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advantage Manipur

IT POLICY-MANIPUR 2015

- Incentives up to 5% for Mega Projects
- Registration / Stamp Duty Concession
- Performance-based Lease Rental Subsidy
- Electricity Duty Exemption
- Interest Subsidy for IT/ITeS MSMEs for a period of 5 years
- Skill Enhancement & Capacity Building
- Support to R&D Incubation Centres

INDUSTRIAL & INVESTMENT POLICY MANIPUR -2013

- Subsidy for technical know-how
- Exemption for Earnest Money and Security Deposit
- State Capital Investment Subsidy
- Interest Subsidy
- Power Subsidy
- State Transport Subsidy
- Re-imbursement of Stamp Duty and Registration Fee
- Quality Control
- Tax Incentives

ECONOMICAL ADVANTAGE

- Project of inter-State nature funding through NEC
- Funding from DoNER Ministry

GEOGRAPHICAL ADVANTAGES

- Strategic location for ASEAN market.
- 2,000 Km (approx) from China & 500 Km from Mandalay
- Asian Highway 1 (AH1)passes through the heart of the city
- Transportation of Hardware components will take 15-20 days (approx) from Guangzhou, China through AH1
- Daily Air connectivity to major domestic location
- Sublime Climate

Manipur Jewel of India
Department of Information Technology, Government of Manipur

WELCOME

Dear Readers,

Here's wishing you all the very best for the holiday season!

Our cover story this time takes an in-depth look at IT Asia held in September at Hyderabad in partnership with the Government of Telangana. The event was a resounding success and saw the participation of representatives from the industry as well as central and state governments. What set IT Asia apart was the fact that it was a platform that enabled manufacturers in the IT industry to interact with vendors in the presence of government representatives. Encouraged by its success, MAIT is looking at organizing IT Asia in 2016 in New Delhi and we look forward to your involvement to make this event a big success.

This issue also discusses the pre-budget recommendations on behalf of the electronics and ESDM manufacturing sector. Also featured are interactions with several international organizations that can bring a lot of value to the India ESDM story.

Inside

The Electronics Sector Skills Council of India (ESSCI) has played an important role in developing skills for the IT Hardware industry since its inception a few years ago. This issue attempts to showcase the efforts behind building those skills. Additionally, the MAIT-IFC Roundtable on PRO was held on 10th September 2015 in New Delhi and this too has been featured here. The main objective was to explore a collaborative approach and arrive at an industry solution to the e-waste challenges in the form of a Producer Responsibility Organization (PRO) which would be inclusive, cost-effective, government recognized and leverage the strengths of the producer members.

Do write in with any feedback and we look forward to your continued support.

Warm Regards,

Anwar Shirpurwala
Executive Director, MAIT
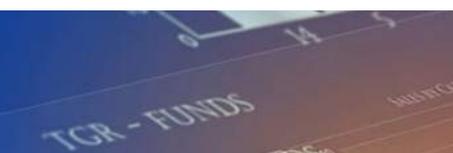
LANDMARK IT ASIA 2015 LIVES UP TO EXPECTATION: CENTRES ON MAKING INDIA A PROFITABLE ESDM HUB

Recognizing that this is indeed a progressive time for the IT manufacturing sector, while also riding on the back of government initiatives such as 'Make in India' and 'Digital India', MAIT and the Government of Telengana, organized the 10th edition of IT Asia. Held in September at Hyderabad, and spread over a period of three days, the event served as a unique platform, allowing manufacturers in the IT industry to interact with vendors in the presence of government representatives. In this issue of *MAITWire,* we take stock of IT Asia and its success.

IT Asia was aimed at generating sustainable growth for the ICT sector through networking and creation of new business opportunities. Shri Jayesh Ranjan, Secretary IT&C Dept., Govt. of Telangana, inaugurated the event at Hitex, Hyderabad.

"The first edition of IT Asia after a decade's gap is in line with MAIT's charter of enabling industries to work effectively with the Central as well as State governments," said Ms. Debjani Ghosh, President, MAIT & Managing Director, Intel Technology Pvt Ltd. "What sets this platform apart is the fact that it brings together representatives from the Central and State governments, industry as well as other stakeholders to realize the tremendous opportunity prevalent in ESDM and Electronics manufacturing", she added.

The State Governments of UP, Karnataka, Puducherry, Assam and Manipur extended their support to IT Asia, by way of participation. Major national and regional ICT Associations also supported the event. Intel and Microsoft were the Gold & Silver sponsors respectively. During IT ASIA, the main events organized were the International Conclave on IT & Electronics Manufacturing in India and National Conclave on Intellectual Property Rights.

International Conclave on IT & Electronics Manufacturing in India

Distinguished speakers who shared their perspective on IT & Electronics Manufacturing in India were Shri Jayesh Ranjan, Secretary-IT, Govt. of Telangana, Shri N Ashok Kumar, Special Secretary-IT, Govt. of Manipur, Ms. V Manjula, Principal Secretary-IT, Govt. of Karnataka, Dr Ajay Kumar, Additional Secretary, Department of Electronics & IT and Mr Nitin Kunkolienker, Vice President, MAIT & Vice President, Smartlink Network Systems.

National Conclave on Intellectual Property Rights

The first session was on IP protection as a tool for growth in the ICTE industry. Shri Neeraj Gupta, CEO & Co-Founder, Formulate IP, Patent Expert, talked about how entrepreneurs and SMEs can create, protect and defend what is created with IP. He recommended that companies conduct a prior search of a concept to ensure that there is no infringement before chalking out a product strategy. He also advised SMEs to file a provisional patent to protect their concept before developing the product. Next, Mr. Muralidharan, Principal, Manu Associates highlighted the peculiarity of the patent regime in India, underlying the fact that it is considered unfriendly and restrictive.

Shri Kiran Bettadapur, Advocate, stressed on the potential of 'creative imitation' in India. This, he explained was building upon products where patents exist or where patents have expired through value addition. "There are 10 million expired patents that can be worked upon", he said.

Session Two, 'Standard Essential Patents: Indian Scenario' was kicked off by Shri R Saha, Senior Advisor, CII. He talked of Standards and Standard Essential Patents, especially in the technology arena. M. Vinod Kumar, Tejas Network emphasised the need to standardize patents, understand India specific issues and develop standards at the lowest possible cost. This, he said, would, "help lock our Intellectual property into standards".

Dr. Ajai Garg, Director, Dept. Of Electronics & IT addressed the third session. He highlighted the opportunity available, especially with Digital India and Make in India being thrust areas and the importance of innovation. Business innovation is the key driver and for this to happen, IPR is essential. Today, SMEs in India do not have the capacity or budgets for patent filing. DeiTY has started a scheme encouraging international patent filing. Dr Garg also proposed that engineering colleges include a compulsory course on IP. DeiTY has created a three credit course that is ready for licensing. He called for India to enter the "strategic game of IP that the world plays".

The event was signed off with a panel discussion on IP for Electronics and the ESDM industry which touched upon areas such as creation of IP value, promoting the use of IP instruments by SMEs, best practices for use and exploitation of IP in consideration to Semiconductor Integrated Circuits Layout Design Act, 2000, IP Protection Strategies in the context of Trade Secrets, IP Monetization Strategies and IP Litigation Planning - License Terms that heavily impact Litigation.

