



The Role of Defence Corridors in Strengthening India's Defence Production

Authors: **Rahul Harchand, Dr Arvind Kushwaha (Assistant Professor, Department of National Security Studies, Rajiv Gandhi University) and Dr Ravi Ranjan Kumar (Assistant Professor, Department of Social Work, Rajiv Gandhi University)**

Abstract: Indian defence sector is currently in a very dynamic state due to the development of defence corridors to boost manufacturing capabilities and promote make in India initiative to be more strategic defence independent. This article proceeds with an analysis on how these corridors are helpful in reshaping the Indian defence manufacturing industry with special reference to Tamil Nadu as well as Uttar Pradesh. This article is to present a comprehensive story on the theme focusing on up till now defence corridors as a concept of tactical importance for making India a makers of defence products and identifying the future horizon, including opportunities for international partnerships; role of innovation and startups; and the need for policy and structures reforms to build the future of defence manufacturing space in a progressively globalized world.

Objectives: The objectives of the article include to find out the need, strategic objectives and key components for having defence corridors in India. The article will further analyse the recently established defence corridors in Tamil Nadu along with the state of Uttar Pradesh and will explore the challenges before drawing out recommendations and future opportunities for these defence corridors.

Research: For the purpose of the research secondary sources to include books, journals, reports, research papers, authentic internet websites, newspapers, and other published and unpublished documents have been utilised.

Introduction

The evolving landscape of global defence manufacturing underscores the necessity for nations to enhance their self-reliance and strategic autonomy. In this context, defence corridors emerge as a critical concept aimed at fostering indigenous capabilities, promoting innovation, and streamlining production processes within a country's defence sector. Countries like the United States, Israel, and China have established robust defence manufacturing ecosystems that serve as benchmarks for self-reliance, leveraging public-private partnerships and advanced technological frameworks.

Defence corridors are a strategic component in India's journey toward self-reliance in defence, particularly as it strives to reduce its dependency on foreign arms. India has consistently ranked as one of the largest arms importers globally, with the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) noting that India accounted for nearly 11% of the world's total arms imports between 2016 and 2020. This heavy reliance on foreign suppliers, especially for advanced defence technologies, presents significant strategic and economic challenges. The establishment of dedicated defence corridors is a forward-thinking approach to reversing this trend. These corridors aim to strengthen India's domestic defence industry by providing an environment conducive to indigenous manufacturing, research, and development, reducing the country's dependency on



imports for critical defence needs, and increasing self-reliance. By fostering local production capabilities, these corridors enable India to enhance its national security, reduce foreign exchange outflows, and gradually develop the ability to export defence products to other nations.

Also, defence corridors go hand in hand with the government's ambitious 'Make in India' policy which was unveiled to make India manufacturing powerhouse. This wider program promotes local content across sectors in an effort to attract both foreign and domestic investment for upgrading manufacturing capacity, employment generation and the promotion of technological development. In case of defence sector, the emphasis of the initiative has been given to change from import to export, to manufacture products which are global standard. A major component of this vision is the defence corridors that provide a specialize zone where domestic manufacturers, foreign investors, and startup can build and design the defense equipment right within the country. It can serve to offer not only a diversification of the dependence on foreign technology, but also a solid foundation for manufacturing of military equipment in India that could confidently compete with other countries.

Furthermore, it is assumed that the activity brought by these corridors will contribute to economic development and employment in areas where these corridors are implemented. Through offering incentives, enabling structures, and committing capital, they secure a wide array of firms including giants in the defense industry as well as SMEs, establish a network precisely within the defense industry. This manufacturing activity breeds employment for other industries like engineering, designs, logistics, research among others hence leading to development of the region. It makes local talent engage in the defence sector thus preventing the tacit brain drain cause by attractive skilled jobs opening in other countries to highly skilled Indians.

