

# CM markets UP's manpower on defence corridor roadmap

**TIMES NEWS NETWORK**

**Mumbai:** Laying out the roadmap of the upcoming Defence corridor project, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath said on Wednesday that the country will become not only self-reliant in defence production but also a major exporter.

In an interaction with the existing and potential investors of the defence industrial corridor, Yogi said that their interest has motivated the state government as well. "The six nodes of defence corridor have sufficient land and infrastructure while each node will be connected with the expressways very soon", he said. Welcoming the suggestions of the industrialists and investors of the corridor during the meeting, he said their ideas will be useful for the state government. He said UP government is already taking opinions of experts from technology institutions to realise PM Narendra Modi's vision of 'EK Bharat, Shreshta Bharat'.

He said, "UP has immense potential in the field of defence corridor as we have manpower, infrastructure and technology and knowledge partners like IIT Kanpur and IIT BHU".

Yogi added that besides a robust network of expressways, the state has the highest number of MSME units which have been working as growth engines of development. "During corona period, we managed to link more than 10 Lakh MSME units with the banks," he said while putting

emphasis on the availability of infrastructural facilities.

"We will give you safety, security, respect and conducive atmosphere for setting up your businesses. The state is in the process of creating world class infrastructure from expressways to airports and soon, UP will be competing with the best in the world," he said, adding that with its population of about 24 crore, the state was a big market for business, along with ready manpower.

The CM said that many of the state's 75 districts require medical colleges and the government was looking to develop them on PPP mode.

The industrialists who met Yogi included N Chandrashekhar, chairman of Tata Sons, Dr Niranjan Hiranandani, CMD of Hiranandani group, Baba Kalyani of Bharat Forge, Suprakash Chaudhary, CEO Siemens Industry Software Ltd, SN Subramaniam, CEO and MD of L&T, Vikas Jain, director A K Capital Services, Varun Kaushik, associate director A K Capital Services, Jaspal Bindra, chairperson Centrum Capital Ltd and Dr Govind Rujulu Chintala, chairperson NABARD.

Uttar Pradesh Expressways Industrial Development Authority chief Awanish Awasthi introduced the businessmen to the CM.

UP cabinet ministers Siddhanth Nath Singh, Satish Mahana and Ashutosh Tandon, along with IIDC Alok Tandon, were also present on the occasion.