Industry Calls for Action

During IT Asia, there was also a call for policy reforms to ensure the success of Make in India and Digital India. An immediate need would be to standardize requirements across government agencies.

Mr. Nitin Kunkoliener, Vice President MAIT & Vice President, Smartlink Network Systems addressed industry concerns in his address. "The fact remains that India follows a federal structure and there is a large disconnect between central and state agencies. We do not have a developed component eco-system and lack a robust infrastructure. Towards this end, it is vital to establish a component trading hub for assembly units to come up. Work also needs to be done with regard to integration of infrastructure and the supply chain network to bring down cost of doing business to compete with China", he stated. Furthermore, he stressed on the need to simplify ease of doing business, reduce business cost and called for integration of human resource and skill development for the electronics sector.

Boosted by the tremendous success of IT Asia 2015, MAIT is looking at organizing IT Asia 2016 in New Delhi. The date for the same is yet to be finalized. It is MAIT's endeavour to focus on encouraging entrepreneurship within the ICT industry and boost local manufacturing in India and we look forward to an enthusiastic response from both the industry as well as the central and state governments at IT Asia 2016.

Enquiries for participation in IT Asia 2016 may be sent to **ed@mait.com**

MAIT PRE BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS

The Government of India has been making significant efforts towards achieving its agenda of 'Make in India' and 'Digital India'. As a first step, the concessional excise duty benefits announced in the last budget have been extended to domestic manufacturers of tablet computers; further, a long standing issue of an inverted duty structure has been addressed for manufacturers of ITA bound goods through an exemption from payment of special additional duty of customs on import of components.

While the efforts of the Government are laudable, there is more ground to be covered by the Government towards effective implementation of 'Make in India' as well as 'Digital India'. It is hoped that the Government proactively addresses other issues which continue to plague the IT hardware sector with additional impetus being accorded to indigenous manufacturers through appropriate policy initiatives.

The industry is keenly following the action steps being taken by the Government towards achieving the above mandate and the wish list of the industry includes the following:

• **Concessional rate of excise duty (2 percent) ought to be extended to all ITA goods particularly, personal computers, customer premise equipment and e- readers,** bringing them at par with mobile phone and tablet computers. This initiative can be expected to boost the domestic manufacturing sector and substitute imports with domestic production.
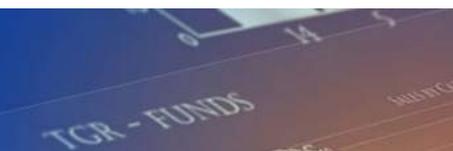
- **Enhancement in the rate of depreciation prescribed for all types of IT hardware** under customs and central excise laws in recognition of their relatively short economic life as well as ensuring alignment in the rate of depreciation prescribed for computers with all other types of IT hardware.

- **Enhancement in the rate of abatement under maximum retail price ('MRP') based excise valuation for IT products** in recognition of increasing excise duty/VAT rates coupled with increasing distribution costs and dealer margins.

- **It is urged that the Government either reintroduce the erstwhile ETHP / STPI scheme benefits** from a direct tax perspective or implement some other alternate scheme extending tax incentives to encourage investors to choose India as a preferred investment destination and to render Indian exports competitive in the international arena. From an indirect tax, particularly service tax perspective, an exemption scheme on par with SEZs should be considered.

- Keeping in tune with the current technologies / terminologies, it is recommended that there be **harmonization of the IT product list and their tax rates across Central and State VAT laws**.

- **From an ease of business perspective,** it is recommended that customs special valuation proceedings be relaxed for duty free imports by export oriented undertakings as well as import of ITA goods (which attract nil BCD, MRP based CVD and nil or refundable SAD).

- **Establishment of Convergence Cell**
  Today, numerous IT products are imported to India and introduced into the market. However, there is no specific classification available in the customs tariff. Different importers adopt different classifications for the same products.The customs field officers adopt their own discretion to classify these goods, leading to a delay in clearance of goods and unnecessary litigation.It is recommended that a Convergence Cell be formed wherein classification of new IT products is decided within 30 days of representation. This will reduce the confusion as well as litigation arising out of classification issues.

- **Support to Small and Micro Enterprises**
  Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) in India have seen exponential growth but continue to struggle on multiple accounts. Some of the significant issues being faced by the SMEs are:

  - dearth of easy finance and credit instruments

  - limiting regulatory policies

  - lack of modern, affordable technology

  - lack of basic infrastructure facilities

  - absence of exclusive marketing platforms and distribution networks

  - inflexible labour laws and availability of affordable skilled labour

The absence of a robust distribution network is a major issue and small manufacturers cannot compete with the large scale distribution system that is currently in place for IT products and are thereby losing out on the business. Given that SMEs form the backbone of India's economy, the vision of the Make in India campaign can be effectively met by ameliorating the state of SMEs.

It is recommended that the Government provide an exclusive online platform for SMEs to market and sell their products. The Government could also contemplate providing incentives to the buyers purchasing from such SMEs.Additionally, the Government could also issue guidelines mandating large multinational companies to sub-contract a specific portion of their large contracts to the SMEs. This initiative would go a long way in encouraging the SMEs in honing and developing their skills and also in building substantial body of work necessary for their growth.

The IT industry is hopeful of the Government taking cognizance of the above issues and providing much needed respite to the sector by addressing them. Lastly, it has been urged by industry in unison that introduction of Goods and Service Tax ('GST') legislation should be given prime importance and further suggested that draft GST legislation including rules on Place of Supply of Service be shared at the earliest for the purpose of understanding, discussing and eliciting views from both business and trade.

VIEWS ON THE PRE-BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS PUT FORTH BY MAIT:

Nitin Kunkolienker,
Vice President, MAIT &
Vice President,
Smartlink Network

The Pre-Budget recommendations made by MAIT are in conformity with the vision and the initiatives announced by our Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri. Narendra Modi such as;

- **Make in India** – Boosting domestic manufacturing to trigger economic activity, while also generating employment and helping India emerge as a manufacturing hub for the world.

- **Digital India through its nine pillars** - a huge demand generator – target Net Zero imports and adopt citizen centric services that empower the common man with required information to help him avail the benefits of e-governance.

- **ESDM Policy** – To revive and develop a strong local ecosystem in cutting edge electronics.

The Digital India Mission has an ambitious target of achieving **Net Zero Imports** by 2020 in Electronics and IT Hardware goods by reducing its imports, encouraging indigenous manufacturing and increasing exports.

Indian manufacturers over the years have built the capabilities, expertise and capacity to manufacture IT goods. However the same has remained underutilized due to the prohibitive taxation policies and neglect towards eco-system development.

Recommendations made by MAIT to **create duty differentials by extending duty incentive schemes given to mobile phones and tablets to all the ITA goods** would be a major booster to the domestic IT hardware manufacturing in the country. This will help Indian manufacturers utilise their capacity to the maximum.