In addition, the focus of defence corridors on indigenous development encourages a culture of innovation among industries, research institutions and universities. It offers a chance for new technology incubation, research laboratories and centre of excellence to establish, incubate and nurture technologies in fields of niche and emerging technologies such as, artificial intelligence, cyber security, Unmanned systems and more. Defence corridors facilitate collaborations between universities or government research departments and private defence sectors, create better human resources for knowledge, and build the foundation for research, development, and application of technology applicable to other industries in India beyond the defence sector. In the long term the upgrade in technological capacities and manufacturing facilities developed within these corridors can make the country a net exporter of defence technology as part of the larger strategy of attaining defence indigenisation and a place of prestige in the international defence sector.

Defence Corridors in India: A Felt Need

The pressing need for defence corridors in India arises from several interconnected factors that underscore the critical importance of enhancing indigenous defence manufacturing. As a nation striving for self-reliance in its defence capabilities, India must address its historical reliance on foreign defence imports, technological gaps, and the imperative to bolster its national security.

- **Historical Dependence on Imports:** In the past, India has been among the world's largest importers of arms, outsourcing the majority of its defence requirements. Again, it does this while also putting both national security at risk and compromising supply chain weaknesses particularly in periods of geo political tension. The policy of integrated manufacturing defence



corridors is intended to counterbalance this trend through the development of strong domestic defence industry with enough potential to satisfy the security needs of the country.

- **Technological Advancement and Innovation:** To enhance indigenous defence manufacturing, India must address significant technological gaps that exist between her and leading global defence producers such as the United States, Russia, and Israel. The current defence landscape is characterized by rapid technological advancements, including artificial intelligence, robotics, and advanced materials. By establishing defence corridors, India can create an ecosystem conducive to research and development (R&D) activities to develop indigenous technologies and also encourage collaboration between academia and industry.

- **Economic Growth and Job Creation:** The economic implications of enhancing indigenous defence manufacturing through defence corridors are substantial. The corridors are expected to create significant employment opportunities, which will be crucial for India's growing workforce. The table below emphasises the need for successful establishment and operation of these corridors.

| Metric | Projected Impact |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Employment Generation | 1 million jobs by 2025 |
| Increase in Defence Exports | \$5 billion by 2025 |
| Contribution to GDP | 1% increase by 2025 |
| Number of New Startups | 500 startups in the defence sector |

Table 1: Potential Economic Impact of Defence Corridors

- **Strengthening National Security:** Enhancing indigenous defence manufacturing is not merely an economic or technological imperative; it is fundamentally linked to national security. As India faces an increasingly complex security environment with threats from neighbouring countries, self-reliance in defence production will empower India to respond more effectively to emerging challenges. A robust indigenous defence sector will enable India to maintain strategic autonomy, ensuring that decisions regarding national security are made independently, without undue reliance on foreign suppliers.

Defence Corridors in India: Strategic Objectives

The establishment of defence corridors in India serves as a strategic initiative aimed at transforming the defence manufacturing landscape. The strategic objectives which defence corridors can achieve are enumerated in following paragraphs.



Boosting Self-Reliance in Defence Production: Aligning with 'Atmanirbhar Bharat': The concept of **Atmanirbhar Bharat** emphasizes the need for the country to develop its own capabilities in various sectors and defence corridors are pivotal in this regard, as they facilitate:

- **Indigenous Manufacturing:** By promoting the development of domestic defence equipment, India aims to decrease its reliance on foreign suppliers. This shift not only strengthens national security but also creates a sustainable ecosystem for innovation and technology development within the country.
- **Investment in R&D:** Greater focus on R&D within the defence corridors boosts innovation. Government support for startups and MSMEs in the defence sector is crucial for fostering an environment conducive to technological advancements.

Fostering Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) in the Defence Sector: Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) are essential for achieving the ambitious goals of defence corridors. The following advantages accrue from collaboration between the government and private entities:

- **Resource Mobilization:** Private companies bring in capital, expertise, and advanced technologies, which can accelerate the development of defence capabilities. The government, in turn, can provide policy support and regulatory facilitation to streamline processes.
- **Shared Risks and Benefits:** PPPs enable the sharing of risks associated with defence projects, leading to more efficient and effective use of resources. By fostering an environment of cooperation, both sectors can work together to achieve common objectives.

