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PRESS RELEASE

UPEIDA / Uttar Pradesh Defence Industrial Corridor (UPDIC)
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UPDIC and UPEIDA Showcase Uttar Pradesh Defence Industrial Corridor at India-Spain Defence Industry Workshop, Invite Spanish Companies to Invest in Uttar Pradesh

The Uttar Pradesh Defence Industrial Corridor (UPDIC) and Uttar Pradesh Expressways Industrial Development Authority (UPEIDA) participated virtually in the "Make in India in Defence Sector" workshop jointly organized by the Embassy of India in Madrid and the Spanish Confederation of Business Organisations (CEOE), Spain. The workshop served as an important platform to strengthen India-Spain defence cooperation and explore opportunities for collaboration in defence manufacturing, research & development, technology partnerships, and investments.

The workshop witnessed participation from eminent representatives of the defence and aerospace sectors of both countries, including *H.E. Mr. Jayant N. Khobragade, Ambassador of India to the Kingdom of Spain; **Ms. Shubhra Sharma, Second Secretary, Embassy of India in Spain; **Shri Deepak Kumar, IAS, Infrastructure and Industrial Development Commissioner (IIDC), Government of Uttar Pradesh; *Colonel Sanjay Singh*, Chief General Manager, UPDIC; and representatives from CEOE, Society of Indian Defence Manufacturers (SIDM), Spanish Association of Technological Companies in Defence, Security, Aeronautics and Space (TEDAE), Airbus Defence & Space, ITUS Group, Aqila Technologies, UPEIDA, UPDIC, and several leading Indian and Spanish defence companies.

Addressing the session on "Defence Corridors & Investment Opportunities," Shri Deepak Kumar, IAS, welcomed the delegates and highlighted Uttar Pradesh's remarkable industrial transformation under the leadership of the Government of Uttar Pradesh. He emphasized that the state has emerged as one of India's most preferred investment destinations owing to its progressive industrial policies, world-class infrastructure, investor-friendly ecosystem, and strong commitment to ease of doing business. He invited Spanish companies to explore the vast investment opportunities available in the state, particularly through the Uttar Pradesh Defence Industrial Corridor, which has become a key driver of defence manufacturing, innovation, and industrial growth.

Delivering a detailed presentation, Colonel Sanjay Singh, Chief General Manager, UPDIC, highlighted the rapid evolution of India's Aerospace and Defence (A&D) sector. He informed participants that India's defence budget has nearly tripled over the past decade, reflecting the Government of India's unwavering commitment towards defence modernization, self-reliance, and indigenous manufacturing. He further noted the significant increase in defence production and exports, underscoring India's transition from a major defence importer to an emerging global hub for defence manufacturing and exports.

Colonel Singh recalled that Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi announced the establishment of two Defence Industrial Corridors in 2018, including one in Uttar Pradesh, as a landmark initiative to strengthen India's indigenous defence manufacturing capabilities. The establishment of UPDIC has since accelerated investments in defence and aerospace, promoted indigenization, and significantly contributed to the vision of *Atmanirbhar Bharat*. He also highlighted that Uttar Pradesh became the second state in India to introduce a dedicated Aerospace & Defence Policy, reaffirming the state's commitment to developing a globally competitive defence manufacturing ecosystem.

The presentation elaborated on the provisions of the *Uttar Pradesh Aerospace & Defence Units and Employment Promotion Policy*, highlighting its attractive incentives, capital subsidies, support for research and development, skill development initiatives, and business-friendly regulatory framework. Delegates were also apprised of the state's dedicated single-window clearance mechanism and streamlined approval processes designed to facilitate faster project implementation.

Highlighting Uttar Pradesh's strategic advantages, Colonel Singh emphasized the state's robust infrastructure ecosystem comprising an extensive network of world-class expressways, multimodal logistics facilities, international and domestic airports, rail connectivity, inland waterways, and seamless access to both the Eastern Dedicated Freight Corridor (EDFC) and Western Dedicated Freight Corridor (WDFC). He explained that these infrastructure assets provide significant logistical advantages to defence and aerospace manufacturers and strengthen Uttar Pradesh's position as one of India's most competitive manufacturing destinations.

The presentation also showcased the strategic planning behind the six nodes of the Uttar Pradesh Defence Industrial Corridor—Lucknow, Kanpur, Aligarh, Agra, Jhansi, and Chitrakoot—which together form a diversified and integrated defence manufacturing ecosystem catering to various segments of the aerospace and defence industry.

Highlighting the progress achieved by the Corridor, Colonel Singh informed the participants that UPDIC has signed *191 industrial Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs)* involving a proposed investment of ₹39,654.09 crore with the potential to generate *60,232 employment opportunities. Additionally, land has been allotted to *66 industries* across the Corridor covering *1,154.29 hectares, with investments worth ₹13,806.28 crore* currently under realization and expected to generate *16,037 jobs*.

The presentation further highlighted Uttar Pradesh's rapidly expanding aerospace and defence ecosystem, supported by Defence Public Sector Undertakings (DPSUs), leading academic institutions, Centres of Excellence, testing facilities, startups, MSMEs, and global Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs). Major investments by *BrahMos Aerospace, *Adani Defence, *Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL), *Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL), and *Aerolloy Technologies* were showcased as examples of the state's emergence as a major defence manufacturing hub.

Concluding the session, UPDIC and UPEIDA reiterated their commitment to fostering strong international partnerships and invited Spanish defence and aerospace companies to leverage Uttar Pradesh's strategic location, progressive policy framework, skilled workforce, and world-class infrastructure for establishing manufacturing facilities, technology partnerships, and research collaborations in the state. The officials also encouraged Spanish companies to explore Joint Ventures (JVs) with Indian partners and establish manufacturing units within the Uttar Pradesh Defence Industrial Corridor to capitalize on the opportunities offered by the Government of India's "Make in India" and "Atmanirbhar Bharat" initiatives while serving both domestic and global markets.

