**Press Release**

**Kerala to have 25 Campus Industrial Parks this year: P Rajeeve**

**Minister inaugurates project; launches website**

**Thiruvananthapuram, July 24:**Kerala Government will give permission to 25 higher education institutions across the state to set up Campus Industrial Parks (CIPs) this year itself, from among 80 institutions that have given expression of interest in the path-breaking initiative, Minister for Law, Industries and Coir Shri P. Rajeeve said today.

Shri Rajeeve was speaking while inaugurating the CIP project of the Department of Industries and Commerce (DIC), Government of Kerala, here. The Minister also launched the website of the project on the occasion.

“This path-breaking project will bring about a historical and revolutionary transformation in government and private academic sector. Educational institutions must consider giving grace marks to students engaged in entrepreneurship through the CIPs,” he said.

Shri Rajeeve said the standard of an educational institution will be one of the parameters while giving nod for establishing the CIP.

Shri Rajeeve said the government’s concept regarding the CIP is that the research output of higher education institutions should give first priority to industrial production, which could be followed by academic research by faculty members and alumni.

Shri Rajeeve also stressed the need to ramp up connect in between educational institutions and industry to fill the current skill gap issue.

The state’s Industrial Policy 2023 has identified 22 priority sectors. The government has also finalised policies concerning Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG), hi-tech manufacturing, export and logistics sectors.

Shri A. P. M. Mohammed Hanish, Principal Secretary, (Industries & Commerce), in his welcome address, saidthe CIP project will significantly boost the startup initiatives of students. The Industries and Commerce Department along with the Higher Education Department will provide critical handholding for this initiative, besides extending help for ventures to scale up, he said.

KSIDC MD and Director of Industries & Commerce and Secretary, I&PRD, Shri S. Harikishore, proposed a vote of thanks.

Director of Collegiate Education, Shri K Sudheer; KINFRA Managing Director, Shri Santhosh Koshy Thomas, and representatives of various educational institutions also attended.

Campus Industrial Park project has been envisaged to foster entrepreneurship among students and bolster the relationship between education institutions and industry. Through the Parks, the industrial production of a product developed through research activities at the educational institutions can be initiated without delay.

Government and private educational institutions including arts & science colleges, polytechnics and ITIs having a minimum of five acres of land in their possession can apply for setting up Campus Industrial Parks. A minimum of two acres of land is necessary to set up Standard Design Factory (SDF). The developer permit will be allotted for a period of 30 years.

Applications can be submitted through the web portal of Industrial and Commerce Directorate with the NOC given by Higher Education Department. A district-level Site Selection Committee will forward eligible applications to state-level apex committee comprising department-level secretaries. The State Selection Committee will go through the applications and take decisions for issuing Private Industrial Estate Developer Permit.

A maximum of Rs 1.5 crore (Rs 20 lakh/acre) will be given to an educational institution for developing infrastructure facilities like road, electricity, drainage, ETP/CETP, laboratory, testing and certification at Campus Industrial Park. A financial aid of Rs 1.5 crore will be provided for setting up SDF and related basic facilities. The fund will be provided on reimbursement mode based on the completion of the infrastructure facilities in the estates.

**Ends**