Reducing Reliance on Defence Imports and Increasing Exports: One of the primary objectives of the defence corridors is to diminish India's heavy reliance on defence imports:

- **Strengthening Supply Chains:** By enhancing domestic production, India can create robust supply chains that are less vulnerable to external shocks. In particular, this approach allows minimising the risks that stem from geopolitical tensions and interruptions to global supply chains.
- **Expanding Defence Exports:** As India becomes more self-sufficient in defence production, it opens up opportunities for exporting indigenous defence equipment to other countries. This not only generates revenue but also enhances India's standing in the global defence market.

Supporting (SMEs): The Backbone of Indigenous Defence Production: SMEs play a crucial role in the defence corridors:

- **Innovation and Agility:** SMEs are often more agile and innovative compared to larger firms. By integrating SMEs into the defence manufacturing ecosystem, the corridors can leverage their creativity and adaptability to meet the dynamic demands of the defence sector.
- **Employment Generation:** Supporting SMEs leads to job creation, which is vital for economic growth. The defence corridors aim to provide a conducive environment for these enterprises to flourish, thereby contributing to the overall defence manufacturing capability of the country.



Defence Corridors in India: Key Components

India's defence corridors are designed to establish a comprehensive framework for enhancing the country's defence manufacturing capabilities. This section examines the key components that underpin these corridors, focusing on infrastructure development, research and development (R&D), the role of MSMEs and startups, and government support and policies.

Infrastructure Development: Industrial Parks, Testing Facilities, and Supply Chain Integration: Robust infrastructure is fundamental to the success of defence corridors. Key elements include:

- **Industrial Parks:** Dedicated industrial parks are being developed within the defence corridors to house manufacturing units. These parks are strategically located to facilitate easy access to resources, skilled labour, and transportation networks.
- **Testing Facilities:** To ensure the quality and reliability of defence equipment, state-of-the-art testing facilities are essential. These facilities allow for rigorous testing of products before they are commissioned into service. The establishment of such facilities within the corridors helps maintain high standards and enhances the credibility of indigenous products.
- **Supply Chain Integration:** Efficient supply chains are crucial for timely production and delivery of defence equipment. The corridors aim to create an integrated supply chain involving multiple stakeholders, including manufacturers, suppliers, and logistics providers. This integration reduces delays and enhances operational efficiency.

Research and Development (R&D): Role of Innovation Hubs and Defence Tech Clusters: R&D is a cornerstone of India's defence modernization efforts:

- **Innovation Hubs:** The defence corridors are fostering the establishment of innovation hubs that promote collaboration between academia, industry, and government. These hubs are incubators for new ideas and technologies, facilitating knowledge transfer and innovation.
- **Defence Tech Clusters:** By creating specialized defence tech clusters, the corridors encourage focused R&D efforts in critical areas such as aerospace, electronics, and cybersecurity. These clusters attract talent and investment, driving advancements that are vital for national security.

Role of MSMEs and Startups: Driving Innovation and Cost-Effective Production: Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) and startups are integral to the defence corridors:

- **Driving Innovation:** MSMEs are often at the forefront of innovation, developing unique solutions that meet specific defence needs. Their agility allows them to adapt quickly to changing requirements, making them invaluable partners in defence production.
- **Cost-Effective Production:** Startups and MSMEs can offer cost-effective production solutions, helping to reduce overall costs associated with defence procurement. By leveraging their expertise in niche areas, these enterprises contribute to a more competitive defence manufacturing landscape. The table below illustrates the impact of government support and the impact on MSMEs.



