
Centre's nod to greenfield industrial city

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Jhansi/ Lucknow: In a move that will accelerate industrialisation in Bundelkhand, Union govt has granted environmental clearance to the proposed greenfield industrial city in Jhansi.

"The Union ministry of environment, forest and climate change has accorded final approval to the Bundelkhand Industrial Development Authority (BIDA) Master Plan-2045, a large-scale industrial township planned over 253 sqkm (62,599 acres) in Jhansi district," said a govt spokesman.

BIDA chief executive officer Sanjay Kumar Khatri said the environmental clearance marked "a new chapter in Bundelkhand's development history". "With a proposed investment of Rs 1,51,571 crore, the project is expected to

generate employment for more than 5.6 lakh people and significantly expand industrial and logistics infrastructure in the region," he said.

The industrial city will cover 33 villages in Jhansi tehsil and is planned as a multi-sector hub. According to the approved master plan, around 33% of the land has been earmarked for industrial

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use, with focus sectors including food processing, textiles, defence manufacturing, electronics, electric vehicles and data centres.

Nearly 25% of the total area has been reserved as green and recreational zones, while land has also been allocated for housing, transport infrastructure, logistics facilities and commercial acti-

vity. The project has undergone multiple rounds of scrutiny by the ministry's expert appraisal committee over the past year. A public hearing was held in Dec 2025, where local residents broadly supported the proposal.

Officials said environmental safeguards suggested by the ministry have been incorporated into the final plan. These include the development of green buffer zones along the project boundary and around Dongri dam, extensive plantation under the "Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam" campaign, and a zero liquid discharge system to ensure treated wastewater is reused and not released into the Betwa, Pahuj or Angauri rivers.

So far, BIDA has acquired 25,700 acres of land, with compensation being paid under provisions of the 2013 land acquisition law.
