



Rampur: City of Knives

Why in News?

Rampur district, in Uttar Pradesh, is celebrated as the "**City of Knives**" for its renowned **Rampuri chaku**, a historic blade **crafted since the 18th century**.



Key Points

- Rampuri chaku were a **symbol of the city's artisanship** and a **reflection of the royal patronage** that valued skill and precision.
 - The blade, forged from **high-quality steel**, was complemented by a **handle crafted from various materials, including bone, horn, and ivory**.
 - The **handles were often embellished with ornate carvings**, making each knife a piece of art.
- In the mid-1990s, **Uttar Pradesh banned** the manufacture of **knives with blades longer than 4.5 inches**. This regulation, **aimed at reducing violence**, had struck a blow to the traditional knife-making industry of Rampur.
 - Despite regulatory challenges in recent decades, **artisans uphold its legacy with legal adaptations**, maintaining its sharpness and intricate craftsmanship.
- This title honors Rampur's rich **cultural heritage**, resilience, and **commitment to preserving a craft** that has defined its identity and captivated knife enthusiasts worldwide.

