

## South Korea, Taiwan keen on doing business with Gujarat

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DNAHM34747 | 8/19/2010 | Author : DNA Money Correspondent | WC :506

They show interest in sectors like infra, ports, IT devices

South Korean and Taiwanese companies have shown keen interest in investing in Gujarat. They have shown interest in sectors like infrastructure, IT devices, networks and applications, port, shipbuilding industry.

The first international road show to promote Vibrant Gujarat 2011, which went to South Korea and Taiwan has got good response. The delegation of around 10 members, led **by Ravi Saxena, additional chief secretary, Gujarat government** met about 80 Korean companies and trade associations in the roadshow that was organised on August 16 at Seoul.

"Senior representatives from several companies like Samsung, Ssangyong Engineering & Construction Co. Ltd., SK E&C, Hanwha Group, Korea Importers Association, Korea Land & Housing Corporation, Daewoo E & C and Korea Maritime Institute amongst others were present during the roadshow" said Saxena, talking on phone from Seoul, on Tuesday.

"The roadshow was followed by B2B meetings with companies and associations like Honam Petrochemical Corporation, Samsung Constructions and Technology, Hyundai Heavy Industries, Small and Medium Business Corporation and Busan Port Authority amongst others" Saxena added.

The delegation is currently in Korea. Skand R Tayal, ambassador of India to Korea gave the inaugural address and set the platform for discussions on developing business relationship between Korea and Gujarat.

Saxena said that there are several avenues of investments for Korean companies in Gujarat in the sectors of infrastructure development, IT devices, networks and applications, petrochemicals, renewable energy, shipbuilding and healthcare. Specific opportunities in the sectors of port and port led development and petrochemicals sector were discussed.

The delegation went to Korea after organising a successful roadshow at Taiwan and business meetings with several companies like Chungwa Telecom Co. Ltd., Transcend Information, Inc., TSRC Corporation, Chinese National Association of Industry and Commerce, TECO Group etc. Some of these companies have shown keen interest in attending Vibrant Gujarat 2011 event and investing in Gujarat.

The delegation to Taiwan and Korea is comprised of Pankaj Modi, COO, Mundra Port And SEZ Ltd., Sunil Parekh, advisor, Zydus Cadila, PK Johri, chief executive officer, ONGC Petro Additions Limited (OPAL), Rajiv Vastupal, chairman, Rajiv Petrochemicals, Sunil Kakkad, chairman, Sai Info Systems, Pankaj Saran,

chief executive officer, Gujarat Vittal Innovation City, Pratul Shroff, chief executive officer, e-infochips Ltd., Dibyendu Deepak, senior business analyst, OPAL and Jaimin Vasa, president, Gujarat Chemicals Association.

'Companies can explore western mkts from Guj'

At present, Taiwanese and South Korean companies have good presence in south India but from Gujarat, these companies can't only cater domestic market but can also explore western countries, believes Pratul Shroff, chief executive officer, e-infochips Ltd. Shroff is part of the delegation visiting S Korea.

In a telecon from Korea, Shroff told DNA Money that in case of mobile phones, the MNCs can design such a handset which can help the rural illiterate population. "History is not indication of future and so there are lots of opportunities and scope for Korean and Taiwanese companies in Gujarat. Looking at all kind of infrastructure in Gujarat, not only IT companies, but even port, infrastructure sector can get investment from South Korea and Taiwan," said Shroff.