

Uttar Pradesh emerges as a 'Drone Shakti' hub

UP State Bureau
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Uttar Pradesh is rapidly transforming into a hub of defence innovation, shedding its old image and embracing cutting-edge technology. Under the leadership of Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, the state's defence corridor and start-up policies are driving remarkable progress.

A major breakthrough has emerged from Lucknow-based start-up Hover IT, founded by young entrepreneurs Pawan, Ravindra Pal Singh, and Saurabh Singh. The



team has developed an advanced unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) named 'Divyastra MK-1,' designed for

modern warfare needs, including surveillance and precision strikes.

The drone boasts a range of

AI-powered UAV from Lucknow start-up signals new era in defence innovation

500 km, an endurance of around five hours, and an AI-based targeting system. It can operate at altitudes up to 10,000 feet and carry payloads of approximately 15 kilograms, making it highly effective for tactical missions. Notably, it is also more cost-efficient compared to similar systems in the market.

Encouraged by government support, the company is now working towards supplying drones to the Indian Army and has reportedly received initial orders. Plans are underway to develop 'Divyastra MK-2,' expected to have a 2,000 km range and an 80 kg payload capacity.

In addition, the start-up is building a broader drone ecosystem, including surveillance UAVs, bomb-dropping drones, and decoy systems. This innovation highlights Uttar Pradesh's emergence as a key player in strengthening India's defence capabilities.