

Cancel land allotments in Defence Corridor if unused for 3 years: CM

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CHIEF MINISTER Yogi Adityanath on Wednesday directed officials to cancel land allotments in the Defence Industrial Corridor if investors fail to begin work within three years, and ordered a transparent monitoring system to track land use and investor progress.

Chairing a high-level review of the Uttar Pradesh Industrial Expressway Development Authority (UPEIDA), he said allocations should not remain idle and fresh facilities should be provided only where there is genuine development.

"If an investor fails to utilise the allotted land within three years, the allocation should automatically be cancelled," he said, stressing that the state must guard against land hoarding and ensure timely execution of projects. Officials were asked to set up a clear, accountable system to monitor progress and to grant further concessions only on demonstrable milestones.

Authorities said that investment proposals worth about Rs 30,819 crore have been received for the defence corridor, and that 5,039 acres of land have already been acquired. Several companies have begun operations at corridor sites, officials said, even

as the administration pressed to convert commitments into manufacturing and jobs on the ground.

Adityanath also called for skill development centres at every node of the defence industrial corridor — including Lucknow, Kanpur, Jhansi, Agra, Aligarh and Chitrakoot, so local youth can be trained for technical roles in defence production. "These centres should link local talent to industry opportunities, creating employment and promoting regional self-reliance," he said.

Turning to road infrastructure, the chief minister described expressways as "the backbone of Uttar Pradesh's economy" and urged officials to expedite work on the Ganga Expressway, directing that construction be completed by December.

The review also covered proposed extensions, including the Meerut-Haridwar, Noida-Jewar and Chitrakoot-Rewa link expressways, and new projects such as the Vindhya Expressway and the Vindhya-Purvanchal link to better connect Prayagraj, Mirzapur, Varanasi, Chandauli and Sonbhadra.

Adityanath instructed planners to align new expressways with the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) network to avoid duplication and ensure an integrated state and national road grid.