

Land along Aligarh & Kanpur nodes allotted

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LUCKNOW: Entire land earmarked for development of defence corridor along the Aligarh and Kanpur nodes has been allotted. The Adani Group was the final player in the Kanpur node.

Confirming the development, officer on special duty, Uttar Pradesh Expressways Industrial Development Authority, OP Pathak said: "As much as 202 hectares of the land has been awarded to the Adani Group for its defence aerospace project in Kanpur."

Notably, the Adani Group signed an MoU with Uttar Pradesh government in June 2022 to build South Asia's largest integrated ammunition manufacturing facility.

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It is touted to be the largest private sector investment in Uttar Pradesh Defence Industrial Corridor.

An official statement from the company issued after the MoU signing noted that the ammunition complex will have state-of-the-art technology across small and medium calibre ammunition, along with short-range air defence missiles.

'Over 100 MoUs for investment in def corridor have been signed so far'

Pathak said that in addition to Adani, five other players will be rolling out their projects in the Kanpur node.

He also said that land allotment in Aligarh was also complete. "While proceedings for 96% of the land in Aligarh has been finalised, it is in the fag end in the remaining," Pathak said, adding that Werywin Defence Private Limited was the biggest player in Aligarh. Planned across six nodes, namely Lucknow, Kanpur, Jhansi, Agra, Aligarh & Chitrakoot, the UP defence corridor spreads across central, east and west regions of Uttar Pradesh and also connects with the Golden Quadrilateral connecting in the Delhi - Kolkata stretch via networks of expressways.

When asked to comment on the progress on other nodes, Pathak said that in Lucknow, 110 hectares, of the 152 hectares earmarked, has been allotted with DRDO as the main player. About Jhansi, where 1,100 hectares of land is available, the officer said that about 203 hectares of land has been allotted. Here, Bharat Dynamic Limited has taken 183 hectares of land while 20 hectares has gone to the government's MSME training centre. The account for Chitrakoot and Jhansi is yet to open.

UPEIDA spokesperson Durgesh Upadhyay said investment in the UP defense corridor is growing rapidly. "Over 100 MoUs have been signed so far. This includes 13 MoUs worth Rs 564 crore signed at Gandhi Nagar Defence Expo 2022 held two weeks ago," he said, adding that the government was working to tweak the defence and aerospace policy of the state to make it lucrative and to attract more players.