

UP Becomes First State to Fully Adopt GeM

Why in News?

Recently, Uttar Pradesh has become the first state in India to fully integrate its procurement process with the <u>Government e-Marketplace (GeM)</u>.

Key Points

- Uttar Pradesh has abolished its longstanding tendering system by fully adopting GeM.
- This integration mandates that all service providers, from basic stationery suppliers to those providing Sport Utility Vehicle (SUVs) for official use, adhere strictly to central government regulations
- The comprehensive government order issued on 26th November, 2024, annuls over 33 previous procurement-related directives.
 - This move ensures full compliance with GeM protocols, reducing the likelihood of errors and misuse, and promoting a standardized procurement process.
- The state government estimates that this shift to GeM-based procurement could save over Rs. 2,000 crore annually.
 - This is achieved through competitive pricing and efficient procurement processes.
- The Uttar Pradesh Building and Other Construction Workers Welfare Board has already leveraged GeM to procure quality infrastructure materials for 18 Atal Residential Schools. These materials, including furniture and IT equipment, were delivered swiftly and at competitive prices, ensuring high standards for educational facilities.
 - The full adoption of GeM is expected to enhance the credibility of public procurement procedures in Uttar Pradesh.
- It aligns with the state's broader goals of fostering a business-friendly environment and ensuring transparency in government operations.
- This initiative also supports the state's ambitious economic targets, contributing to its goal of becoming a USD 1 trillion economy.
- Uttar Pradesh's commitment to transparent procurement has been recognized at national levels.
 - The state has been awarded for its exemplary performance in various categories, including total order value and highest services procurement.

Government e Marketplace (GeM)

- GeM is a 100% Government owned and National Public Procurement Portal that facilitates online procurement of common use Goods & Services required by various Government Departments / Organisations / PSUs.
- The initiative was launched by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry in 2016.
- It provides the tools of e-bidding, reverse e-auction and demand aggregation to facilitate the government users, achieve the best value for their money and **aims to enhance transparency**, efficiency and speed in public procurement.

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