

Global expo highlights Karnataka's sustainable growth model

Karnataka Chief Minister Mr D.V. Sadananda Gowda delivered the inaugural address at the Global Investors Meet Expo 2012 organised by the Government of Karnataka on June, 2012 at Bangalore. Mr Walter D' Souza, Regional Chairman, FIEO (Southern Region) was also present.

The GIM Expo had a participation of over 40,000 visitors. The event had over 460 exhibitors over an area of 200,000 sq ft with 13 participating countries, including Japan, Germany, Mexico, Italy, Canada, UK and Taiwan. There were nine leading States from India, including Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, Rajasthan Kerala, Gujarat, Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand. Over 130 PSUs, financial institutions such as IOB, Canara Bank, State Bank of India etc. and a large enterprises like Tata, Toyota, Honda, JSW, L&T, MRPL, Indian Oil, HAL and SBI to name a few were also represented. Over 300 small and micro enterprises from across Karnataka covering all districts participated in B2B meetings.

Mr Gowda along with other dignitaries visited the FIEO pavilion and showed a keen interest in knowing about "Karnataka Export Vision 2020". Mr V. Srinivasan, Joint Director FIEO (Bangalore) briefly explained about it to the Chief Minister.

In the three-day meet, FIEO had many visitors numbering 1600 from various fields of agriculture, IT, infrastructure, tourism and engineering among others. There were also potential exporters numbering 180 who showed an interest in FIEO. A detailed explanation about FIEO and its services were explained in detail to them and they appreciated it. Many potential and existing exporters showed interest in being associated with FIEO to work towards bringing up the exports of Karnataka and in



Mr Walter D'Souza, Regional Chairman FIEO (SR) (extreme right) Greeting the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Karnataka Mr D.V. Sadananda Gowda.

turn contributing to the country's exports. Galaxies of industry captains were present during the occasion.

GIM 2012 has been an important initiative taken up for the second time by the Government of Karnataka to foster the investment potential of Karnataka and the success of this event will further enhance the prospects of Karnataka on a global level.

The event has been organized as a focused endeavour to realize Karnataka's vision of achieving sustainable economic development, a significant increase in employment levels, an improvement in citizens' livelihood, balanced regional development and environmentally sustainable long-term development, as outlined in Vision 2020.

The Government of Karnataka is committed to inviting and sustaining investments that would enhance inclusive growth and employment within the state. In line with this, one of the initiatives is the forming of a 'Karnataka ICT Group 2020'.

The mission of the group is to increase ICT exports to Rs 4 lakh crore and create additional 12 lakh jobs by 2020. The group also intends to help incubate 1000 start-ups and entrepreneur driven initiatives.

This GIM focussed on a wide range of upcoming sectors like knowledge economy, science and technology, engineering, tourism, textile, infrastructure, and energy. Karnataka offers an abundance of investment opportunities in each of these sectors with a slew of sector-specific policy initiatives to encourage investor interest. The State has also placed special emphasis on business partnerships for development of micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs).

Minister of Large and Medium-Scale Industries, Mr Murugesh R. Niranjan, delivered the introductory and welcome address for the inauguration session for GIM 2012. It has resulted in forward looking strategies to guide sectoral and industrial growth. The MoU signing event and

its accompanying B2B meetings have enabled participants to translate these discussions into actionable business decisions.

Mr N.R. Narayana Murthy, Founder Chairman, Infosys, delivered a special address on the occasion and mentioned that the government must bring transparent policies and hasten decision-making process to build the investors' confidence.

In his concluding remarks at GIM, Mr S.V. Ranganath, Chief Secretary, Government of Karnataka, mentioned that the government of Karnataka garnered investment of over Rs 7.6 lakh crore with a potential to offer over 15 lakh jobs. In addition Rs 1.68 lakh crore of investment was received as registration of interest for the infrastructure sector.



From Right: Mr Walter D'Souza, Regional Chairman, FIEO (SR), Mr V.Srinivasan Jt. Director, FIEO (Blr), Interacting with the visitors of GIM Expo 2012.

FIEO Kerala Chapter opening ceremony on July 7

The share of Kerala in India's export is around 4%. The major products exported from Kerala are spices, marine products, cashew, chemical and allied products, textiles and readymade garments, agriculture and processed food, computer software, drugs and pharmaceuticals, fine chemicals, cosmetics, gold jewellery, minerals and ayurvedic products. Tourism is also one of the largest foreign exchange earners in this State. There are five commodity boards headquartered in Kerala, including Spices Board, Coir Board, Marine Products Export Development Authority, Rubber Board and Coconut Development Board. The Cashew Export Promotion Council is also stationed in Kochi.

In order to accelerate export from Kerala and help members have easy access to various services provided by FIEO, it has been decided to open its Kerala Chapter Office at Kochi. The Chapter Office will focus on various activities like regularly interacting with the State and Central Government on various issues faced by the exporters and policy initiatives required, identifying potential products and its export market giving thrust development of MSME segment etc.

The opening ceremony of FIEO Kerala Chapter will be held on July 7, 2012. Mr Oommen Chandy, Chief Minister of Kerala, will be the Chief Guest. Dr Anup K. Pujari, Director General of Foreign Trade, will be the guest of honour.

To introduce the services offered by FIEO and induce the State Government for more export promotion efforts, Mr Walter D'Souza, Regional Chairman, FIEO (Southern Region) along with Mr Unnikrishnan K., Director (Southern Region) met the Chief Minister at his residence on June 6, 2012. The Chief Minister promised to extend all support to FIEO for its trade development activities. Various issues



Mr Walter D'Souza, Regional Chairman, FIEO(SR) (left) with Mr Oommen Chandy, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Kerala.

confronted by exporters from Kerala especially related to agro exports are being discussed by Regional Chairman with the Chief Minister.

Given below are the contact details of FIEO Kerala Chapter.

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