Foundation laid in Assam for Northeast's first defence unit

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News

Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma on 25 Nov 2026 laid the foundation stone of the Northeast's first defence manufacturing unit at Tulsibari, Rangia (Kamrup district), in the AIDC Industrial Estate. Mumbai-based Speed4 Defence Systems Pvt Ltd will invest about ₹50 crore on 14 acres to make drones, counter-drone systems, prefabricated structures and underground bunkers for the armed forces, working with IIT Guwahati. Production is targeted to start by January 2028.

Key facts for the exam

Point	Details
Place	Tulsibari, Rangia, Kamrup district, Assam
Company	Speed4 Defence Systems Pvt Ltd
Products	Drones, counter-drone systems, bunkers, prefab structures
Related	Defence Park planned at Jagiroad (Morigaon)

Background

- India's push for self-reliance in defence includes positive indigenisation lists, the Defence Acquisition Procedure 2020 and iDEX (Innovations for Defence Excellence, 2018). Assam has an Aerospace and Defence Manufacturing Policy, 2025.

- India has two Defence Industrial Corridors: Uttar Pradesh and Tamil Nadu (both announced in 2018).

Tamil Nadu link: The Tamil Nadu Defence Industrial Corridor has nodes at Chennai, Hosur, Coimbatore, Salem and Tiruchirappalli; Chennai also hosts the Heavy Vehicles Factory, Avadi, which builds battle tanks.

Frequently asked questions

What is this news about?

Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma on 25 Nov 2026 laid the foundation stone of the Northeast's first defence manufacturing unit at Tulsibari, Rangia (Kamrup district), in the AIDC Industrial Estate.

What are the key facts to remember for the exam?

Place: Tulsibari, Rangia, Kamrup district, Assam; Company: Speed4 Defence Systems Pvt Ltd; Products: Drones, counter-drone systems, bunkers, prefab structures; Related: Defence Park planned at Jagiroad (Morigaon).

What is the background to this news?

India's push for self-reliance in defence includes positive indigenisation lists, the Defence Acquisition Procedure 2020 and iDEX (Innovations for Defence Excellence, 2018).

Practice questions (with answers)

1. Where was the foundation stone laid for the Northeast's first defence manufacturing unit?

A) Jorhat, Assam

B) Rangia, Assam

C) Shillong, Meghalaya

D) Imphal, Manipur

Answer: B – Explanation: Speed4 Defence Systems Pvt Ltd is building it in the AIDC Industrial Estate at Tulsibari, Rangia.

2. What will the Rangia unit mainly make?

A) Drones, counter-drone systems and bunkers

B) Submarines

C) Fighter-jet engines

D) Warships

Answer: A – Explanation: It will also make prefabricated structures and work with IIT Guwahati.

3. India's two Defence Industrial Corridors are in which States?

A) Gujarat and Maharashtra

B) Assam and Odisha

C) Karnataka and Telangana

D) Uttar Pradesh and Tamil Nadu

Answer: D – Explanation: Both were announced in 2018; the TN corridor has nodes at Chennai, Hosur, Coimbatore, Salem and Tiruchirappalli.

4. The Heavy Vehicles Factory (HVF) at Avadi, Chennai is known for making

A) Fighter aircraft

B) Submarines

C) Only rifles

D) Battle tanks (including Arjun)

Answer: D – Explanation: Tanks such as Arjun and T-90 are built at Avadi.

5. The defence initiative 'iDEX' aims to

A) Pay soldiers' pensions

B) Build border roads

C) Fund defence start-ups

D) Run an arms export exchange

Answer: C – Explanation: iDEX (Innovations for Defence Excellence) was launched in 2018.