Fulfilling the existing demand, coupled with demand arising out of the Digital India initiative through domestic manufacturing may not be enough to achieve Net Zero Imports if substantial exports of indigenously designed and manufactured electronic products does not happen. Recommendation to **increase the export incentives under the MEIS** is a step towards boosting exports.

Such large scale exports will help build the economies of scale required to attract and sustain the electronic component Industry which is non-existent today.

Along with fiscal incentives the reco-mmendations made in line with improving "ease of doing business" such as **speedy disposal of SVB, formation of a convergence cell to address classification issues** etc and reducing the "Cost of doing business" such as **abolishing CST** and through procedural simplifications and clarifications on indirect taxation as well as Direct Tax will have wide ranging impact on the IT hardware manufacturing Industry.

Lastly the biggest economic reform is going to be **introduction of GST.** We are optimistic that the recommendations by MAIT find place in scheme of things under the GST regime in the interest of the nation and the domestic IT Hardware Manufacturing Sector.

CONTRIBUTION OF ELECTRONICS SECTOR SKILLS COUNCIL OF INDIA (ESSCI) TO THE ICT SECTOR

Mr. N.K. Mohapatra
CEO, ESSCI

The Indian Information and Communication Technology (ICT) industry has witnessed an unprecedented growth over the last two decades. The Indian government is conscious of the contribution ICT can make in the development of a county and is aggressively spending on ICT in its endeavour to bridge the digital divide in the country and ensure access to government services to every citizen through ICT.

All the governments in the last few decades have introduced new ICT tools for effective and transparent delivery of government services and to ensure hassle-free services to citizens. ICT is being used for various G2C, G2G, and G2B services. The government has tried to intensify the earlier Mission Mode Projects and National e-Governance programme into a more holistic and wider 'Digital India' program. There are several services which the government is now providing to the citizens. From online passport to online filing of taxes, IT adoption in government is making life easier and impacting lives across the country.

Realizing the big impact that technology can have on the government's ability to deliver services transparently and in a cost effective manner, the government is making huge investments in developing IT infrastructure and mechanisms to deliver services across the country.
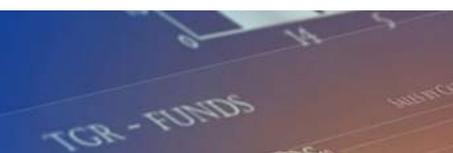
The government programmes along with a high penetration of mobility and broadband in the country are expected to create huge opportunities for the ICT sector to grow and this will lead to the requirement of a huge number of trained and skilled manpower.

The availability of skilled manpower is the need of the hour and the Electronics Sector Skills Council of India (ESSCI) has aligned its skilling capability to industry requirements. The ESSCI is making an all-out effort to ensure industry requirements for skilled manpower with relevant technical capabilities are met and thus giving a boost to the growth of the sector along with creating employment opportunities for the youth of the country.

ESSCI is a Not for Profit Organization, registered under the Indian Companies Act, 1956.The Council has been promoted by six Associations i.e. CEAMA, ELCINA, IESA (formerly ISA), IPCA, MAIT & ELCOMA, with financial support by the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC).

The ESSCI's focus is on establishing an effective and efficient ecosystem for developing and imparting of outcome oriented skills for the Electronics Systems, Design and Manufacturing Industry (ESDM).

ESSCI's mandate comprises a plethora of deliverables including development of curriculum, courses, information database and delivery system. ESSCI is responsible for standardization, accreditation and certification processes to enhance the employability of the Indian workforce globally. It envisions enabling a world class electronics manufacturing industry with an ecosystem for skill development and enhancing employability of a large number of Indian human resource.

ESSCI strives to establish a structured mechanism wherein ESSCI will facilitate and collaborate with NSDC in strengthening the existing vocational education system for skills development in the electronics sector & upgrade vocational training system for the industry to achieve global standards in manpower productivity.

The approach of ESSCI is to build a robust eco system of partners and knowledge contributors leading to research and analysis and to develop a training mechanism leading to accreditation and certification of trained resources.
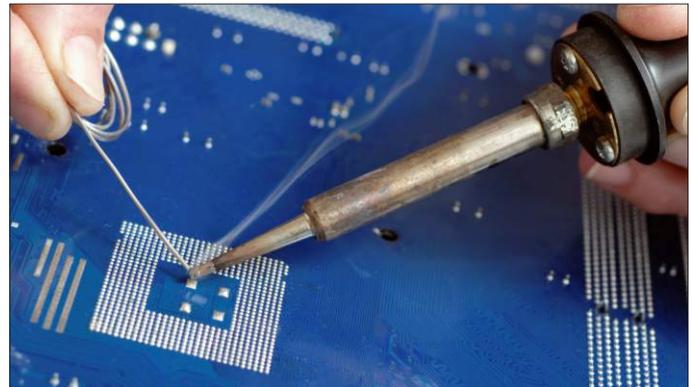
ESSCI has over 85 training partners, having over 1200 training centres across the country, that are well equipped to undertake skill development across job roles in all segments of ESDM. ESSCI has developed 140 Qualification Packs (QPs) and 200 National Occupation Standards (NOS).

ESSCI has numerous credible Qualification Packs for skill development in this segment that have been closely developed with the industry, while also assessing the intrinsic demand for trained technical manpower in the industry in the near future. Some of the Qualification Packs developed by the ESSCI for the IT hardware sub sector are the following.

- Product Engineer
- Assembly Line Operator
- Disk Duplicator
- Incoming QC Technician
- Final Product QC Technician
- Maintenance Technician
- Field Technician – Computing and Peripherals
- Test and Repair Technician
- Customer Care Executive
- Remote Helpdesk Technician
- CCTV Installation Technician
- Field Technician – Networking and Storage
- Service Engineer
- Access Controls Installation Technician
- IT Coordinator in School
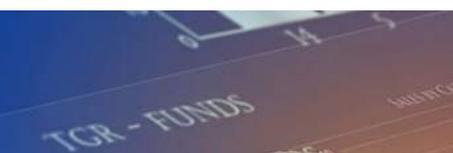
The Electronics Sector Skills Council of India has so far skilled over 60,000+ candidates in various job roles in electronics and of these 20,000+ have been trained in the IT hardware electronics sub sector of the ICT Sector.

The Electronics Sector Skills Council of India is moving ahead with an ambitious program to work closely with the industry and is committed to skill over 2 million candidates in the electronics sector, of which a substantial portion would be from the IT hardware sector.

The following government programmes will impact and give a push to the growth of the IT sector in India

- National Optical Fibre Network

- Digital India

- Make in India

These umbrella programmes of the government of India and several policy initiatives like the National Policy for Electronics along with several other schemes under the Department of Electronics and Information Technology like Modified Special Incentive Programme Scheme (MSIPS), Electronics Manufacturing Clusters, FAB Units and the ESDM Skill Development programme are all expected to contribute to the growth of the electronics Sector in the country.

Going forward, a huge market is expected for ICT related electronics and there would be large scale opportunities for manufacturing and services, wherein the ESSCI would continue to contribute in skilling and helping the candidates find gainful employment in the industry.