| Type of Incentive | Description | Impact on MSMEs |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Tax Benefits | Reduced tax rates for defence production units | Encourages investment and growth |
| Grants for R&D | Financial support for research initiatives | Fosters innovation and technology |
| Financial Assistance | Loans and subsidies for setting up manufacturing | Reduces initial financial burden |
| Special Economic Zones (SEZ) | Tax exemptions and easier regulations | Attracts more private players |

Table 2: Government Incentives for Defence Manufacturing in India

Government Support and Policies: Incentives, Subsidies, and Defence Procurement Reforms:

The government plays a crucial role in facilitating the growth of defence corridors:

- **Incentives and Subsidies:** To attract investment and promote manufacturing, the government provides various incentives and subsidies. These include tax benefits, grants for R&D, and financial assistance for setting up manufacturing units within the corridors.
- **Defence Procurement Reforms:** Reforms in defence procurement processes are essential to streamline the acquisition of indigenous products. By simplifying procedures and enhancing transparency, the government aims to create a more favourable environment for domestic manufacturers.

India's Defence Corridors: An Overview

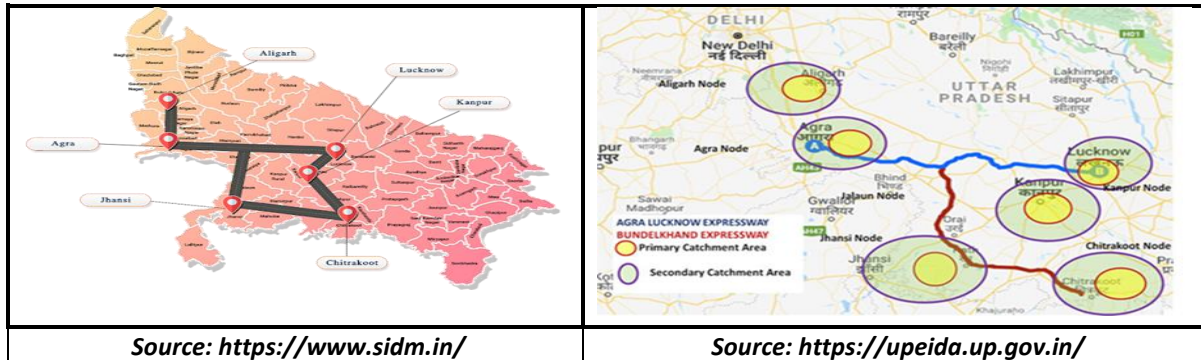
In the Indian context, the establishment of defence corridors is a strategic initiative introduced to mitigate the historical dependence on defence imports and bolster domestic manufacturing capabilities. The Indian government has set up two primary defence corridors: the Tamil Nadu Defence Corridor and the Uttar Pradesh Defence Corridor. It intends to provide a conducive atmosphere to the defence production by encouraging the investment in the sector, improving the infrastructural facilities, and synergizing the efforts of various Critical defence production sectors such as Central/State PSUs, Indian private enterprises, Academic Institutes etc.

Uttar Pradesh Defence Industrial Corridor (UPDIC)

The Uttar Pradesh Defence Industrial Corridor (UPDIC) aspires to turn Uttar Pradesh into the defence manufacturing frontier of India mastering the strategic opportunity offered by its six clusters – Aligarh, Agra, Kanpur, Chitrakoot, Jhansi and Lucknow. Each node has been selected for its resource endowment, industry experience, and strategic location; Aligarh for producing small arms, Kanpur for leather and textile based military accessories, Agra and Jhansi for producing vehicles. UPEIDA act as the nodal agency which cooperate the development of infrastructure facilities, formulation of policies and regulate investment for imparting smooth environment for the manufacturing of the defence products. This corridor has already sparked substantial demand,



with investment commitments of over Rs 28,258 crore, of which Rs 3,727 crore has actually been made. UPDIC supports such central government schemes as ‘Atmanirbhar Bharat’ and ‘Make in India’ to help curb the dependence on imports, bring positive socio-economic change within the state, focus on establishing technology-intensive defence production and industries.



