

initiative

UP defense corridor to generate 2 lakh jobs

UP State Bureau

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The Uttar Pradesh Defense Industrial Corridor (UPDIC) is emerging as a major hub for defense and manufacturing in India, with projections indicating the creation of nearly two lakh jobs by March 2026. According to official data updated in August 2025, 177 Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) have been signed under the project, out of which 61 industrial units have already been allotted land. Nine units are operational, while 15 more are



expected to start production within the 2026 financial year.

The corridor is being developed across six nodes—Aligarh, Kanpur, Jhansi, Lucknow, Chitrakoot, and Agra—aiming to boost investment and strengthen India's

self-reliance in defense manufacturing. Key companies, including BrahMos Aerospace, Adani Defense, and Bharat Dynamics, have shown significant interest. Together, these projects are expected to expand defense production

61 units allotted land, nine operational, major firms involved in production.

capacity in areas such as drones, artillery, aerospace, and weapons systems.

So far, the project has attracted investments worth ₹25,000 crore, with a target of ₹50,000 crore under the new aerospace and defense policy. Officials highlight that this investment is not only

intended to advance India's defense sector but also to create large-scale employment opportunities for skilled and unskilled workers. For example, drone manufacturing facilities in Aligarh and artillery production in Jhansi are under progress, while aerospace-linked projects in Lucknow and Kanpur are gaining momentum.

Alongside large enterprises, micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) are also being integrated into the supply chain, ensuring that both rural and urban economies benefit.