

Uttar Pradesh: Defence corridor foundation in Jhansi by PM Modi on 19th

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LUCKNOW: After inaugurating the 341km Purvanchal expressway from Sultanpur, PM Narendra Modi on Friday will lay the foundation of the Rs 400-crore UP Defence Industrial Corridor (UPDIC) project in Jhansi in the presence of all three armed forces service chiefs.

Executed by Bharat Dynamics Ltd, the project entails setting up a plant to produce propulsion systems for Anti-Tank Guided Missiles in the Jhansi node of UPDIC. The development could potentially mark BJP's nationalistic pitch in the run-up to state polls early next year.



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To give a thrust to 'Atma Nirbhar Bharat' in the defence sector, the PM will formally hand over indigenously designed and developed equipment to armed forces service chiefs," a statement from the PMO said. This includes handing over of HAL-designed and developed Light Combat Helicopter to Chief of the Air Staff; drones and UAVs designed and developed by Indian start-ups to Chief of the Army Staff; and DRDO-designed and Bharat Electronics Ltd (BEL) manufactured advanced electronic warfare suite for naval ships to the chief of naval staff.

The LCH incorporates advanced technologies and stealth features for effective combat roles. The deployment of Indian UAVs by IAF is also proof of the growing maturity of the Indian drone industry ecosystem. The Advanced EW suite will be used in different naval ships, including destroyers and frigates. Around 5pm, PM Modi will dedicate multiple initiatives of the defence sector at 'Rashtra Raksha Samparpan Parv', which was flagged off by defence minister Rajnath Singh on Wednesday. The event will continue till November 18 as part of 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' celebrations.

Modi will also launch the NCC Alumni Association to provide a formal platform to enable NCC alumni to reconnect with NCC. A former NCC cadet, Modi will be enrolled as the first member of the association, which is touted to assist in "nationbuilding". At the same time, Modi will flag off the national programme of simulation training for NCC cadets to scale up simulation training facilities for all the three wings of NCC.