For more information, please log into http://essc-india.org/

HOT ON SOCIAL MEDIA

- Cashless transactions – RBI is focusing on integrating electronic and cashless transactions that can mobilize last mile and ensure better transparency.

- Inclusion of various diverse pieces into digital ambit e.g. GIS, e-prisons, digital locker, e-granthalaya, etc

- Significant digital deployment and online presence in the education sector by ministry of HRD e.g. e-pathshala, (for students to access study material, parents to keep track of performance), mobile apps for students and parents, Shaala Darpan for academic delivery system, Saransh for CBSE affiliated schools, etc.

- Sensitization of public around R&D in electronics – its investing in providing technological support to farmers, e-waste recycling, web enabled agriculture, food and agro produce, GIS use in tea estates, etc.

- To promote 'ease of business', the government has started by simplifying the registration and renewal forms under CRO.

- Focus on citizens enablement by digitizing various pieces like emphasizing on CLOUD so that data is available anywhere, all the time.
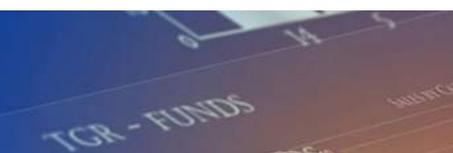
MAKE IN INDIA:
The IT OEM Story

Contributed by
HP Inc.,India

While the removal of the 4 percent SAD has helped level the playing field for IT manufacturers in India, there are still a few issues that need attention from the government if Indian IT manufacturing is to come of age. The primary issue is the lack of a component ecosystem, low economies of scale and higher logistics costs. There is a need for support from the Government to achieve localization in terms of offsetting the differential cost through rebates for local procurements through tradable duty exemption scripts.

Another option is for the sale of finished goods within the country to be treated as deemed exports, allowing OEMs to take advantage of the Focus Product Scheme.

In addition, the Government needs to address rigid labour laws, helping OEMs gain flexibility to adjust labour to demand fluctuations and high cost of organized labour. Finally, the government should recognize the infrastructure constraints for import and export and cumbersome procedures in re-export of defectives or rebalancing of materials across different plants in different countries as part of the ecosystem revamping.
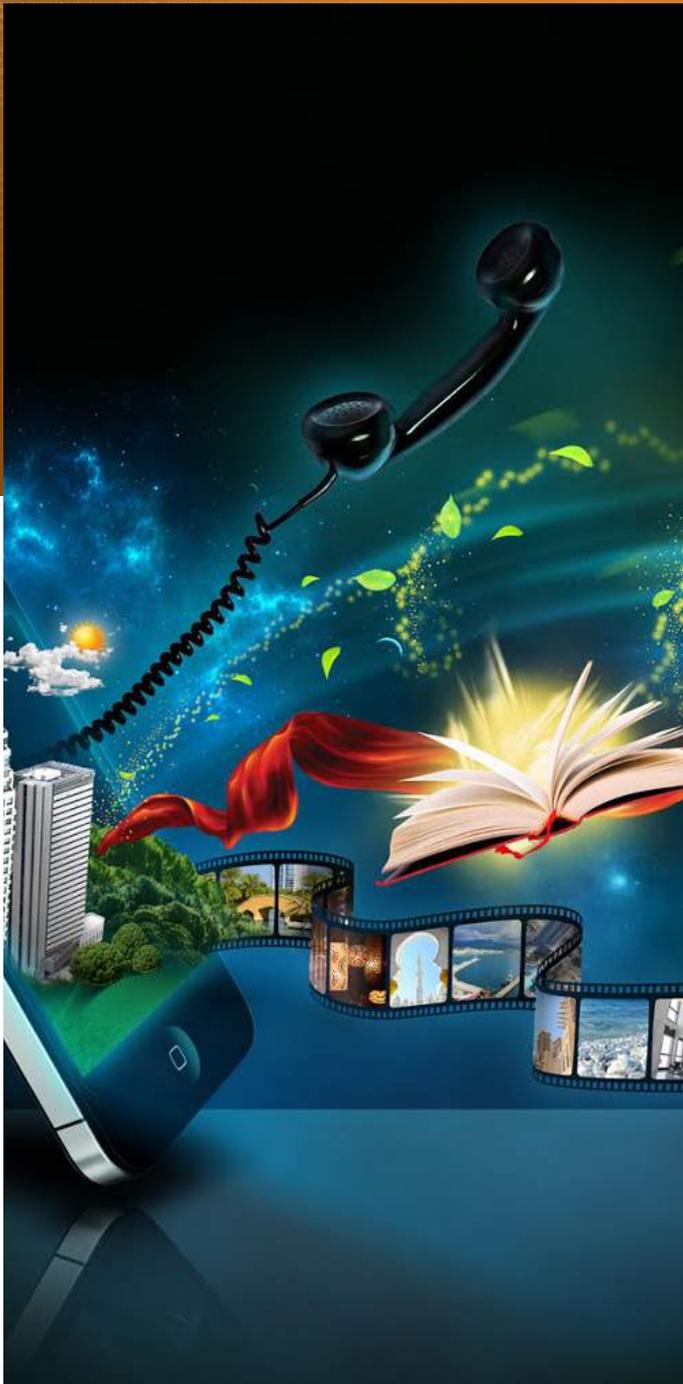
The current market size is a concern and has not seen significant growth. Measures by the government to increase IT penetration would help drive volumes which would help build economies of scale. The current India market at 10 million units is significantly lower than markets like China which stand at 70 million units and Brazil at 40 million units. Additionally government procurement has in itself not been growing to volumes which would provide impetus to support the localization efforts. Programs like Digital India should help government procurement to increase significantly 4x to 6x to justify a breakeven. This would help partly compensate for the higher cost of PMA compliance (at least 12 – 18 percent higher than global supply chain costs).

The installed factory capacity utilization for domestic manufacturers has been very low over the last few years partly due to economic downturn and slow pace of recovery and partly due to non-viability of manufacture of products like notebooks and tablets. At the same time, the level of domestic value addition has been low as almost all components need to be imported.

Over the past couple of years, PC manufacturers have made strong efforts to localize key components of desktop computers like motherboards, displays and memory modules in pursuance to the PMA policy announced by the Government. However, their efforts have met with limited success either because the right suppliers are not available or the local components are too expensive often by 15 percent to 20 percent. The higher cost has been on account of cascading taxes like CST, inverted duty structures, low economies of scale for local suppliers, and higher logistics costs.

It is very heartening that the Government is seriously looking to address the challenges relating to Make in India. The recent budget has addressed the issue of inverted duty structure and in the case of tablets created a duty advantage for final assembly in the country. We are confident that this will encourage local manufacture of tablets which in turn will create demand for sub-assemblies and components. Based on the projected market growth for tablets, we should hopefully achieve the economies required for local manufacture of sub-assemblies like LCD panels, populated PCBs, adaptors, enclosures and other key components.

