initiative

Defense infrastructure to propel state's growth

UP State Bureau

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Uttar Pradesh has unveiled an ambitious roadmap under the 'Viksit UP @2047' mission, targeting a \$6 trillion economy by 2047. With large-scale industrial investments and the growth of defence manufacturing as key pillars, the state is positioning itself as both an economic and strategic hub.

Over the past eight and a half years, the state has attracted investment proposals worth more than ₹45 lakh crore, of which ₹15 lakh crore have already been imple-

mented. This has created employment for around 60 lakh youth and generated self-employment opportunities for millions of families. During the 2024 groundbreaking ceremony alone, projects worth ₹10 lakh crore were initiated.

Industrial development has been backed by 33 sector-specific policies and digital platforms such as Nivesh Mitra, now one of India's leading single-window clearance systems. Sectoral clusters are emerging rapidly: a mega leather cluster in Hardoi-Kanpur, a Plastic Park in Gorakhpur, and a Perfume



BrahMos production in Lucknow puts state on global map

Park in Kannauj. Collectively, these projects are helping Uttar Pradesh consolidate its position as India's largest MSME hub, with more than 96 lakh active units.

In parallel, defence infrastructure has gained momentum through the Defence Industrial Corridor, announced in 2018. Spread six nodes-Agra, Aligarh, Kanpur, Lucknow, Jhansi, and Chitrakoot-the corridor has attracted over 170 MoUs worth ₹28,000 crore, with around 4,600 jobs in the pipeline. Production units are already operational: Kanpur manufactures bulletproof jackets and military equipment, Aligarh works on small arms and radar technology, and Lucknow has begun production of the BrahMos missile, giving Uttar Pradesh a significant role in India's defence manufacturing.

Partnerships with IIT Kanpur and IIT BHU are strengthening research, development, and incubation for defence startups. Major private companies, including Adani Group, AR Polymer, Werywin Defence, and Emitech Industries, have also set up facilities in the state.

Looking ahead, the state aims to scale its GSDP from the current \$353 billion to \$1 trillion by 2030, \$2 trillion by 2036, and \$6 trillion by 2047.

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