

Sandila Mega Leather Cluster project to be expedited

- *Over Rs 2000 crores investment expected, employment to over 10,000 people*
- *Mega Leather Cluster expected to be ready in two years | To cost Rs 400 crores*

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As part of State government's endeavour to expedite major industrial infrastructure development in Uttar Pradesh, **Principal Secretary, Infrastructure & Industrial Development Department (IIDD), Dr Surya Pratap Singh** today inspected the project site of Mega Leather Cluster at Sandila Industrial Area in Hardoi district. **Managing Director, Uttar Pradesh State Industrial Development Corporation (UPSIDC), Manoj Singh** and senior officials of UPSIDC were also present. UPSIDC is the nodal agency for implementation of this green field project. With an investment of around **Rs 2000 crores**, Mega Leather Cluster is expected to create **10,000 fresh jobs**.

Principal Secretary, IIDD, Dr Surya Pratap Singh said, "Uttar Pradesh has added advantage in leather processing sector as the State already has traditionally strong pockets of leather industry. Establishment of Mega Leather Cluster at Sandila will go a long way in leveraging this inherent lead by providing world-class facilities and advance technology to leather industrialists."

Directing the UPSIDC officials to diligently ensure that the timelines are met, **Dr Surya Pratap Singh said, "All hurdles should be resolved on priority for expediting the implementation of this MLC as it will benefit not only the existing leather processing units but will also generate new employment."**

"If everything goes as per plan, the MLC should be ready by mid of 2015," he added.

On the progress made so far, **Managing Director, UPSIDC, Manoj Singh informed, "The land for Sandila Mega Leather Cluster has been already allotted to the SPV, formed for its development and SPV has applied for Environmental Clearance from Government of India, which is expected soon."**

MD, UPSIDC said that Environment Ministry of Government of India had asked for setting up of **Central Effluent Treatment Plant** on 80 acres of land. **"UPSIDC is ready to allot additional 20 acres of land for this purpose in first phase,"** he added.

Sandila Mega Leather Cluster (MLC) will be developed by a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) at an **estimated cost of Rs 400 crores** on **162 acres** of land. SPV, named *Leather Cluster Development Pvt Ltd*, has been registered. Proposal to set up this leather cluster has been accepted by Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion (DIPP) of Central government, which has accorded in-principle approval to the Detailed Project Report (DPR). Once the environment clearance is obtained, the SPV will start the development of infrastructure of MLC. Under the Government of India scheme for leather clusters, **Central government will make a contribution of Rs 125 crores** towards project development.

It is proposed that 50 per cent of land in the MLC will be given to small and medium sector units. Infrastructure will include facilities for treating the effluents generated in the parks, rain water harvesting, warehousing, raw material banks, exhibition centre, design centre and human resource development. It may be noted that Government of Uttar Pradesh has planned two green field Mega Leather Cluster projects in Hardoi and Kanpur districts under a Government of India scheme.

Sandila Industrial area is spread over 1820 acres. UPSIDC has developed the basic infrastructure including roads, power network, water supply and sewage, etc.