

## FROM THE EDITOR'S Desk



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The industries department of the State has always strived to provide maximum support to the investors and would put concerted efforts to further help the industry and Government of Kerala to bridge communication gaps and to work together in true spirit of collaboration and partnership to chart a new growth story for Industries sector. Various initiatives are planned and are in progress with clear focus to transform the EODB climate in the State where not only Industries Department but all other Departments would put in concerted efforts to build investor confidence and offer seamless user experience for doing business in the State.

I am glad to bring out the 6<sup>th</sup> Edition of our e-newsletter 'Investor Konnect'. The current issue highlights the recent events on the upcoming industrial infrastructure conveniences being developed in the State and the Cluster Development Programme highlights. As you may be aware, the State is embarking on a key exercise for minimizing Regulatory compliance burden for businesses and in this regard a dedicated survey is launched to incorporate suggestions and compliance burdens faced by investors in the State. I urge all of you to participate in this survey.



## **RECENT EVENTS: QUICK WALKTHROUGH**



### **Inauguration of K-Mart**

The foundation stone for the state's largest and most modern Convention Exhibition Centre K-Mart was laid in Mattannur on 20<sup>th</sup> February 2021. The world class convention centre is being constructed on 15-acre land in KINFRA's Veliyamparamba industrial park at a cost of Rs 137.67 crore of which 102.67 crore is lent by KIFBI and the remaining 35 crores is spent by the State Government. The Convention Centre is designed to hold international level conferences. It will accommodate up to 3,000 people in the 1,93,790 square feet area. Along with this, an exhibition centre is being constructed for the exhibition and sale of products in India and various foreign countries. The Convention Centre will help in harnessing the potential opened by the International Airport.



#### **Kuttanad Rice Park**

The Alappuzha Integrated Rice Technology Park, which was announced by the Government for supporting the agriculture sector, is becoming a reality. The foundation stone of the park, which is being constructed at a cost of Rs 66.05 crore under the leadership of KINFRA, was laid on the 18th of February. The government envisages a wideranging scheme that will help paddy farmers and entrepreneurs in the allied sector. The aim is to make paddy cultivation widespread and provide more income to farmers. The project will help farmers in Kuttanad, Pathanamthitta, Kottayam, Kollam districts and boost local development activities.



### **Defence Park, Ottappalam**

The Chief Minister inaugurated the country's first industrial park exclusively for the Defence sector on the 17<sup>th</sup> February 2021. The country's first defense park was set up under KINFRA at Ottapalam in Palakkad district at a cost of Rs 130.94 crore. The park is spread over 60 acres of land also has central assistance of Rs 50 crore. The focus is on defense sector related construction, research and development testing and certification. The project is a milestone towards achieving self-sufficiency in the defense sector. The key areas of focus are defense manufacturing, defense navigation products, aviation-naval systems, computer hardware and electronics, strategic communication systems, personal equipment, security clothing, etc.



#### Carbon neutral Coffee Park

The Government has recently announced the Wayanad Development Package aimed at the holistic development of Wayanad district. The package aims to increase the revenue from coffee which is the main crop in the district. The coffee powder produced will be branded as Wayanad Coffee. For this purpose, a Carbon Neutral Coffee Park will be set up with the help of KIFB funding. The park would house a wide variety of plants for coffee powder production, plots for agricultural processing industries for private entrepreneurs, workshops, and a public processing system for processing other agricultural resources such as molasses. The work will be started in collaboration with Brahmagiri Society and is expected to be completed by end of 2022. Wayanad coffee powder will be characterized as coffee powder grown in carbon neutral Wayanad hills. A special scheme is also being implemented in the district to reduce carbon emissions.

# **RECENT EVENTS: QUICK WALKTHROUGH**

#### **Petrochemical Park**

The government is welcoming investors to Kerala by providing infrastructure through industrial parks. KINFRA under the Industries Department is setting up a petrochemical park in Kochi in collaboration with BPCL. The park aims to expand the BPCL-owned Cochin refinery and set up a cluster of petrochemical industries using the raw materials obtained thereby. The park is being set up on 481.79