Building on this initiative of the Government, we would like to offer our suggestions to accelerate the manufacture of computers as well as to increase the level of domestic value addition:

Short term

1. Extend the differential Duty dispensation introduced for tablets to other high volume IT products like notebook computers and desktop computers. Keeping in mind the roll out of GST whereby every product will suffer a uniform GST irrespective of the supply chain model, a suitable mechanism should be worked out to continue with this Duty differential post GST so that there is stability in policy which will encourage manufacturers to make investments in local manufacturing. So in the short term, the Government could have the differential Duty model to compensate local manufacturers through the option of a lower Duty on parts and components with the option to not avail CENVAT credit at a lower Duty rate.

Mid / Long term

1. Evolve a mechanism to continue the incentive for local manufacture of tablets and IT products post GST through cash refund or duty script equivalent to the 10 percent differential duty. This can be gradually phased out over a 5 year period as the volumes start to build up generating economies of scale and development of eco system.

2. Address the cost issues of locally made sub-assemblies and components by providing appropriate incentives in the form of a cash rebate or tradable duty script based on the level of domestic BOM content as per the PMA policy. The quantum of incentive has to be at least 2 percent of the value of the final product for every 10 percent of local BOM content to overcome the current level of disability, or in the form of a flat 5 percent price preference to domestic manufacturers. Again, this incentive may be gradually tapered off over five years by which time the component industry should be able to stand on its own feet due to the growth in volumes and development of an eco-system.
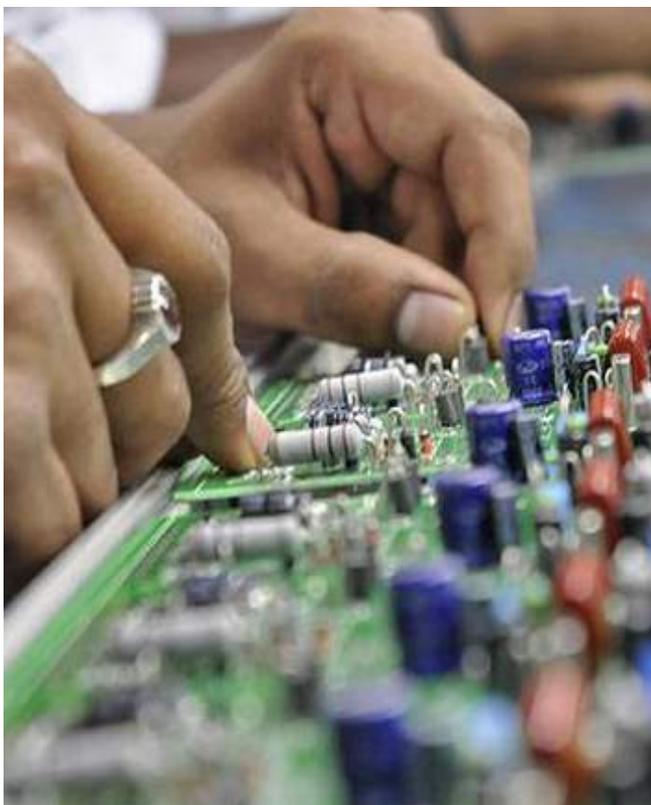
3. Government to directly engage manufacturers of key high technology components like semi-conductors, LCD panels etc. and persuade them to set up factories in India.

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MAIT-IFC ROUNDTABLE ON PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY

September 10th, 2015, New Delhi

The MAIT-IFC Roundtable on PRO was held on 10th September 2015 in New Delhi. The main objective was to explore a collaborative approach and arrive at an industry solution to the e-waste challenges in the form of a Producer Responsibility Organization (PRO) which would be inclusive, cost-effective, government recognized and leverage the strengths of the producer members.

Awareness funds are available with the government and are earmarked for e-Waste awareness generation. It was discussed that the awareness material would duly recognize the 'first mover' producer brands supporting the PRO. It was seen that many producers are open to leveraging their existing dealer infrastructure, media platforms etc. to fulfil the takeback needs and reduce costs. The Senior Director (DeitY) and Joint Director (MoEF) were encouraged by the enthusiasm of the attendees.

Going forward it was decided that producer members would communicate their interest/concerns regarding PRO participation with MAIT. Individual 'MAIT/IFC – Producer' interactions would follow to address concerns of individual producers.
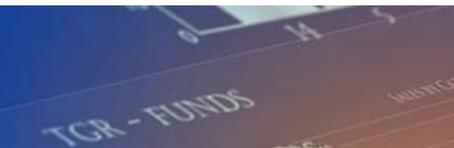
Interactive Session with Taiwan Display Union Association

September 8th 2015, New Delhi

MAIT organized an exclusive interactive session with a Delegation from the Taiwan Display Union Association (TDUA) on 8th September 2015 at Modi Hall, PHD House, New Delhi.

TDUA delegation was composed of 15 people, having representation from the Taiwan TFT LCD Association, Taiwan Flat Panel Display Materials and Devices Association and Taiwan Electronic Equipment Industry Association. TDUA plays an important role not only to integrate the display industry chain in Taiwan but also serves as a platform to help members expand their business in overseas markets.

The delegation was led by Mr. S L Peng, Chairman of TDUA, who is also the Chairman of AU Optronics Corp. The purpose of their visit was to explore business opportunities, engage with potential partners and experience India's investment environment.

MAIT invited the Taiwanese Delegation to invest in India and gave details of the demographic and federal structure of India and how many states are inviting international companies through various incentives.

MAIT focused on the IT and Electronics Hardware Industry in India and how the growth of smart phones as well as LCD/LED TV will change the manufacturing sector. MAIT also apprised them on the Modified Special Incentive Package Scheme (M-SIPS), which has been further extended for 5 years.

MAIT Delegation at Gitex
October 18th– 22nd, 2015, Dubai

Make in India for strategic electronics: 4-month deadline may be given to chip making projects to raise funds.

- The Economic Times

The government is set to give the two consortia selected to set up semiconductor wafer plants a four-month deadline to raise funds and show their ability to handle the critical project which is the first step towards indigenous electronics production. The fabrication plants are the cornerstone of the Make in India plan for strategic electronics that will involve the defence, space and cyber security sectors, besides meeting the massive demand of the civil sector. Sources said the government is aware that starting the process of selecting fresh companies for the fabrication project is cumbersome and could take up to two years, but there is little choice left as both selected companies have been struggling to put the project together.

http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/defence/make-in-india-for-strategic-electronics-4-month-deadline-may-be-given-to-chip-making-projects-to-raise-funds/articleshow/49800109.cms

India aims 6% share in $300 billion global Internet of Things industry: DeitY Secretary

- DnA

India is eyeing share of 5-6% in $300 billion global internet of things (IoT) industry in the next five years, Department of Electronics and IT Secretary JS Deepak on Monday said. "A policy framework around internet of things is in consultation stage.

