

'Tamancha' era over: CM inaugurates ammunition & missile complex in UP

South Asia's Largest Unit: Adani Group

TIMES NEWS NETWORK



Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath with Army chief General Manoj Pande during the inauguration of two facilities to manufacture ammunition and missiles by Adani Defence and Aerospace, in Kanpur on Monday

Kanpur: Dubbing Uttar Pradesh's transformation from being perceived as a hindrance to becoming a catalyst for national development, chief minister Yogi Adityanath on Monday said that while 'tamanchas' were brandished in UP before 2017, today the state was actively contributing to India's self-reliance in defence manufacturing.

He was speaking at the inauguration of two mega facilities for manufacturing of ammunition and missiles by Adani Defence & Aerospace, in the Defence Corridor located in Sadh, Kanpur.

Country's Chief of Army Staff, General Manoj Pandey and Karan Adani, CEO of Adani Ports and SEZ Limited were present on the occasion.

The unveiling of facilities which Adani Group terms as

South Asia's largest, coincided with the fifth anniversary of the Balakot airstrike 'Operation Bandar', a historic operation by the Indian Air Force that was a testimony to India's strategic assertiveness over external threats.

Spread across around 499 acres, the facility is expected to become one of the largest integrated ammunition manufacturing complexes.

It will produce high quality small, medium and large calibre ammunition for the armed forces, paramilitary forces and police. Describing the moment as 'joyful', the CM said,

"When we organized our first Investors Summit in 2018, Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced two defence manufacturing corridors, one in Tamil Nadu and other in Uttar Pradesh."

In UP, six nodes, namely Aligarh, Agra, Kanpur, Lucknow, Jhansi, and Chitrakoot, were announced.

"In this endeavour, BrahMos Limited has started work in Lucknow, while Armoured Vehicle Nigam Limited, Tata Technologies Limited, Global Engineering Limited, and WV Electronics India Limited have initiated their activities in

'Over 4K people will get direct employment'

Karan Adani, chief executive officer of Adani Ports and SEZ Limited, highlighted that the newly inaugurated production complex stands as the largest ammunition manufacturing complex in South Asia. "It has the capacity to produce 150 million rounds of ammunition per year. Bullets for rifles, light machine guns (LMG), AK-47 and carbines will be made here. After this, in the next phase, different types of weapons and facilities-related products will be manufactured for the army personnel, including artillery guns, ammunition, cannons and hand grenades." He added: "This project, which started with Rs 1500 crore, will expand to Rs 3000 crore in the next five years. While this will provide direct employment to 4,000 people, the complex will also generate five times more indirect employment. The complex will use solar power and waste management technology to meet its energy needs."

Jhansi. Ancor Research Lab LLP is contributing in the Aligarh node, and major entities like Adani Defence Systems & Technologies Limited are actively involved in Kanpur," the CM said while informing that IIT Kanpur and IIT BHU have been designated as centres of excellence for the defence manufacturing corridor in UP. He also highlighted how investments totaling Rs 10,24,000 crore have been realized through GBC 4.0.

Emphasizing on the need for self-reliance in missiles and ammunition, COAS, Gen Manoj Pande, said, "Recent ge-

opolitical events have reemphasized the need for a reliable supply from internal sources for ammunition in preparedness for a long-drawn conflict. Such large investments and willingness of Adani Defence & Aerospace to indigenize critical technologies have built confidence in the users to depend on Indian private industry for strategic military supplies." Ashish Rajvanshi, CEO of Adani Defence & Aerospace, said, "The establishment of these ammunition and missile complexes represents a leap forward in our quest for self-reliance."