

KERALA STEALS THE LIMELIGHT AT WORLD FOOD INDIA 2017



The upcoming KINFRA Mega Food Park in Palakkad and KSIDC Mega Food Park at Cherthala received a big push at the recently-concluded 'World Food India 2017' organised by Union Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI). The event was held in association with Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) in New Delhi in which Kerala took part as 'Focus State'.

Paul Antony IAS, Additional Chief Secretary, Industries and Commerce led the Kerala delegation which included Wg. Cdr. K A Santhosh Kumar, MD, KINFRA; K N Satheesh IAS, Director of Industries & Commerce; Dr. M Beena IAS, MD, KSIDC and V Rajagopal, CEO, K-BIP. Among those who represented trade were Vinod Manjila, MD, Manjilas Food Tech and Dr. Viju

Jacob, MD, Synthite Industries.

Kerala Government put up a pavilion in which 24 food processing companies were provided individual stalls to exhibit their products along

with a common space to hold business meetings and interactions. Another attraction of the Kerala Pavilion was a digital display highlighting the features of KINFRA Mega Food

KERALA GOVERNMENT PUT UP A PAVILION AT 'WORLD FOOD INDIA 2017' HELD IN NEW DELHI IN WHICH 24 FOOD PROCESSING COMPANIES FROM THE STATE WERE PROVIDED INDIVIDUAL STALLS



Park in Palakkad and KSIDC Mega Food Park at Cherthala.

The mega event was aimed at projecting the food processing capabilities of the country at national and international levels, attracting investments to the sector, particularly foreign investments and expanding export market opportunities for Indian processed food products.

Narendra Modi, Prime Minister, inaugurated the event in the presence of several dignitaries, including the President of Armenia and the Prime Minister of Latvia. Ram Nath Kovind, President, was the Chief Guest at the valedictory function. The event witnessed the participation of around 7,000 stakeholders from 60 countries, 75 international and national policy makers and heads of states, 60 global CEOs and 100 Indian CEOs.

There was a separate state session for Kerala in which discussions were held on the theme 'Kerala - The Ideal Destination for Food Processing'. KINFRA MD gave a presentation on food processing in the State and its prospects. "The event provided an excellent opportunity for networking and collaborations with key domestic and international players in the food processing sector. It also facilitated partnerships between Indian and international businesses and investors," said KINFRA officials.

MAGIC PLANET ON 'MPOWER' MISSION



In connection with the third anniversary of Magic Planet, The Academy of Magical Sciences in association with UNICEF and Kerala Social Security Mission (KSSM) has opened a permanent performance centre - MPower - for differently abled children, which is possibly the first such facility in the world. Pinarayi Vijayan, Kerala Chief Minister, inaugurated the new attraction at Magic Planet.

By launching MPower, a project with social commitment, Magic Planet has set a perfect example for society, said Vijayan. "The Government is committed to provide proper education and treatment to these innocent children. We are also planning to provide five per cent reservation in higher education and four per cent in employment sector for the differently abled," he added.

K K Shailaja, Health Minister, praised Gopinath Muthukad and the Magic Academy team for taking up a social cause. Kadakampally Surendran, Tourism Minister, also spoke.

The project will enable differently abled youngsters to earn a livelihood. Moreover, visitors to the Magic Planet can enjoy the varied skills and performances of these special artists, too. C P Shihabudeen from Pookkottur in Malappuram is the prime attraction of MPower. Born without limbs and bedridden for the first five years of his life, Shihabudeen, has been able to overcome his disabilities with extreme self-confidence and is now the mentor of the MPower team. Muthukad in his speech, said children with intellectual challenges are a vital and valuable part of our society, but yet remain the most marginalised and vulnerable group. MPower aims to boost their self-confidence, he said.

Dr. Biju Prabhakar, IAS, Secretary, Department of Social Justice and Dr. Mohammed Asheel, Executive Director, KSSM were also present. Select employees were presented with Excellence Awards and Best Planet Awards at the function.