

Uttar Pradesh's Role in India's Defence Manufacturing Surge



From Land to Sky

Introduction-

In the heart of India, Uttar Pradesh is leading a silent revolution, 'one that spans from the **Defence** (<https://invest.up.gov.in/defence-aerospace-sector/>) of the land to dominance in the skies'. With strategic planning, policy innovation and an unwavering commitment to **"Aatmanirbhar Bharat"** the state is positioning itself at the center of India's defence manufacturing industry.

Through strategic initiatives, robust infrastructure and significant investments, UP is transforming into a pivotal hub for defence manufacturing and innovation.

A Strategic Shift: The Emergence of Uttar Pradesh as a Defence Manufacturing Powerhouse

Historically known for its cultural heritage and agricultural prowess, now Uttar Pradesh is rapidly adding a new identity to its portfolio 'A robust **defence** (<https://invest.up.gov.in/defence-policy-2025/>) manufacturing and innovation hub'. This transformation is not incidental, it is a result of visionary leadership, focused state policy, and alignment with India's national security objectives.

At the core of this transformation is the **Uttar Pradesh Defence Industrial Corridor (UPDIC)** (<https://upeida.up.gov.in/updic/>), a flagship initiative launched in 2018 under the guidance of the Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi and championed by the UP Government under Hon'ble Chief Minister, Yogi Adityanath. Spread across six key nodes - **Lucknow, Kanpur, Jhansi, Aligarh, Agra, and Chitrakoot** – the defence corridor is designed to serve as the **backbone of India's indigenous defence manufacturing ecosystem**.

Global Footprint: Attracting the World to Uttar Pradesh

Uttar Pradesh Government's participation in global exhibitions like **DEFEA 2025** in Greece has sparked international interest. Defence giants such as Lockheed Martin, BAE Systems and MSG Group have engaged with the state's officials and explored potential partnerships.

By offering **investor-friendly policies**, tax incentives and infrastructure readiness, UP is not just attracting capital, it is building trust with global defence leaders, positioning itself as a reliable partner in international defence manufacturing and technology.

Forging Defence Power: BrahMos Missile Plant Puts Uttar Pradesh on the Global Map

BrahMos Aerospace is establishing a **₹300 crore** advanced manufacturing facility in Lucknow, dedicated to the production of one of the world's most sophisticated and fastest supersonic cruise missile systems. This facility will play a crucial role in enhancing India's defence manufacturing capabilities and supporting the vision of self-reliance in the defence sector.

The **BrahMos missile** holds great importance for India as it is one of the fastest supersonic cruise missiles in the world. Its speed, precision, and advanced technology make it a powerful deterrent against any threat. **BrahMos** is not just a weapon but a symbol of the strength, determination, and commitment of India's armed forces to protect the nation's borders.

Strengthening India's Defence and Global Role

With a focus on "**Make in India, Make for the World**", Uttar Pradesh defence initiatives directly contribute to:

- Reducing India's defence import dependency.
- Enhancing indigenous R&D (Research and Development) and innovation.
- Establishing India as a net exporter of high-quality, affordable defence equipment.
- Supporting global peacekeeping and humanitarian missions through export of non-lethal and tactical defence systems.

From land-based missile systems to drone technology soaring through the skies, UP is enabling India's rise as a 'Global Defence Powerhouse'.

Catalyzing Industrial Growth

- **Revised Aerospace & Defence Policy:** A more investor-friendly policy is in the pipeline, awaiting cabinet approval to replace the existing one.
- **Strategic Defence Infrastructure:** ₹117.1 crore approved by Ministry of Defence for three specialized Defence Testing Infrastructure (DTI) facilities in Kanpur and Lucknow.
- **Centres of Excellence (CoEs):** IIT Kanpur and IIT (BHU) Varanasi designated as CoEs to boost R&D in niche defence technologies.

- **Unique DTTC Facility:** DRDO is setting up a one-of-its-kind Defence Testing and Test Centre (DTTC) in the Lucknow node.
- **BrahMos Aerospace** Setting up a ₹300 crore facility in Lucknow to produce one of the world's most advanced missile systems.
- **Ancor Research Labs:** Manufacturing next-generation drones and electronic warfare systems in Aligarh with an outlay of ₹550 crore.

These developments not only bolster India's strategic autonomy but also ensure that UP becomes a key player in the global defence supply chain.

Employment Generation and Skill Development

The Uttar Pradesh Defence Industrial Corridor spans six key nodes — Aligarh, Agra, Kanpur, Lucknow, Chitrakoot, and Jhansi — with 5,000 hectares of developed land earmarked for defence manufacturing. The corridor is expected to attract **₹50,000 crore** in investment and generate over **2.5 lakh** job opportunities across nine major cities in the state.

Conclusion

The transformation of Uttar Pradesh into a Defence Manufacturing leader is a story of vision, execution and national pride. With its holistic approach from policy to production, from talent to technology—**UP is not just defending India's borders; it is defending India's future.**

Uttar Pradesh's strategic initiatives, infrastructural prowess, and investment-friendly policies are propelling it to the forefront of India's defence resurgence. As the state continues to attract significant investments and foster innovation, it is poised to play a pivotal role in strengthening India's defence capabilities and achieving self-reliance.

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From Land to Sky

Uttar Pradesh is soaring, leading India into a new era of strategic strength and global relevance.
