Samtel expands into space tech & drone manufacturing with ₹200 crore investment

By Manu Pubby, ET Bureau Last Updated: Mar 18, 2026, 12:02:00 AM IST

Synopsis
Samtel, a key player in India's defence avionics landscape, is setting its sights on the next frontier: space technologies and drone manufacturing. With a substantial investment exceeding ₹200 crore, the company is assembling specialized teams to innovate in areas like anti-drone systems and low Earth orbit satellites. The goal? To create advanced long-endurance drones and robust maintenance solutions.



Samtel eyes order book of ₹1,000-cr

New Delhi: **Indian defence avionics** company **Samtel** is expanding into **space technologies** and **drone manufacturing** and has set aside a budget of over ₹200 crore to diversify its product line over the coming years.

The company, which already makes defence electronics and is involved in indigenous programmes like the Advanced Light Helicopter and the Light Combat Helicopter, has created new teams to develop drone and **anti-drone systems**, as well as **low earth orbit satellites**.

A new drone division has been created that will focus on indigenous platforms with proprietary intellectual property. It plans to build long-endurance drones and establish long-term maintenance, repair and overhaul capabilities for unmanned systems.

In the space sector, it plans to develop low-earth orbit and miniature satellites and the first space project is expected to begin within the next few months. "We are looking to expand in space tech, particularly in LEO and space debris clearing mechanisms... I can say that there cannot be a better time for companies in this sector than today," said Puneet Kaura, CEO and MD of Samtel, which is targeting a ₹1,000-crore order book, on the back of domestic and global markets.

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