Uttar Pradesh: Potential Destination

- **Economic Potential:** Uttar Pradesh is the fourth-largest state, fourth-largest economy, and amongst top five manufacturing and exporting states in India.
- **Labor Force:** With a population exceeding 200 million, the state has one of the highest labour forces available for manufacturing activities.
- **MSME Landscape:** Uttar Pradesh ranks first in the number of MSMEs in India, which is vital for promoting indigenous defence production.
- **Ease of Doing Business:** The state ranks second in the Ease of Doing Business (EoDB) index, showcasing a conducive environment for defence manufacturing.
- **Connectivity:** Uttar Pradesh is well connected with Western and Eastern dedicated freight corridors.
- **Educational Hub:** The state has 53 universities, 4345 colleges and 168 polytechnics, along with premier institutes like IIT and IIM.
- **Defence Production:** The state already has nine OFBs and three HAL facilities manufacturing defence equipment.

UPDIC: Initiatives

- **Establishment of Centres of Excellence (CoE):** IIT Kanpur and IIT Banaras Hindu University have been approved to establish Centres of Excellence related to the Defence Industrial Corridor. Each institute has been allocated ₹2 crore against a total approved amount of ₹50 crore and ₹69 crore, respectively, in the financial year 2018-19.
- **Employment Promotion Policy:** The Uttar Pradesh Government has published the Uttar Pradesh Defence and Aerospace Unit and Employment Promotion Policy (First Amendment) 2019, aimed at attracting investments to the defence corridor. This policy creates a favourable environment for businesses, facilitating their entry and growth in the defence sector.



- **Guidelines for Land Allotment:** The publication of guidelines for the allotment of industrial plots in the defence corridor has streamlined land acquisition processes. This initiative is crucial for ensuring that manufacturing units can set up operations without undue delay.
- **MoUs Signed:** A total of 68 Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) has been signed between the Uttar Pradesh Expressways Industrial Development Authority (UPEIDA) and various companies, facilitating the establishment of manufacturing units at the corridor's nodes.
- **Collaboration with Indian Navy:** A significant MoU was signed between UPEIDA and the Indian Navy on August 13, 2020, aimed at identifying problem areas within the defence sector, finding solutions, and fostering manufacturing through Indian industry.

Tamil Nadu Defence Industrial Corridor (TNDIC)

The TNDIC inaugurated in 2019, is designed to create a robust ecosystem for defence production within the state, capitalizing on its existing industrial strengths and technological capabilities. TNDIC encompasses five key locations: Chennai, Tiruchirappalli, Coimbatore, Salem, and Hosur and Tamil Nadu Industrial Development Corporation (TIDCO) serves as the nodal agency responsible for executing this project in collaboration with various state agencies. TN DIC has so far attracted an investment of Rs 21,825Cr and amount of Rs 4,604Cr has already been invested.



Tamil Nadu: Potential Destination: Tamil Nadu has been strategically chosen for the defence corridor due to several factors:

- **Economic Potential:** Tamil Nadu is second in terms of GDP, highest number of factories in India and 113 already existing industrial estates.
- **Labor Force:** The state has above 80 % literacy rate with 1.75 lakh engineers and 72000 ITI technicians passing out annually as skilled labour for manufacturing activities.
- **MSME Landscape:** Tamil Nadu has second highest number of MSMEs in India, which is vital for promoting indigenous defence production.



- **Investments:** The state is the most preferred destination for FDI from Korean investors.
- **Connectivity:** The state has four international airports and four major and twenty two minor ports. Chennai is connected globally by three submarine cables providing a bandwidth of 14.8 Tbps.
- **Educational Hub:** The state has 59 universities, 3090 colleges, 578 ITIs and 518 polytechnics, along with premier institutes like IIT and IIM.
- **Defence Production:** The state already has more than 120 aerospace manufacturing companies and more than 700 suppliers to DPSUs.

