traditional animal wool fibres will also be encouraged and developed. By way of developing backward linkages, efforts will be made to promote

scientific methods of shearing, sorting, grading and other wool processing activities.

Action for product diversification, design improvement, technology upgradation, training and marketing support will be undertaken in a systematic manner.

Wool Banks and Wool auction yards and integrated complexes for processing, grading etc. will be established at suitable locations.

AGRO AND FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRY

A large quantity of agro produce is wasted because of lack of adequate post harvest technology, storage and processing facilities. In order to exploit the natural advantages and potential of the State in terms of crop and climatic diversity, special efforts will be made to develop & strengthen this sector. Action will be taken to bring about synergy between related schemes of various Central and State Government departments, and provision of backward and forward linkages in an integrated manner.

The State Government will assist in establishing small & medium size Agro Parks, Food Parks etc., which will provide common infrastructure facilities for storage, processing, grading and marketing, thus ensuring that surplus fruits and vegetables do not go waste as at present.

Four Agri Export Zones have already been declared under the AEZ scheme of the Government of India for Leechi, Horticulture, Herbs, Medicinal Plants and Basmati Rice. Further, efforts will continue to promote production for export and provide access to domestic and export markets for products from the State. Special efforts will be made to modernize the packaging Industry in the State with the objective of producing durable, attractive and eco-friendly packaging material.

To avoid wastage of fruits and vegetables, action will be taken to develop, in public/private partnership, post harvest management infrastructure and to create an integrated network for marketing of horticulture produce including cool chains. The State Government will endeavor to develop Horticulture Farms as integrated complexes to disseminate modern technology and provide market linkages in collaboration with reputed Non-Governmental Organisations and Companies in a public-private partnership framework.

Uttaranchal has been included in difficult area category by the Ministry of Food Processing Industry (MFPI), Government of India and hence units being set up in Uttaranchal will be eligible for higher incentives under the schemes of MFPI.

The State Government is also providing matching subsidy for projects under various schemes of Agricultural & Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA), National Horticulture Board (NHB), Ministry of Food Processing Industry (MFPI) and the Natural Medicinal Plant Board (NMPB) subject to a maximum limit of Rs. 20 lakhs.

FLORICULTURE

Uttaranchal has almost all the different Agro-geo climatic zo_e! 7hich makes it particularly

conducive to commercial floriculture. The State Government will make efforts to develop this activity in a big way with a reference to both domestic and export markets and as means for creation of employment and income generation opportunities for farmers in the State.

This Sector will be accorded Industry status.

It is proposed to establish Floriculture Parks with common infrastructure facilities for sorting, pre-cooling, coldchain, processing, grading and packing/marketing facilities.

Infrastructure by way of centres for development and supply high quality root stock and planting materials and collection and transportation network etc will be developed. The airstrips near Dehradun and Pantnagar will be expanded and strengthened to facilitate air lifting facilities in course of time.

Efforts will be made to enlist the cooperation of institutions like the APEDA, NHB, MFPI for the development of projects and facilities for this sector.

TEA INDUSTRY

Recently, intensive efforts have been commenced in the State to significantly expand the plantation of tea with the involvement of a large number of small, marginal farmers and landless labour. Already 560 acres of new plantations have been developed and it is proposed to bring very substantial and additional acreage under tea plantation over the next few years. A database of suitable land for the purpose has been created. Action will be taken to encourage the setting up of tea processing and packaging units and thus establish Uttaranchal as a major tea producer in the country.

FOREST BASED INDUSTRY

Uttaranchal has a reported forest area of around 65 percent. There is, thus, excellent potential for the development of forest resources based Industries in the State, while taking due care to maintain the ecological balance and compliance with laws relating to forest conservation and environmental protection. In addition, there is ample scope to develop industries based on forest and agro-wastes such as lantana, pineneedles, plant and vegetative fibers such as Rambans, etc. Action will be taken in an integrated manner and in cooperation with specialized agencies, for research and development, product development and promotion of industries based on such materials.

Steps will be taken to encourage non-timber based industries such as Bamboo, Ringal, Resin, non traditional fibres, matches, paper and paper products, plywood /

flush boards, furniture, wood carvings, sport goods, toys, pencils etc, keeping in view their vast employment opportunity and export potential.

TOURISM

Uttaranchal offers immense opportunities for development of a vast array of tourism, infrastructure related activities and services.

The State Government has set up Statutory Uttaranchal Tourism Board under the Chairmanship of the Hon'ble Minister of Tourism to function as an apex body for development of Tourism in the State.

A shelf of projects has been prepared through reputed consultants for development through the private sector. Further, such opportunities will be identified on a continuing basis. Various options for public - private partnership in the Tourism sector would be available.

Tourism Industry has been accorded the status of a thrust in the State. 100% exemption on Entertainment tax will be allowed for all new Multiplex

projects in the State for a period of three years.

