



■ CM Akhilesh Yadav during the launch of the "Film Bandhu" website in Lucknow on Saturday. Also seen are filmmakers, actors and officials.
ASHOK DUTTA/HT PHOTO

CM: UP film policy attracting producers

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LUCKNOW: Chief minister Akhilesh Yadav on Saturday said his government's new film policy had changed the perception of filmmakers and now those who were afraid of coming to the state were bringing others, as well, to Uttar Pradesh.

Yadav said shooting for about 30 films was in progress and more films would be produced in the state in the coming days.

"My government's endeavour would be to get Uttar Pradesh a distinct identity in the international arena," said Yadav after launching a website of Film Bandhu, the body for single window clearance for filmmakers.

"Taj Mahal is in Uttar Pradesh. The Union government, however, does not accept this and only says Taj Mahal is in India. Although people from across the world visit Varanasi - they hardly know the ancient town is in Uttar Pradesh. UP has a rich and diverse culture

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AKHILESH YADAV, chief minister

and India can't move forward without UP and no film will be successful without being a hit UP," said Yadav.

The CM said his government would extend full cooperation to UP filmmakers and then distributed subsidy cheques given under the state's film policy to three films - Jan Nisar (Rs 2.25 crore to Muzaffar Ali), Tewar (Rs 2 crore to Boney Kapoor) and Dojak - in search of heaven (Rs 59.53 lakh to Pawan Tiwari).

Yadav also released a booklet - Film Policy Uttar Pradesh - 2015. Two MoUs to set up two film cities at an estimated cost of ₹650 crore were also signed in the chief minister's presence.

CONT'D ON P12