TNDIC: Initiatives

- **Aerospace & Defence (A&D) Industrial Parks:** To set up eight A&D industrial parks in the field of, space, helicopter MRO, defence electronics, aircraft components, defence component manufacturing military aircraft assembly and A&D (R&D and manufacturing) for ease of doing business.
- **Centre of Excellence:** Establishment of three CoEs for adopting futuristic and emerging technologies like, advanced manufacturing, additive manufacturing, 3D printing and industry 4.0.
- **Promote Clusters with Necessary Infrastructure:** The corridor focuses on developing industrial clusters that encompass not just manufacturing but also the requisite testing and certification facilities.
- **Export Facilitation Centres:** To enhance India's defence exports, the corridor includes dedicated centres for export facilitation. These centres will streamline processes and provide support for manufacturers looking to tap into international markets.
- **Technology Transfer Facilitation:** Corridor aims to facilitate technology transfer agreements between domestic manufacturers and foreign companies, ensuring that Indian manufacturers have access to the latest technologies in defence production.

Defence Corridors: Challenges

While the establishment of defence corridors in India presents numerous opportunities for enhancing domestic defence production, several challenges impede their successful implementation and scalability. This section delves into the significant hurdles that must be addressed to realize the full potential of these initiatives.

Bureaucratic Hurdles and Land Acquisition Delays: One of the foremost challenges faced in the establishment of defence corridors is the bureaucratic red tape associated with land acquisition and approvals.



- **Land Acquisition Delays:** Securing land for industrial development is often a lengthy and complicated process, marred by legal disputes, resistance from local communities, and lengthy regulatory procedures. These delays can stall projects and deter potential investors.
- **Bureaucratic Inefficiencies:** The multifaceted nature of defence projects means that approvals must come from various government departments, leading to delays in clearances. Streamlining the approval processes and reducing the layers of bureaucracy is essential for speeding up development.

Infrastructure Development and Logistics Issues: Infrastructure development is crucial for the successful operation of defence corridors, but several logistical challenges hinder progress:

- **Inadequate Infrastructure:** The existing infrastructure in many regions may not meet the demands of modern defence manufacturing. The lack of industrial parks, testing facilities, and reliable transportation networks can impede the establishment of effective defence corridors.
- **Logistics Bottlenecks:** Efficient supply chain management is critical for defence manufacturing. Issues such as transportation delays, inadequate warehousing facilities, and challenges in integrating logistics networks can hamper the timely delivery of materials and components needed for production.

Funding Constraints for MSMEs and Startups: Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) and startups play a pivotal role in India's defence ecosystem, yet they face several funding-related challenges:

- **Limited Access to Capital:** Many MSMEs struggle to access sufficient funding due to a lack of collateral, high-interest rates, and stringent lending criteria from financial institutions. This limits their ability to invest in technology and infrastructure.
- **Need for Incentives:** The government has introduced various schemes to support MSMEs, but more targeted financial incentives, such as grants, low-interest loans, and tax benefits, are needed to stimulate growth in the defence manufacturing sector.

Coordination Between Central and State Governments: Effective coordination between central and state governments is crucial for the successful implementation of defence corridors:

- **Policy Alignment:** There may be inconsistencies in policies and regulations between different levels of government, which can lead to confusion and inefficiencies. Harmonizing policies to align with national defence objectives is essential for smooth operations.
- **Joint Initiatives:** Encouraging collaboration between central and state governments in areas such as infrastructure development, skill training, and regulatory frameworks can help address the challenges faced in establishing and scaling defence corridors.

Less Involvement of Private Players: There is a concerning over-concentration of defence orders with public sector enterprises, which leads to bottlenecks and queues, while private players often receive limited orders. This situation stifles innovation and competitiveness in the defence sector.



Human Resource Limitations: The unavailability of skilled and talented human resources poses a significant challenge. A well-trained workforce is essential for the defence manufacturing ecosystem to thrive.

Defence Corridors: Opportunities and Future Prospects

The establishment of defence corridors in India opens up a multitude of opportunities for enhancing indigenous defence production and positioning India as a global player in the defence sector. This section explores the promising avenues that can be leveraged to build a robust and self-reliant defence ecosystem.