A detailed separate Tourism Policy has also been formulated under which:

- New tourism units will be allowed rebate/deferment facility in respect of luxury tax for a period of five years from the date of commencement.
- · New Ropeways installed in the State will be exempt from payment of entertainment tax for a period of five years from commencement
- New Amusement parks set up will be exempt from entertainment tax for a period of five years from the date of becoming fully operational.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

The State is naturally endowed and has all pre-requisites for developing as a preferred destination for IT & ITES along with hardware production.

IT and IT related services have been accorded Industry status.

Uttaranchal offers high speed connectivity with the establishment of an STPI Earth Station at Dehradun and proposed Earth Station at other locations. Other reliable connectivities available in the State are by BSNL and Reliance.

A dedicated IT park is already coming up in Dehradun & other are planned in other parts of

the State.

Land use and conversion charges and regime are being rationalized.

IT and IT enabled services will be accorded public utility status. Relaxation of norms will be given for the working of women in all three shifts subject to proper controls, facilities & infrastructure.

Exemption on Electricity duty on Generator sets will be given for IT Industry established in IT Parks/Industrial Estates.

Stamp Duty Concessions will be given to units located in IT Parks.

The State Government will provide free Bandwidth up to 2 mbps to all IT Software Companies/IT enabled service based Companies, Call Centres, BPOs etc for 1 year, subject to the following stipulation:

- () Hardware/Installation cost would be borne by the applicant.
- (i) The Bandwidth will be non-sharing and non-transferable.
- (ii) The Entrepreneur/Company can connect to BSNL/VSNL/STPI or any private service provider for the said Bandwidth. However, the cost of the said Bandwidth would be kept at the rates offered by STPI/BSNL.
- (iii) The following criteria will be adopted for providing the connectivity:
 - a) Category -1.

Call Centres.

24 Seater - 512 KBPS.

50 Seater – 1 MBPS.

100 Seater- 2 MBPS.

b) Category -2.

Offline BPO and such other establishments: 1/4th of the above.

c) Category -3.

Online BPO and such other establishments: 1/2 of the above.

- d) Category -4.
 Combination of activities: subject to maximum prescribed in 1st category.
- (v) Cyber Cafe / IT establishments for entertainment of people are excluded from the purview of this offer.

(vi) The commencement date would be the date of first connect and the offer of an incentive is for continuous one year and cannot be availed in patches

BIOTECHNOLOGY

Biotechnology (BT) is poised to make significant contributions in agriculture, human and animal health care, environment management and process industries. Rare species of plants and animals found in the State, add to its natural advantage in this sector. In this context, a MOU has already been signed between Rabo India Finance Company, Infrastructure Development Finance Company and the G.B.Pant University of Agriculture and Technology in order to forge strategic cooperation to jointly pursue initiatives in the sphere of research in food and agriculture sectors. A high level Biotechnology Board is also being setup under the Chairmanship of the Hon'ble Chief Minister. The strategy of the State will include the following:-

Units coming up in this sector, including the R & D units in this field, shall be accorded Industry status and the provisions made for the IT sector shall be made applicable to this sector.

Establish an internationally competitive business infrastructure and environment for the BT Industry in the State.

Develop Uttaranchal as a centre of excellence in biotechnology by providing necessary education and training facilities for the creation of a large pool of multi-skilled, technically competent manpower and organizations for state of the art biotechnology research in the State.

A Biotechnology Park will be developed near Pantnagar to achieve the vision of the Government. The proposed Biotechnology Park will integrate resources and provide amongst others, a focused institutional set up for accelerated commercial growth of Bio-Technology and Bio-Informatics.

INDUSTRY BASED ON HERBAL AND MEDICINAL PLANTS

Uttaranchal is a store house of rich variety herbs, medicinal and aromatic plant species. The Government wishes to exploit this by helping industries for value addition in this sector and giving emphasis on institutional R&D driven by the market.

· An integrated action plan has been drawn up for this purpose in coordination with the Government of India and other concerned agencies in the State and elsewhere in the country.

- · Strategic linkages and connectivity will also be forged between this Industry and Tourism related activities.
- · Special emphasis will be given to arrangements for marketing both within the country and abroad.
- · R&D in the Medicinal Plants and commercial production of applications and formulations will be developed in conjunction with Research Institutions and reputed companies.
- · Scientific cultivation on contract farming will be encouraged with special emphasis on value addition within the State.
- · A Medicinal and Aromatic Plants Export Zone has been set up covering seven districts of Uttaranchal and Specialized Herbal Parks are in the offing.

BOTTLING PLANTS, WINERIES, BREWERIES AND MINERAL WATER

The State Government has already announced its Excise Policy. The applications of competent entrepreneurs will be considered in accordance with the Excise Policy of the State for setting-up of bottling plants, wineries, breweries.

A number of rivers are originating in the State. These are providing a good source for mineral water industry. The Government will encourage setting up of new mineral water bottling plants in the State.