

KERALA TAKES ONLINE ROUTE TO END DELAY IN CLEARING INVESTMENTS

KERALA'S BID TO PROMOTE DEFENCE MANUFACTURING

Aero India 2019, the bi-annual Aero-India show held in Bengaluru, had representation from Kerala with KINFRA setting up its stall at the exhibition held as part of the event. Tom Jose IAS, Kerala Chief Secretary, inaugurated the stall at Yelahanka Air Force Station. The strength and capabilities of defence and aerospace manufacturing sectors and the opportunities they offer, were showcased at the Kerala stall which hosted representatives of all public sector undertakings of the State.

Wg. Cdr. K A Santhosh Kumar, MD, KINFRA made an elaborate presentation on the opportunities at KINFRA Defence Park during the technical session titled, 'Kerala Opportunities in Defence Manufacturing'. KINFRA Defence Park is a first-of-its-kind greenfield Manufacturing Cluster in the country, financially supported by the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP), Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Govt. of India under the Modified Industrial Infrastructure Upgradation Scheme (MIUS).

"The participation in Aero India 2019 by KINFRA has provided us a great opportunity to market the Defence Park. This particular sector has been the target sector of the Park and a lot of preparations have been made to attract budding investors to the Defence Park," said Santhosh Kumar.

He also spoke about the possibilities of the proposed Aerospace Park in Kannur, and a presentation on the expansion plans of Bharat Earth Movers Limited (BEML) was also made.



KERALA SHOWCASED ITS STRENGTH, CAPABILITIES AND OPPORTUNITIES IN THE DEFENCE AND AEROSPACE MANUFACTURING SECTORS AT THE AERO INDIA 2019

Santhosh Kumar said Kerala is a top-notch investment destination where entrepreneurs from India and abroad can set up a wide array of enterprises in a speedy and hassle-free manner with minimum bureaucratic interventions. "For fast and transparent clearances the government has developed IBPMS (Intelligent Building Plan Management System), and K-SWIFT (Kerala Single Window Interface for Fast, Transparent Clearances), an online clearance mechanism. The two systems will simplify and speed up issuance of clearances from Departments/Agencies for launching enterprises in the State," he added.

Officials from Rubber Research Institute of India, Defence Production, Cochin Shipyard, TRACO Cable, Kerala Electrical & Allied Engineering (KEL) and KELTRON also made presentations at the exhibition.

The stall was basically meant to showcase the capabilities of Kerala, particularly in the field of defence and aerospace.

Dr. K Ellangovan IAS, Principal Secretary, Industries and Commerce, Government of Kerala; K N Sriku- mar, Senior Media Advisor, KINFRA; Dr. T Unnikrishnan, General Manager, KINFRA; V R Balu, Manager - Business Development & Marketing, KINFRA and representatives of KELTRON, KEL, Steel Industries & Forging and TRACO Cable were also present at the inaugural function.

A high-level delegation from Kerala comprising Chief Secretary, Principal Secretary, Industries and Commerce; Director, Industries and Commerce; MDs of promotional agencies, representatives of State PSUs catering to defence and aerospace sector, among others, participated in the Aero India 2019.

Urging the Kerala industrial sector to focus on investments to boost manufacturing, Pinarayi Vijayan, Kerala Chief Minister, launched K-SWIFT (Kerala Single Window Interface for Fast, Transparent Clearances), an online clearance mechanism to ensure approval of investment proposals within 30 days of application.

The ambitious single-window system which is expected to complement the 'ease-of-doing-business' factor in Kerala was inaugurated at ASCEND Kerala 2019, a mega event organised by the State Government to promote Kerala as an investment hotspot.

Noting that K-SWIFT complements the efforts being made to rebuild Kerala, the Chief Minister urged the officials to change their attitude towards entrepreneurs. In this context, he said, the 30-day time limit, which is applicable from village office to the Secretariat-level, may be reduced to even 15 days in future.

"Kerala economy has been a consumerist one where lots of products have buyers, but not much of production is happening in the State. This has to change," he told delegates at LuLu International Convention Centre, Grand Hyatt, Bolgatty.

The Chief Minister also released an 'Invest Kerala Guide' brought out by the Kerala Government's Department of Industries and Commerce at the event.

Speaking on the occasion, E P Jayarajan, State Industries Minister, said ASCEND Kerala 2019 was part of the State Government's efforts to form an industry network in the State. Pointing out that a "new era" has dawned on Kerala's industrial sector, he said any delay in taking steps on the online applications would attract serious actions against the departments and officials.



K-SWIFT, THE SINGLE WINDOW SYSTEM, AIMED AT BOOSTING 'EASE OF DOING BUSINESS' IN KERALA WAS UNVEILED AT ASCEND KERALA 2019

"Specific industrial parks will be set up in both private and public sectors based on the types of industries. In rural areas, the area limit will be 25 acres. The urban parks will have 15 acres," he added.

The Minister said that around 36,000 MSME (Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises) units have been established in the State in two-and-a-half years, generating 1,24,000 jobs. Jayarajan also launched the portal of 'Invest Kerala' that includes details about IBPMS (Intelligent Building Plan Management System).

Dr. K Ellangovan IAS, Principal Secretary, Industries and Commerce, gave a presentation on ASCEND Kerala 2019, and said Kerala is the only State in the country that has amended all existing rules to streamline and encourage its industrial sector.

Tom Jose IAS, Chief Secretary, Govt. of Kerala, said in his welcome address that the industrial sector's motto is to convert job-seekers into entrepreneurs.

Sandip Somany, National President, FICCI said that Kerala topped national rankings in sectors such as startups, food processing and technology. R Dinesh, CII Chairman (Southern Region) said Kerala has a unique advantage in knowledge-based industries.

Entrepreneurs, industry captains and representatives, administrators, policy-makers and top industry department officials, besides senior functionaries of local bodies were also present.