

KINFRA Day 2015 celebrated with the launch of KINFRA Day Lectures

KINFRA, the true success story in the industrial development of Kerala: CM Oommen Chandy

Trivandrum: More and more KINFRA Parks are required all across the State so that the industrial development of Kerala can be given new focus and direction, according to Sri. Oommen Chandy, Chief Minister. He was inaugurating the KINFRA Day celebrations held here on March 6, 2015. The event was organised to highlight KINFRA's valuable contributions



to the developmental aspirations of the State over the past 22 years since its founding as the pioneering industrial infrastructure development effort at national level in the public sector.

Lauding KINFRA as a success story, the Chief Minister noted that the organisation has played a major role in promoting medium and small scale industries in the State.

Addressing the gathering, Sri. P.K. Kunhalikutty, Minister-Industries, said that KINFRA now has to move to the next stage and become the hub of major developmental efforts in the State.

Sri. Ashok K Lahiri, Chairman of the high-level committee to interact with trade and industry on tax laws, Gol & Former Executive Director of the Asian Development Bank, delivered the first of the series of lectures held as part of KINFRA Day celebrations. He delivered the talk on 'Tax reforms and infrastructure investments to boost economic growth'. Delving deep into the basic essentials for ensuring industrial development, Dr. Lahiri said that the need for better infrastructure, such as roads, water supply or power, is not only for improving the standard of living in terms of comfort, but also for boosting growth. How can you set up a manufacturing unit if there is no assured power supply, or water supply, or roads and railways to bring in the raw materials or send your outputs, he asked "Economic growth, I believe, cannot be boosted without stepping up infrastructure investment. The country has to improve its infrastructure and have more infrastructure investment. What we need to do is to do an in-depth analysis of what is holding up such investments. A knee-jerk reaction that it is the absence of tax incentives that is the main reason may not be



appropriate. Tax concessions tend to complicate tax administration, make it more adversarial and increase compliance costs. We must pursue reforms to provide a genuine non adversarial and conducive tax environment; provide clarity in tax laws; improve the Dispute Resolution Mechanism for tax matters; remove the sting of retrospectivity; and expedite tax refunds not only for the benefit of infrastructure but also for all sectors of the economy. For infrastructure, which is critical, we may provide tax incentives, but only after making sure that such incentives are absolutely essential for attracting infrastructure investments.



Sri. K.M. Chandrasekhar, Vice Chairman-State Planning Board, Sri. Jiji Thomson, Chairman-KINFRA & Chief Secretary, Sri. G.C. Gopala Pillai, MD-KINFRA and Sri. K. Sudhakaran, GM-Projects, KINFRA spoke on the occasion.

Sri. Bharat Bushan, former Chief Secretary handed over the Memento to Dr. Ashok Kumar Lahiri.

Dr Ashok Kumar Lahiri is a political analyst who has conducted extensive studies of electoral behavior in India, and also has extensive experience in Indian policy and decision making. He previously served as Chief Economic Adviser for the Department of Economic Affairs of Ministry of Finance of India, and has held advisory and consulting roles with international organizations including the Asian Development Bank (ADB), the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund.

Apna Ghar Project in KINFRA, Palakkad

Palakkad: Bhavanam Foundation Kerala (BFK), a State Government undertaking has launched a scheme titled Apna Ghar Project and is being implemented as a pilot initiative in Palakkad district on land provided on 30 year lease by KINFRA Integrated Industrial & Textile Park (IITP) here in Kanjikode.

The scheme aims at providing domestic migrant labourers in the State with dwelling units that are hygienic and clean at a reasonable weekly or monthly rent through the employer/contractor who is operating in the KINFRA IITP and surrounding areas.

Presently more than 40% employees are migrant labourers. The trend of engaging other State employees is more due to the shortage of labour cadre employees in the State. Thus the scheme proposes to ensure adequate dwelling units to the domestic migrant labourers in Kanjikode area. The scheme envisages the construction of rental accommodation for 850 Domestic Migrant



APNA GHAR
A PROJECT FOR PROVIDING DWELLING UNITS FOR DOMESTIC MIGRANT LABOUR (DML)



Labourers (DML) in a location. The rental accommodation will have 4 beds per room of 10x10 sq.ft. (25 sq.ft. per person). There would be a common kitchen, toilets and bathrooms and common area for a block of 8 rooms or 32 persons. The total average area proposed would be 40 sq.ft. per person. The cost per square foot for construction (exclusive of land) would be Rs. 60,000 per person.

KINFRA looms large in Kerala Budget 2015-'16

Trivandrum: KINFRA deservingly garnered special mention in several proposals for the department of Industries & Commerce in the Kerala State Budget for fiscal 2015-'16, presented in the State legislature on March 13, 2015.

From the budget speech: It is proposed to set up basic infrastructure facilities for new projects under KINFRA like Mega Food Park at Palakkad, Footwear Park at Ramanattukara, Gems & Jewellery Park at Puzhakkal, Spices Park at Thodupuzha, Nano Tech Zone at High Tech Park, Kalamassery and Film & Video Park at Kazhakkuttom. An amount of Rs.55.06 cr. is earmarked for KINFRA for undertaking these major projects.

In another proposal to provide up to 10% participation in self employment initiatives of the youth and 20% for similar efforts by women, the Finance Minister also put forth the suggestion to extend similar support for SC/ST section and fishermen, with up to 50% equity participation in them. KINFRA along with various banks, KSIDC and KFC will be brought together to implement the proposals, with an initial funding of Rs. 50 cr.



KERALA INDUSTRIAL INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

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