

# Uttar Pradesh: Redefining Defence & Aerospace Manufacturing

Do you know? Uttar Pradesh is only the second state after Tamil Nadu which has built a world-class Defence Industrial corridor. UP has emerged to the forefront of India's aerospace and defence manufacturing sectors. Backed by visionary leadership from Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath and the unwavering support of Ministry of Defence under the leadership of Shree Rajnath Singh, the state is becoming a global destination for defence investments.

Strategic policies, like the Uttar Pradesh Defence & Aerospace Unit & Employment Promotion Policy 2022, combined with consistent monitoring and diligent implementation, have laid the foundation for this transformation. Let's dive into the key drivers behind UP's meteoric rise in the aerospace and defence sectors.

## Key Enablers: Strategic Vision and Supportive Policies

Uttar Pradesh's government has played an important role in attracting investments to its defence and aerospace sectors by establishing The Defence Industrial Corridor. The Uttar Pradesh Defence Industrial Corridor along with its six nodes passing through Aligarh, Agra, Jhansi, Chitrakoot, Kanpur, and Lucknow, provides large parcels of affordable land and a supportive ancillary base.

### Key features of UPDIC:

- Strategic location on the Golden Quadrilateral, ensuring seamless road connectivity.
- Proximity to major expressways like the Agra-Lucknow Expressway and upcoming Bundelkhand Expressway.
- Access to national and international airports, coupled with a robust logistics infrastructure.
- Availability of nearly 3000 hectares of land for development.

The Uttar Pradesh Defence & Aerospace Unit & Employment Promotion Policy 2022 is a cornerstone of this success. This policy offers critical subsidies and incentives, including:

### Capital and Transport Subsidies:

- Financial Assistance for MSMEs in obtaining quality certifications
- Reimbursement for setting up Effluent Treatment Plants (ETP) for defence and aerospace units

These incentives have not only attracted major national players but also garnered the attention of global defence giants, ensuring Uttar Pradesh's place on the world map.

## The Rise of the Defence Industrial Corridor

The establishment of the Defence Industrial Corridor in Uttar Pradesh is one of the most significant milestones in the state's development. Announced during the UP Investors Summit 2018, the corridor has attracted investments totalling over INR 20,000 crores and is expected to generate over one lakh jobs. The strategic placement of the corridor in Bundelkhand, coupled with its proximity to raw material sources and labour supply, ensures it can meet the needs of defence manufacturing.

### Key nodes in the corridor include:

- Aligarh, Agra, Jhansi, Chitrakoot, Kanpur, and Lucknow
- Expansion opportunities for defence PSUs and private sector involvement
- Testing and R&D facilities for military equipment

- Drones and aircraft manufacturing facilities

The defence and aerospace parks at Jhansi, Agra, and Kanpur have already set the stage for large-scale industrial activity, while Lucknow and Kanpur have emerged as defence & aerospace hubs.

### **Adani's Defence & Aerospace Manufacturing Complex: A Game-Changer**

A highlight of Uttar Pradesh's defence landscape is the opening of Adani's Defence & Aerospace Manufacturing Complex in Kanpur. Unveiled in February 2026, this facility is now South Asia's largest ammunition manufacturing complex, boasting an investment of over ₹3,000 crore. Spread over 500 acres, the facility produces a full spectrum of high-quality ammunition, with the potential to meet up to 25% of India's annual requirement.

The complex is a major contributor to the Make in India initiative, creating over 4,000 direct jobs and providing a significant boost to local MSMEs. As the facility rolls out world-class ammunition and missile systems, it strengthens Uttar Pradesh's position as a leader in defence manufacturing.

### **Opportunities and Future Prospects**

The defence and aerospace sector in Uttar Pradesh is full of opportunities. As the state continues to build on its existing infrastructure, several key investment areas have emerged:

- Helicopter and Aircraft manufacturing units
- Drones and UAV testing facilities
- Development of military testing ranges for artillery and weapons
- Establishment of aerospace technology parks

Educational institutions like IIT Kanpur and partnerships with defence PSUs and private companies ensure that the state has a robust R&D ecosystem, further strengthening its defence capabilities.

### **UP's Rise to Global Defence Hub Status**

Uttar Pradesh's journey toward becoming a global defence and aerospace hub is a story of visionary leadership, sound policy implementation, and relentless hard work. Through initiatives like the Defence Industrial Corridor and the establishment of world-class manufacturing facilities like Adani's Kanpur complex, the state is paving the way for self-reliance in defence manufacturing.

With sustained efforts and continued support from Invest UP and the state government, Uttar Pradesh is not only contributing to India's defence sector but also making the nation self-reliant in defence & aerospace needs. It is standing as a shining example of how focused policies and visionary leadership can transform a region into a global industrial powerhouse.