Expanding Global Collaborations and Defence Trade: Joint Ventures and Technology Transfer: To strengthen India's position in the global defence landscape, expanding collaborations and engaging in defence trade with other nations is crucial.

- **Joint Ventures:** Forming strategic partnerships with foreign defence manufacturers can facilitate knowledge exchange, access to advanced technologies, and shared investments. These collaborations can lead to the co-production of defence equipment, thereby enhancing local capabilities while reducing dependence on imports.
- **Technology Transfer Agreements:** Establishing technology transfer agreements can allow Indian defence manufacturers to acquire advanced technologies necessary for indigenous production. Such initiatives can foster innovation and create high-skilled jobs within the country.

Role of Defence Startups: Driving Innovation and New-Age Defence Technologies: India's vibrant startup ecosystem can play a transformative role in advancing defence technologies and manufacturing:

- **Innovation Hubs:** Defence startups can act as innovation hubs, focusing on emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence (AI), unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs), and cybersecurity solutions. Their agility and creativity can drive the development of cutting-edge defence solutions tailored to meet India's specific security needs.
- **Collaborative Initiatives:** Encouraging collaborations between established defence manufacturers and startups can help integrate innovative solutions into mainstream defence production, fostering a culture of innovation within the sector.

Future Policy Reforms: Strengthening India's Defence Manufacturing Ecosystem: For India to fully capitalize on the opportunities presented by defence corridors, future policy reforms are essential:

- **Streamlined Procurement Processes:** Simplifying defence procurement procedures can attract more private players to participate in defence manufacturing. A transparent and efficient procurement framework can enhance competitiveness and reduce costs.
- **Enhanced Incentives for MSMEs:** Providing targeted incentives, such as grants and subsidies for research and development, can empower MSMEs to innovate and compete in the defence sector. Strengthening the financial support structure will foster the growth of indigenous manufacturers.



Expanding Defence Corridors Beyond Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh: While the current focus is on the defence corridors in Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh, there is immense potential for expansion:

- **Identifying New Locations:** Other states with a strong industrial base and skilled workforce, such as Maharashtra, Karnataka, and Gujarat, can be explored for establishing additional defence corridors. This geographic expansion can enhance local manufacturing capabilities and promote regional development.
- **Integrated Defence Ecosystems:** Establishing a network of defence corridors across different states can create an integrated defence manufacturing ecosystem, facilitating synergies among manufacturers, research institutions, and government agencies.

Conclusion

From this analysis of defence corridors in India, it has been ascertained that they have a central role in enhancing the defence industrial base of India. These corridors that are currently being developed have the mission of influencing indigenous manufacturing by intending to lessen the defence imports from different countries in addition, there is a plan of developing a healthy ecosystem for the defence structure which involves both the public and private sectors. There are a lot of developments like formation of infrastructure, research and developmental centers and encouraging policies that has been built up in order to form India as a strong force in the defense system. It has been evident from the implementation of these corridors in states like Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh that the corridors act as a portal of indigenous production and it comes out as major factor for fulfilling Indian defence requirements as well as help to become a player in the global export market on defence equipment.

Apart from contributing to India's defence production, the said corridors are capable to encouraging economic development and innovation in general. This way, defence corridors initiate loop of industry-academia interaction which fosters innovation and knowledge diffusion accentuated by longed frontiers of- artificial intelligence, robotics, and new age materials. Such innovations are reasonably frequently used not only in the defence industry but also in aerospace, electronics, automotive industry, and even in some other industries and fields. Moreover the potential for joint venture, technology transfer and foreign direct investment grows as India consolidates its position in the defence manufacturing ecosystem and develops skilled workforce. In the end, Indian defence corridors signify a transition to a new era of indigenisation and technological sovereignty and make India not only a prime maker of defensive hardware and systems but also a shaper of the further progress of the Fourth Industrial Revolution on a global level.



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