acres of land acquired by the state government from the Central Public Sector Undertaking FACT. Currently, 171 acres of land has been allotted under lease terms for the development of BPCL. 33% of the land will be retained for developing green belts. 229 acres of land will be available in petrochemical park for industrial enterprises. KINFRA will provide infrastructure such as facility to supply 12 million litres of water per day, 11kW and 33 kW of power supply, pollution control plant, GAIL gas pipeline and waste management system. The park, which will be set up at a cost of Rs 300 crore, is expected to be completed within 30 months. Petrochemical park has major investment potential in automobile industries, building materials, plastic products, pharmaceutical products, textile products and cosmetics. At present, KINFRA has received 17 applications for starting industrial ventures. All applications have been approved by the District Level Allotment Committee. The Letter of Information will be handed over to the entrepreneurs who received the allotment at the stone laying ceremony. As many as 10,000 jobs are expected to be created directly and the same amount indirectly when the park is fully operational. With the arrival of the Kochi-Bangalore Industrial Corridor, which will revolutionize the state's industrial sector, the park will be of great importance

### Spices Park, Idukki

A Spices Park is being launched under the leadership of KINFRA for supporting spice-based industries. The park is being constructed on 15 acres of land at Muttam, Thodupuzha in Idukki district. The project is aimed at pre-processing and value addition in the spice sector. The project is worth Rs 12.5 crore. under cluster development scheme, central assistance of Rs. 5.77 crore will be availed. KINFRA will provide infrastructure such as administrative office building, documentation centre, conference hall, bank/post office, facility to store raw materials, marketing facilities and canteen. Water, electricity, internal roads, pollution



control plant, streetlights, rainwater reservoir etc. will also be prepared. The project has been developed in 20 plots. Initiatives such as spice oils, spice cages, ingredients, curry powders, curry spices, dehydrated spices, spice powders and freezing dried spices are expected to be implemented there.



# KERALA: CLUSTER-FOCUSSED DEVELOPMENT

The Ministry of Micro Small & Medium Enterprises (MSME), Government of India under Small **Enterprises** the Micro Cluster Development Programme (MSE-CDP) Scheme is providing financial assistance for setting up Common Facility Centre (CFC) in Clusters. As on date, the Ministry of MSME, Government of India has sanctioned 15 CFC Projects in Kerala of which 12 CFCs are completed and commissioned. The remaining 3 CFC Projects are in various stages of implementation. The Cluster Development activities in the State are implemented by the Directorate of Industries & Commerce through the concerned District Industries Centres. Kerala Bureau of Industrial Promotion (KBIP) is the Coordinating Agency for the Cluster Development activities in the State.

Clusters		
Plastic, Aluva	Rubber, Kottayam	Tera tile, Thrissur
Rice Millers, Ernakulam	Plywood, Perumbavoor	Kerala Furniture, Perumbavoor
Wood, Malappuram	General Engg, Manjeri	Wood Furniture, Kannur
Offset printing, Kannur	Furniture, Thrissur	Wood , Kollam

# REDUCING REGULATORY BURGEN: TAKE THE SURVEY

Under the aegis of Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade, a dedicated exercise is conducted to identify and minimize regulatory compliance burden on businesses. Various compliances with respect to Licenses, Certificates, Permissions; Inspections; Return filings; Registers and Records are being identified. Industry associations are also part of this activity to enable the Government identify cumbersome regulations. If you wish to contribute any key problem statements, and views on reducing burdensome compliance please share details investkerala@ksidcmail.org or fill the survey by clicking **here** 

# DIGITAL REFORMS FOR INVESTOR FACILITATION

The key digital initiative undertaken by the State is the launch of Invest Kerala Portal, an exclusive web portal for all investment related information which will act as a single window facilitator for investment promotion for prospective and aspiring investors.

## **Key offerings of Invest Kerala Portal**

- Repository of Act, Rules and Government Orders issued as part of Ease of Doing Business initiatives in the State
- Investment Wizard interactive tool to provide comprehensive list of approvals required for starting a business in the State.
- Know Your Approvals Service wise Standard Operating Procedures, Timelines, Checklist of supporting documents.
- Links to KSWIFT Online Single Window Portal, IBPMS – Intelligent Building Plan Management System.
- Land Bank to provide District wise and agency wise data of all vacant land earmarked for industrial use.
- Sector Profile with details of Key contact person/agency.
- District Profile with details of Key contact person from DIC
- Project Profiles 100 plus investment opportunities across multiple sectors.
- Resource Materials News Letters, Policies, Schemes, Publications and Government Reports.
- News/Event updates, Image gallery and Social Media Connect.
- Links to catalysts for industrial growth KSIDC, KINFRA, DIC, SIDCO, KBiP and their key offerings.





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