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Need for setting up of a Design and Training Centre for
Chikankari in Lucknow (3A/6759, dt. 4/6/07)

Uttar Pradesh has a long and rich tradition in the area of handicrafts and the one with worldwide appeal is - Chikankari - the unique art of embroidery. This intricate art has come to be associated almost exclusively with the city of Lucknow. Down the years, its popularity and demand has increased rapidly so much so that the craft has now spread to the peripheral areas of Lucknow and its adjoining districts.

However, till date there is no formal training centre for imparting professional training in the art of chikankari and those involved in the work have learnt it in a traditional manner either from their predecessors or co-workers. Organised design and development efforts are also needed if this industry is to flourish in competitive world.

In view of its growing popularity and demand for high quality products and designs in the international market, it is proposed that a Design and Training Centre for Chikankari be set-up where training may be imparted in a highly professionalized environment. Lucknow, being the world famous Chikankari hub, is apparently the most appropriate place where such a centre is expected to thrive and provide maximum benefit to the potential workers.

The output by professionally trained workers would enhance the value of this art manifold thereby creating an environment of promotion and competitiveness for Chikan industry to prosper in a globalised economy. Further and perhaps more significant would be the employment generation for unemployed youth especially girls living below poverty line.