

# Demand up: Webley & Scott to make 400 guns at UP unit

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Lucknow: Renowned British firearms manufacturing company, Webley & Scott, which has an exclusive manufacturing unit in Sandila of UP's Hardoi district, will now increase production to 400 revolvers per month. New machines from England have already been set up to increase production.

Webley & Scott had partnered with Lucknow-based Sial Manufacturers Pvt Ltd for the arms manufacturing unit which had begun operations in Sandila in 2020.

Director of its India-based partner, Maninder Pal Singh Sial, told TOI that until now they were getting orders for 175-200 revolvers, but the demand has increased to 400 in the past one months from across the country. So, we have demanded our English partner for the upgrade.

A team of engineers from England has also paid a visit to the unit and guided the workmen.

"Maximum orders are being made for our .32 revolver of Webley & Scott, which also happens to be the first foreign company to manufacture firearms here. We are also giving a stiff competition to the arms manufactured by the ordnance factory. For the first time, people are getting world-class weapons at their doorsteps," he said.

"We are receiving orders from across the country, and maximum are those from the states of southern and central India," he said.

The government's support and the Centre's 'Make in India' policy have helped the project not only take the final shape but also increase the production, Sial added.

Sial also added that from July, they will also begin manufacturing of .32 pistols which will surely become a rage amongst the buyers.

Webley & Scott (W&S), which armed the Allied forces during the two World Wars and produced weapons for at least 15 countries, has its sole presence in the Indian sub-continent in Sandila.