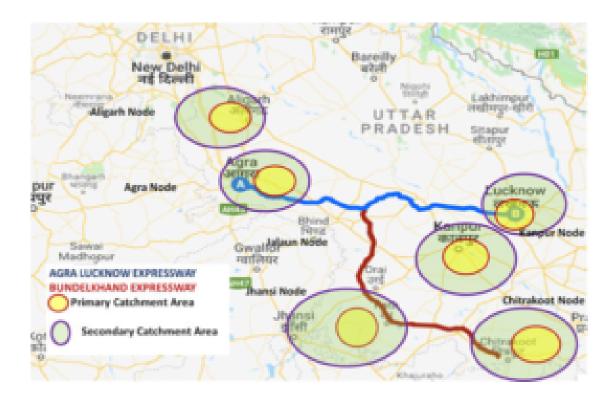
## Bundelkhand and Defence Industrial Corridor

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In news: Recently, the Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister highlighted Defence Industrial Corridor in UP and its consequential benefits for Bundelkhand

## About UP Defence Industrial Corridor(UP DIC)

- As announced in the Union Budget of 2018-19, Defence Industrial Corridor in Uttar Pradesh is the one of the two Defence Industrial Corridors of India. Another one is in Tamil Nadu
- UP DIC is an aspirational project that intends to reduce foreign dependency of Indian Aerospace & Defence Sector.
- Aim: This Corridor aims to bring up the state as one of the largest & advanced Defence manufacturing hubs and put it on the world map
- Nodal Agency: The Uttar Pradesh Expressways Industrial Development Authority (UPEIDA)
- Cities covered under UP DIC: Planned across 6 nodes namely — Lucknow, Kanpur, Jhansi, Agra Aligarh, Chitrakoot, which spreads across Central, East, West region of Uttar Pradesh and along the Golden Quadrilateral connecting Delhi — Kolkata supported by networks of expressways as under:
  - Yamuna Expressway
  - Agra Lucknow Expressway
  - Purvanchal Expressway
  - Bundelkhand Expressway
  - Gorakhpur Link Expressway
  - Ganga Expressway



- The state also intends to establish Common Facility Centres (CFC), Centres of Excellence (CoE) and Skill Development Centres to facilitate in providing best practices, research and development and skill development.
- Hence, the envisaged corridor not only targets the setting up of manufacturing hubs but also aims at generating employment opportunities to cater to the most populous state in the country.

## Strategy of UP DIC

- Expanding the Ordnance factories in the state
- Mobilising Private investments
- Mobilising the SME ecosystem in the state
- Bridging the market gaps and connect the ancillary units in the state to meet the requirements of Defence PSUs
- Developing the export oriented manufacturing base for defence sector

## **Bundelkhand** area

 It is a geographical and cultural region and also a mountain range in central & North India.

- The hilly region is now divided between the states of Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh, with the larger portion lying in the latter state
- As understood by the state governments of Uttar Pradesh (UP) and Madhya Pradesh (MP), 'Bundelkhand' comprises seven districts of southern UP and six districts of northern MP:
  - Jhansi, Lalitpur, Jalaun, Hamirpur, Mahoba, Banda,
    Chitrakoot districts (all in UP), and
  - Datia, Tikamgarh, Chhatarpur, Panna, Sagar and Damoh districts (all in MP).
- The above delineation is different from boundaries suggested by proponents of a 'greater' or 'cultural' Bundelkhand, who include many more districts of MP.