

## RAKHI MELAS: AN UPLIFTING PLAN FOR WOMEN AND ARTISANS

The Gujarat Government has organised Rakhi Melas across the state on the occasion of upcoming Rakshabandhan festival, Patel said. It is in view of promoting the women and artisans in the state, the government is planning the event, the minister added.

On the same lines, the government is going to help artisans making eco-friendly idols of Lord Ganesh (idols made of clay and not of plaster-of-paris) since the annual Ganesh Utsav is falling shortly, Patel said.

He said that to promote green environment, the government would help such artisans to open stalls in areas where selling of Lord Ganesha idols is higher. Similarly, to promote artisans associated with the making of Navratri-related things like *dandiya*, *chaniya cholis* etc., the government would help them to set up stalls to sell their works.