

Haryana plans to convert de notified SEZ into industrial estate

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The Haryana government is considering to convert denotified special economic zones (SEZ) into industrial estates in order to boost manufacturing activity in the state, a state minister said today.

"We have proposed in our upcoming industrial policy that denotified SEZs should be put in a separate category and they be encouraged to set up industrial estates for setting up new manufacturing units in the state," Haryana Industries Minister Captain Abhimanyu told reporters here.

He said though he does not have exact number of denotified SEZs, yet there may be more than 100 SEZs which have been denotified in Haryana.

Lashing out at previous Bhupinder Singh Hooda-led regime in the state, Abhimanyu said that Congress government in the state used to brag about SEZs in the state during its 10-year rule in Haryana.

"Nothing has happened (on SEZ front). Not even a single SEZ could take practical shape in the state," he claimed.

About new industrial policy, Abhimanyu, who is also state Finance Minister, said suggestions have been sought from all stakeholders about the draft industrial policy and it is expected that it would be rolled out around July 15.

"The new policy will be not be a mere piece of paper. We are trying to give single window clearance in real manner for fast clearance of new project proposals in the state. And moreover, focus will also be on promoting small and medium enterprises," he said.

"With new industrial policy, we want that we are able to convince investors with our action which will help in attracting a lot of investments into Haryana," he said.

Asserting that the state government was receiving various new investment proposals in the state, he said that several companies like Indian Synthetic Rubber Limited, mobile handset manufacturer Micromax have shown interest in investing in the state in a big way.

"Indian Oil joint venture company Indian Synthetic Rubber Limited has proposed to invest Rs 10,000 crore in Haryana. A big real estate Chinese company has also shown interest in putting in USD 1-2 billion in the state. Moreover, Chairman of mobile handset maker Micromax met me yesterday who also proposed to set up manufacturing facility in Haryana," he said.

"We are also looking to explore possibility of setting up either petrochemical facility or electronic hardware facility," Abhimanyu, who is MLA from Narnaund, said.

On much-delayed 136 km Kundli-Manesar-Palwal Expressway project, Haryana Industries Minister said it will be completed in two-and-a-half years time.

"In first phase, Manesar-Palwal stretch is expected to be eight months. Work order for Manesar to Kundli stretch will be issued soon," he said adding that it would now be a six-lane project.

The KMP Expressway starts from the national highway 1 near Kundli (Sonapat) and joins Delhi-Faridabad-Agra NH 2 near Palwal.