As per reports global IoT industry would be $300 billion by 2020 globally. The idea of IoT policy is that India should have 5-6% share at least of global industry," he said while speaking at the CII National IoT Summit. Deepak said that the policy in works aims at creating $15 billion domestic industry by 2020. IoT can be a game changer. It can save lot of power. We see street lights being on in small cities and towns even during day. With help of technology such lights can be automatically turned off which can result in huge saving for the power sector," Babul Supriyo, Minister of State for Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation said at the event.

http://www.dnaindia.com/money/report-india-aims-6-share-in-300-billion-global-internet-of-things-industry-deity-secretary-2145794

DataWind mulls sub Rs 3,000 4G smartphone, to set up two manufacturing facilities at Rs 200 crore

- ETTelecom

Canada-based low-cost tablet and smartphone maker DataWind is considering a foray into the affordable 4G device segment by mid-2016 and plans to start two new manufacturing facilities with an initial investment of Rs 200 crore in the country. "We may work on a sub Rs 3,000-priced 4G-enabled smartphone next as the 4G market matures in India," DataWind chief executive Suneet Singh Tuli told ET, adding that the company is closely watching the telcos' 4G moves.

Indian telcos are banking heavily on surging data consumption to fuel growth. Besides expanding its 3G services, Bharti Airtel, the country's top telecom operator, has launched 4G services, while No. 2 Vodafone India and No. 3 Idea Cellular will start their high-speed Internet.

http://telecom.economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/devices/datawind-mulls-sub-rs-3000-4g-smartphone-to-invest-rs-200-crore-in-two-manufacturing-units/49797039

Oppo begins manufacturing phones in India with Foxconn

- Medianama

Smartphone manufacturer Oppo has started contract manufacturing in India in partnership with Foxconn, reports NextBigWhat. According to the company, it's currently manufacturing the Neo 7 smartphone in the country, which passes through its own quality tests. Interestingly, Oppo mentions that it will think about putting up its own manufacturing plant in India by the end of 2016, although the company has not acquired any land, or even decided the location or the production capacity for the same. This is contrast to when the company said in May that it would set up a handset manufacturing unit in India by this August to primarily tend to the domestic market. It said that some of devices manufactured here would also be exported to overseas markets.

http://www.medianama.com/2015/11/223-oppo-foxconn-manufacturing-india/

Karbonn to invest Rs 200 crore in Andhra Pradesh plant

- The Times of India

In line with the government's 'Make in India' initiative, domestic handset vendor Karbonn will invest Rs 200 crore to set up a manufacturing plant at Tirupati in Andhra Pradesh. Last week, Prime Minister Narendra Modi had laid the foundation stone for a dedicated mobile handset and electronics manufacturing facility at Tirupati. Apart from Karbonn, the facility will house brands like Micromax, Celkon and Lava. "We are setting up an integrated facility at Tirupati.

The plant, which will be operational by September next year, will have a manufacturing capacity of 500,000 units a month," Karbonn chairman Sudhir Hasija told PTI. He added that the company will invest Rs 200 crore in the facility and employ 2,000 people to start with.

http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/tech/tech-news/Karbonn-to-invest-Rs-200-crore-in-Andhra-Pradesh-plant/articleshow/49626539.cms

OnePlus to start production in India

- The Hindu

Chinese smartphone maker OnePlus on Thursday said it will start manufacturing smartphones in India by December, adding that OnePlus X Onyx, unveiled today will be the company's first made in Indiahandset to go on sale. Earlier this month, OnePlus, which launched its first device in the country last year, had announced partnership with electronics major Foxconn to begin local assembling operations in Andhra Pradesh. OnePlus launched two new devices under OnePlus Xrange – Onyx and a limited Ceramic edition – priced at Rs.16,999 and Rs.22,999, respectively. These smartphones will be available on Amazon.in through an invite-only model from November. "OnePlus X is a design-centric device, chic and powerful enough to fit any lifestyle. The Onyx also marks our entry into the sub-Rs.320,000 range and will help us expand our base further in the country," OnePlus General Manager India Vikas Agarwal said.

Mobile hub set to create new industrial ecosystem

- The Hindu

A new industrial ecosystem centred on mobile and electronics industry is shaping up near Tirupati, which is all set to generate thousands of jobs for the local youth. 'Sri Venkateswara Mobile and Electronics Manufacturing Hub' is the new industrial landmark near Renigunta airport on the city outskirts, for which Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone recently. For the first time in the country, four Indian mobile manufacturing companies viz., Micromax, Celkon, Karbonn and Lava, have come forward to set up manufacturing and assembling units in a single location at the facility spread over 50-60 acres.
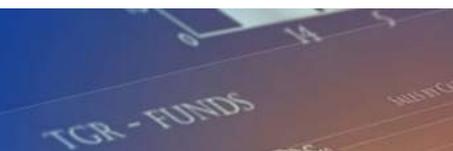
"It is a dream come true. The employment-intensive units are expected to generate 8,000 to 10,000 jobs for the local youth", says Chittoor Collector Siddharth Jain. The local economy is all set to get a shot in the arm with the establishment of ancillary units and supporting facilities here.

http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/andhra-pradesh/mobile-hub-set-to-create-new-industrial-ecosystem/article7820628.ece

Videocon to invest Rs 500 cr to setup mobile assembly plant in Punjab

- The Economic Times

Videocon Industries will invest Rs 500 crore over the next three years to set up a new mobile handset assembly plant in Punjab, which will also manufacture set top boxes. The plant will create employment for 3000 people over a period of time in the state. "We are happy to announce that Videocon would be setting up a Mobile assembly plant in Punjab. I have visited several States, but the speed of progress, development and treatment given to industrialists in this State is of par excellence," Anirudh Dhoot, director of Videocon Industries, said. Videocon recently bagged a contract to make five lakh handsets for Coolpad India, a subsidiary of China's largest smartphone maker, in the first quarter of the next fiscal. In addition, the company is also making feature and smartphones for Spice Mobiles out of the Aurangabad manufacturing facility.

http://telecom.economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/devices/videocon-to-invest-rs-500-cr-to-setup-mobile-assembly-plant-in-punjab/49583410

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We would like to welcome
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www.flextronics.com

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www.inp.co.in

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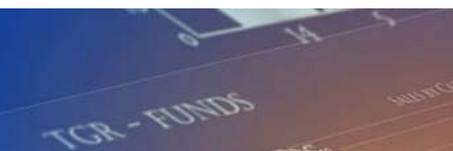
VERDATECH

L. Ignatius,
Technology Evangelist, VERDATEC,
Dy. Secretary, DBCREATE,
Guwahati Assam

CHALLENGE

Provide cost effective and low power consumption C-LABS (Computer Labs) to school children and other members of the local community in rural North East India. Availability of electricity can be extremely low. Even in cases where it is accessible power supplies can be unreliable and blackouts & failures are common occurrences of everyday life. A bigger challenge facing North Eastern India today is the high start-up costs of infrastructure.

SOLUTION

LUCID-X is solar-powered C-LAB designed by VERDATEC to increase access to information in remote rural areas. VERDATEC worked with three of North East leading Don Bosco Schools on assessing the best low powered computing equipment for the C-LABS (Computer Labs). We assessed traditional thin clients but found these were complex and required third party components that added to the overall cost. Zero clients were chosen because they met LUCID-X's exacting requirements. They were secure, easy to set up and a proven viable alternative to reduce hardware costs, power consumption and maintenance requirements. Each LUCID-X is constructed from scratch and provides access to 30+ users. 12 solar panels are mounted on the roof and can provide up to 12 hours of electricity.

