

Kerala Launches Investment Tracking Mechanism

"Milestone in the history of Kerala": Mr. E. K. Bharat Bhushan

"Launch of investment tracking mechanism at the state level is indeed a milestone in the history of Kerala" commented Mr. E. K. Bharat Bhushan, Chief Secretary, Government of Kerala while inaugurating interactive meeting and the state level launch of the web portal to track investment mechanism in the state, the first of its kind in South India after Odisha and Uttrakhand.

The Chief Secretary also congratulated the cabinet secretariat for its initiative to launch portals at all States in the country. The event was organized jointly by Kerala State Industrial Development Corporation (KSIDC), Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) in association with affiliated Chambers, supported by Industrial Financial Corporation of India (IFCI) on Thursday, 29 May 2014 at Thiruvananthapuram.

Project Monitoring Group (PMG) at the Centre has been facilitating clearances for projects which are struck for want of various clearances through its portal. The similar mechanism is now being adopted at the State level to track projects projects with investment between Rs 100 crores – Rs 1000 crores.

In his key note address Mr. Anil Swarup, Additional Secretary, Cabinet Secretariat and Head of the Project Monitoring Group under Cabinet Committee of Investments, Government of India said that "this process began in last year June and 150 projects have been cleared till now."

He urged the need to set time frames to obtain clearances and to hold regular monitoring committee meetings at the state level in association the state nodal agency KSIDC and with FICCI to speed up the process in this regard. "As Kerala is best rated state for implementing many projects successfully, I sincerely hope Kerala will also successfully implement investment tracking mechanism" added Additional Secretary.



Ms. Aruna Sundrajan, ACS & Managing Director, Kerala State Industries Development Corporation in her presidential address pointed out that the investment tracking mechanism will provide timely transparent system to the stake holders.

"This mechanism will help ensure monitoring economic growth in the state" observed Dr. V.P. Joy, Joint Secretary to the Cabinet Secretariat, Government of India in his Special address." "Bringing out all stake holders together is a great challenge; but PMG has come out with a successful mechanism to solve this problem effectively", he added.

Dr. Shubhag Chand, HOD, Cabinet Secretariat Informatics Division (CSID), Govt. of India gave detailed presentation on "CCI Project Management System and State Level Investment Tracking Mechanism."

Mr. David Mooken, past Chairman, FICCI Kerala State Council in his welcome address said that "FICCI had been requesting setting up of an effective institutional mechanism for addressing problems being faced by large projects in getting clearances in time. So, announcement of formation of PMG under Cabinet Committee on Investment was something which we at FICCI were looking forward to and the initiative has been welcomed by the industry."

Mr. S. N. Raghuchandran Nair, Honorary Secretary- Trivandrum Chamber of Commerce & Industry, Mr. Raj Kumar Gupta, Vice President, Indian Chamber of Commerce & Industry and Mr. Savio Mathew, Head-FICCI Kerala State Council also spoke.

Participants mainly comprised of senior Govt. Secretaries, HOD's of various Govt. departments, MD's of public sector organizations, officials of different Departments of the Govt. of Kerala, guests from corporates and banks, representatives from the trade, industry and business community.