

UPDIC attracts over ₹28,000 cr in investment proposals, emerges as a major hub for defence manufacturing

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The Uttar Pradesh Defence Industrial Corridor (UPDIC), developed by the Uttar Pradesh Expressways Industrial Development Authority (UPEIDA), continues to make rapid strides in transforming the state into a key hub for defence and aerospace manufacturing.

Strategically spread across six nodes – Kanpur, Jhansi, Lucknow, Aligarh, Agra, and Chitrakoot – the corridor is aligned with the government of India's vision to strengthen indigenous manufacturing capabilities in the defence sector. As per UPEIDA's report dated 19 March, 2025, UPDIC has received investment proposals worth ₹28,761.88 crore. Of the 2,001.27 hectares of land procured for the project, 923.24 have been allotted to industries.

57 companies have been allotted land across the six nodes for defence production and allied manufacturing.

UPEIDA officials here on Thursday claimed that several major companies have commenced commercial production. Adani Defence Systems and Technologies Ltd has invested ₹1,500 crore in Kanpur to establish South Asia's largest integrated ammunition facility. Amitec Electronic Ltd (₹330 crore) and Werywin Defence Pvt Ltd (₹65 crore) are now operational in Aligarh, focusing on electronic warfare, satellite systems, and small arms. In Kanpur, Adhunik Material and Sciences Pvt Ltd (₹35 crore) and A.R Polymers Pvt Ltd (₹48 crore) are producing defence textiles and ballistic-grade polymer materials.

Driving the corridor's success are key government initiatives designed to fuel industrial

growth, enhance skill development, and foster innovation. The UPA&D Unit Employment Promotion Policy 2024, launched on 24 January, 2025, aims to accelerate job creation in the defence and aerospace sectors.

Additionally, the Defence Testing Infrastructure Scheme (DTIS), with an outlay of ₹400 crore, is paving the way for advanced testing facilities in Kanpur and Lucknow. Centres of Excellence at IIT Kanpur and IIT BHU are spearheading cutting-edge research to bridge critical R&D gaps, while the Defence Technology and Test Centre (DTTC) in Lucknow is further strengthening training and testing capabilities.

Speaking on the corridor's progress, Nand Gopal Nandi, UP Minister of Industrial Development and Investment Promotion, stated here, "UPDIC's

six strategic nodes will not only strengthen India's defence manufacturing ecosystem but also play a transformative role in driving economic development across their respective regions while generating large-scale employment opportunities for the local population."

Prominent investments include Global Engineers Ltd (₹2,254 crore, Jhansi) for the production of nitrocellulose, single-base propellants, and allied products; Ancor Research Labs (₹550 crore, Aligarh) for drone and electronic warfare equipment manufacturing, expected to commence operations by mid-2026; Bharat Dynamics Ltd (BDL) (₹400 crore) for a missile propulsion manufacturing unit; and NextStrat Tech Vision LLP (₹400 crore) to produce 155 mm shells, solid propellants, and TNT filling.