TECHNOLOGY

The NComputing Zero Client access devices tap the unused capacity of a single Pentium PC that can be simultaneously shared by many users. Key to the success of LUCID-X is how it enables the C-LABS to provide as many computers using as little energy as possible. The NComputing Zero Client has helped keep the power requirements to less than 25 watts per system. The solar panels are 240~250 Wp Poly-Crystalline.

IMPACT

By designing and integrating a solar PV power system, NComputing Zero Clients, VERDATEC's LUCID-X Solution has helped Don Bosco School, Tamenglong, Manipur, India not only with a sustainable energy solution, state-of-the-art C-Lab but also reduce the school's carbon footprint while contributing to national energy management goals. On campus in the C-Lab is a monitoring display screen that allows students, staff and visitors to see how efficiently the system is working in real time and how the Don Bosco School, Tamenglong and its integrator VERDATEC are making an effort to eliminate North East India's energy crisis & country's renewable energy future in action today. By truly "illuminating the powerless" we are helping power the students, who are the future of our nation.

OUTCOME

Don Bosco Center for Renewable Energy, Advance Technologies & Entrepreneurship (DBCREATE) is an outcome of various Initiatives taken by VERDATEC in collaboration with Don Bosco Technical School, Maligaon, Guwahati, Assam. DBCREATE carries out research and development of renewable energy and ICT technologies, focuses on sustainable e-learning solutions for our schools, which are technically efficient, economically viable, environment friendly and which meet the needs of society. DBCREATE is training underprivileged youth of Northeast India and have prepared them to be a part of "Skilling India" & "Make in India" initiatives.

We have created an ecosystem for locally manufacturing/assembling components involving ICT technologies to contribute to the national vision and goal of self-sustainability. Under the watchful guidance of DBCREATE, we have successful implemented Northeast India's first conventional energy independent school campus funded by the Hon'ble CM of Assam at Don Bosco Hr. Sec. School, Baghchung, Jorhat. The School boasts of an 80 Node ICT lab & 40kWp Solar Power Plant which powers the whole campus making it a complete green energy school. The lighting system of the school has been upgraded using locally assembled LED luminaries from DBCREATE. Due to this initiative few IT OEMs and vendors have taken keen interest to collaborate with us in the areas of IP Surveillance, e-learning platforms & educational apps development.

LG INDIA ELECTRONICS PVT. LTD.

LG India Electronics Pvt. Ltd. has always believed in localizing and customizing its products to meet local market requirements. LG has been manufacturing PC Monitors in India since 2001 and been a contributor to the Make in India campaign even before the concept became popular. LG has been manufacturing 8 models from its plant in Pune. LG India as a whole has a concept of "IIP (India Inside Product)" in which the products are customized to suit Indian weather condition and usage scenarios.

LG India has very high confidence in the country's growth story especially in the field of Information Technology and the organization is geared up to meet the requirement arising out of various government initiatives like the Digital India campaign and other similar initiatives in the short and long term.

To reach out to customers in every part of the country, LG has a network of 45 branch offices and 300+ services centres dedicated for IT Products. In line with the trust the organization has in its products, all IT products sold by LG India come with 3 year comprehensive warranty.

The organization also takes pride in keeping up with its social initiative by providing and securing the livelihood of the workforce engaged in production at its state of art plant at Pune, irrespective of the economic conditions within the industry.

To rise up to the Make in India call, LG India will be increasing the number of models being manufactured in India. This will help the organization serve the Indian consumer and enterprise markets in a better way by meeting their specific requirements. The local LG IT product division has been continuously innovating and introducing products to meet the wide range of demand in terms of product functionality. Lg's IT products division has been developing products with focus on power saving, user ergonomics with its flicker safe feature. Furthermore they have designed and introduced Ultrawide Monitors in which users can connect 2 computers at the same time.

Flextronics in India

Mr. Sekaran Letchumanan,
Vice President of
Operations at Flex

Established in 2006, the 645,000 sq. ft. Flex Chennai Industrial Park (CIP) located at SIPCOT Special Economic Zone (SEZ) is staffed by more than 4,000 employees.

Flex CIP provides sketch to scale supply chain solutions including surface mount technology (SMT), sub assembly and full-assembly of various intelligent products for both domestic and global customers in the Infrastructure, Computing, Industrial, Mobile and Energy segments.

SUCCESS STORY – DTA Status Resulting in Additional Business Wins

This year, Flex CIP received the DTA status that provides the site with an added competitive advantage - allowing Flex to service the domestic market.

By having both DTA and SEZ status, Flex is able to produce and deliver products for both domestic and export markets, with zero customs duty.

"The DTA status provides an added competitive advantage for Flex, allowing us to service the domestic market and bring to bear our innovative supply chain services to support the burgeoning electronics sector in India," said Richard Hopkins, Flex's Vice President of Operations.

As a result of the DTA, Flex is able to manufacture products such as LED lights, electronic ballasts, and GPS tracking devices for India's domestic market. More importantly:

- Flex CIP has attained a new partnership with Lenovo (which also owns Motorola Mobility) to manufacture their smartphones in India.

- Flex CIP will be manufacturing millions of set top boxes for a global brand in India.

All the above-mentioned business wins are in line with Flex's vision of building intelligent products for a connected world.

Flex has the right building blocks and capacity to help its global and local customers who wish to build, repair and ship their products anywhere in India.

Flex CIP is also able to connect the dots for its customers when it comes to innovating and manufacturing their products by converging / cross-pollinating technologies from various industries as it has a broad portfolio of customers across varied industries.

Besides Flex CIP, Flex also has Global Business Services (GBS) Centers in Chennai and Pune that provides shared services for Finance, IT, HR, Procurement / Supply Chain, Engineering, Legal and Analytics. Flex has also established Global Services operations in Bangalore, Mumbai and Gurgaon that provides after-market services such as repair & spare parts logistics.

In total, Flex has about 10,000 employees across India and aims to grow this figure to about 15,000 employees in the near future. Flex is also a leading employer of specially-abled employees in the electronics industry (~5% of its employees are specially-abled).

On suggestions for the ESDM sector in India, Flex recommends that the supply chain ecosystem be enhanced and that the authorities encourage more component suppliers to invest in India.

About Flex

Flextronics International Ltd. (known as Flex) is a leading sketch-to-scale™ solutions company that designs and builds intelligent products for a connected world. With approximately 200,000 professionals across 30 countries and a promise to help the world Live smarter™, the company provides innovative design, engineering, manufacturing, real-time supply chain insight and logistics services to companies of all sizes in various industries and end-markets. For more information, visit www.flextronics.com or follow us on Twitter @Flextronics.

MANIPUR

Manipur literally meaning "a jeweled land" is nestled deep within a lush green corner of North East India.

Geographical advantages

- Strategic location for ASEAN market.

