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Adani Defence to kick-start production next month

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LUCKNOW: Spread across around 499 acres (202 hectares) in Saadh area of Kanpur district along Ramaipur-Jahanabad road, Adani Defence and Aerospace (ADA), an integrated ammunition manufacturing facility, will kick-start production of arms, ammunition, rocket and artillery shells from March.

Adani Group's Carroballista Systems Limited (CSL) would manufacture around a dozen types of guns with the Israeli firm Elbit System Israel, while Agneya Systems Limited (ASL) would manufacture 40 types of ammunition and rocket systems with Armaco JSCO, a Bulgarian firm.

Back in 2022, Uttar Pradesh Industrial Development Authority (UPIDA) had inked memorandum of understanding (MoU) with

several firms, including ADA, to develop Kanpur as South Asia's largest manufacturing facility for arms and ammunition, following which Adani Defence System and Technologies Limited (ADSTL) had acquired 202 hectares of land, and is developing four manufacturing units with state-of-the-art technology to build small and medium calibre ammunition, along with short-range air defence missiles.

"It will be a key facilitator in India's goal of achieving US\$5.0 billion exports in defence manufacturing," said Ashish Rajvanshi, chairperson and CEO of ADA. In total, the ADA will invest Rs 2,100 crore and is expected to generate over 1,500 jobs in Kanpur.

According to the deputy commissioner, industries, Kanpur, the CSL will manufacture 300 units of gun system per

year for 155 mm calibre to 200 mm calibre, on the five acres of land provided on lease by ADSTL. “The CSL has claimed to generate 1,000 jobs indirectly from their unit,” said Sudhir Kumar Srivastava, deputy commissioner, industries, Kanpur.

Further, the arms manufacturing licence of ASL and ADSTL revealed that every year the group will also manufacture 50,000 units each of bi-modular charge system (BMCS) for artillery guns, anti-aircraft movable rocket, 155mm smoke projectiles, 155 mm artillery shells, mortars (81, 84 and 120 mm), 5 lakh hand grenades, 4 lakh piece of 40mm rocket propelled grenade and other varied calibre of armour-piercing, high-explosive anti-tank ammunition, and different types of demolition charges.

“From March, one of the units of ADA will start manufacturing ammunition and further on their production speed will gradually increase,” said Srivastava.

The Adani Group will also manufacture Light Machine Gun NEGEV, Assault Rifle ACE, TAVOR , 9 mm pistol Masada, sub-machine gun Uzi, Sniper rifle Galil and DAN in joint collaboration with Israel Weapon Industries (IWI) at Saadh.

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