- 2,000 Km (approx.) from China & 500 Km from Mandalay

- Asian Highway 1 (AH1)passes through the heart of the city

- Transportation of Hardware components will take 15-20 days (approx.) from Guangzhou, China through AH1

- Daily air connectivity to major domestic locations

- Sublime Climate

Information Technology (IT) offers a new opportunity for economic growth, employment and a knowledge based development for Manipur. The state has remained economically and industrially backward primarily due to its remote location and geographic disadvantage. Information Technology can overcome geographic disadvantages provided reliable and necessary telecommunication infrastructure along with power supply are in place. The State Government recognises that IT has the potential to bring about significant progress in the socio-economic development of Manipur, for which the State Government has to evolve a dynamic and coordinated IT policy.

The State Government recognises that IT has the potential to bring about significant progress in the socio-economic development of Manipur, for which the State Government has to evolve a dynamic and coordinated IT policy.

Vision statement

To transform Manipur into an Information Technology driven economy and society.

Policy objectives

The objectives of the policy are as follows:

- To set up the Institutional Framework to implement and monitor the IT Policy.

- To use E-Governance to upgrade the standard and quality of administration, and to provide citizen-oriented, efficient and cost-effective government.

- To promote investments and growth in IT industry, and encourage private sector initiative in IT related infrastructure and services, so as to increase the contribution of IT in the economic growth of the State.

- To provide adequate infrastructure in the State so that the IT sector can flourish.

- To encourage percolation of IT literacy and education in the State.

- To generate IT related employment opportunities for the educated youth.

- To use the power of IT to enhance earning capacity of the citizens for a better quality of life.

Advantage Manipur

IT POLICY-MANIPUR 2015

- Incentives upto 5% for Mega Projects

- Registration / Stamp Duty Concession Performance-based Lease Rental Subsidy

- Electricity Duty Exemption

- Interest Subsidy for It/ITeS MSMEs for a period of 5 years

- Skill Enhancement & Capacity Building

- Support to R&D Incubation Centres

Industrial & Investment Policy Manipur -2013

- Subsidy for technical know-how

- Exemption for Earnest Money and Security Deposit

- State Capital Investment Subsidy

- Interest Subsidy

- Power Subsidy

- State Transport Subsidy

- Re-imbursement of Stamp Duty and Registration Fee

- Quality Control

- Tax Incentives

Economical Advantage

- Project of inter-State nature funding through NEC

- Funding from DoNER Ministry

CONGRATULATIONS

Shri Shaktikanta Das, IAS
(TN:1980), Secretary, D/o Revenue, M/o Finance as Secretary, D/o Economic Affairs, M/o Finance vice Shri Rajiv Mehrishi, IAS (RJ:1978) on his superannuation on 31.08.2015.

Shri Vijay Shankar Madan, IAS
(UT: 1981), Director General and Mission Director, Unique Identification Authority of India as Secretary, D/o Land Resources, M/o Rural Development vice Ms Vandana Kumari Jena, IAS (OR:1979) consequent on her superannuation on 31.07.2015.

Shri Hasmukh Adhia, IAS
(GJ:1981), Secretary, D/o Financial Services, M/o Finance as Secretary, D/o Revenue, M/o Finance vice Shri Shaktikanta Das, IAS (TN:1980) on his relinquishing the charge of the post.
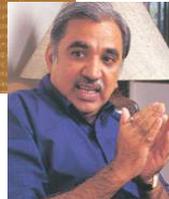
Shri Sunil Arora, IAS
(RJ:1980), Secretary, M/o Skill Development and Entrepreneurship as Secretary, M/o Information and Broadcasting vice Shri Bimal Julka, IAS (MP:1979) consequent on his superannuation on 31.08.2015.

Ms Anjuly Chib Duggal, IAS
(PB:1981), Secretary, M/o Corporate Affairs as Secretary, D/o Financial Services, M/o Finance vice Shri Hasmukh Adhia, IAS (GJ:1981) on his relinquishing the charge of the post.

Shri Rohit Nandan, IAS
(UP:1982), Chairman and Managing Director, Air India as Secretary, M/o Skill Development and Entrepreneurship vice Shri Sunil Arora, IAS (RJ:1980) on his relinquishing the charge of the post.

Shri Tapan Ray, IAS
(GJ:1982), Additional Secretary, Department of Electronics and Information Technology, Ministry of Communications and Information Technology as Secretary, M/o Corporate Affairs vice Ms Anjuly Chib Duggal, IAS (PB:1981) on her relinquishing the charge of the post.

Shri Shatrughan Singh, IAS
appointed new Chief Secretary. He is a 1983 batch IAS officer.

Shri J S Deepak, IAS
(UP:1982), Additional Secretary, D/o Commerce, M/o Commerce and Industry as Secretary, Department of Electronics and Information Technology, Ministry of Communications and Information Technology vice Shri Ram Sewak Sharma, IAS (JH:1978) consequent to his appointment as Chairperson, TRAI.

Shri Amarendra Sinha, IAS
(UK:1981), Development Commissioner, M/o Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises as Secretary, National Commission of Minorities vice Shri Rajiv Takru, IAS (GJ:1979) on his superannuation on 30.09.2015.

Shri Rajiv Mehrishi, IAS

(RJ:78), Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance as Home Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs for a period of two years from the date of taking over charge as Home Secretary vice Shri L.C. Goyal.

Shri Surendra Nath Tripathi, IAS

(OR:1985), Additional Secretary, Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises as Additional Secretary and Development Commissioner, Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises vice Shri Amarendra Sinha, IAS (UK:1981) consequent on his appointment as Secretary, National Commission for Minorities.

Shri Manoj Diwedi, IAS

(JK:1997), as Joint Secretary, Department of Commerce from the date of assumption of the charge of the post for a period of overall five year central deputation upto 03.06.2018 or until further orders, whichever is earlier, vice Shri JK Dadoo, IAS(UT:1983).

Shri Sanjiv Kumar Mittal, IAS

as joint secretary, e-governance, in the department of electronics and information technology (DEITY). The 1987 batch UP cadre Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officer replaces Rajendra Kumar.

Shri Sanjiv Kumar, IAS

(UT:1992) as Joint Secretary, Department of Revenue from the date of assumption of the charge of the post for a period of five years or until further orders, whichever is earlier, vice Shri Arun Goel, IAS(PB:1985);

Shri Manoj Joshi, IAS

(KL:89), Joint Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs as Joint Secretary, Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises on lateral shift basis from the date of assumption of the charge of the post for a period of overall five years central deputation upto 08.03.2017 or until further orders, whichever is earlier, vice Shri S.N. Tripathi, IAS(OR:1985);

Ms. Kalpana Awasthi, IAS

(UP:1990) as Joint Secretary, Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion from the date of assumption of the charge of the post for a period of five years or until further orders, whichever is earlier, after vacation of the post by Ms. Shubhra Singh, IAS(RJ:1989);

Shri Pravir Kumar, IAS

(UP:1982), Director General of Foreign Trade under D/o Commerce, M/o Commerce and Industry as Secretary, Inter-State Council Secretariat vice Shri Sunil Soni, IAS (MH:1981).

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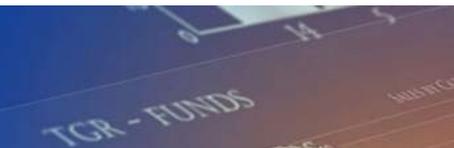
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