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PART I—Orders and Notifications by the Governor of West Bengal, the High Court, Government Treasury, etc.

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
Department of Industry, Commerce & Enterprises
IPI & PI Branch
4, Abanindranath Tagore Sarani, Kolkata - 700 016

NOTIFICATION

No. 510-ICE/O/IPI/GEN-MIS/26/2023

Dated, 25.08.2023

WHEREAS, the State Govt. has considered to develop industrial corridors throughout the state of West Bengal in a planned and phase-wise manner by identifying economic Zones / nodes within the corridors. Considering that, the State Govt. has formulated an Industrial and Economic Corridor Policy of the State of West Bengal, 2023 in consultation with the concerned departments and stakeholders;

Now, therefore, the Governor is pleased hereby to formulate and adopt the following policy (Annexure), namely, the Industrial and Economic Corridor Policy of the State of West Bengal, 2023 to provide fillip to industrial sector.

By order of the Governor,

Sd/-
(VANDANA YADAV)
Principal Secretary to the Government of West Bengal

Annexure

Industrial and Economic Corridor Policy of the State of West Bengal, 2023



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1. Preamble

- 1.1. West Bengal has been consistently among the fastest growing state in terms of economic growth with a GSDP of INR 18.88 lakh crore in 2022-23. The State's conducive and pragmatic business policies and emphasis on developing industries has thrust West Bengal into the top of India's global investment ladder.
- 1.2. Several conducive factors - abundant natural resources, quality multi-modal domestic and international connectivity, large pool of skilled workers, high quality workmanship, proximity to mineral-rich zones, and highly competitive operating costs - have all contributed to West Bengal's growth story and strengthened its position as a gateway to Eastern and North-Eastern India as well as South-East Asia.
- 1.3. Over 75% of West Bengal's Gross Value Added (GVA) comes from the secondary sector (industries & manufacturing) and the tertiary sector (services, transport, trade, communications etc.), highlighting the progress the State has made towards creating wealth and employment for its people.
- 1.4. West Bengal is home to top companies from a wide range of sectors, including iron and steel, tea, leather, jute, FMCG, metals and minerals, cement, textiles and apparels, logistics, chemicals, rubber, gems and jewellery, pharma, plastics, IT, and Petro-products to name a few. Today, international companies and domestic industrial leaders have a strong presence in West Bengal.
- 1.5. West Bengal shares its international borders with Bangladesh, Nepal and Bhutan and has easy accessibility with the booming hubs of Asia, such as Singapore, Thailand and Malaysia. The State acts as the Gateway to South-East Asia and North-East India. West Bengal is thus strategically located to play a pivotal and catalytic role in promoting sub-regional economic cooperation.
- 1.6. The State Government has been working relentlessly to build robust infrastructure which is now among the best in the country. Excellent rail and road network, 24X7 availability of quality power, gas, water supply and telecom services has enabled West Bengal to emerge as one of the top industrial destinations in India by providing a highly conducive and enabling ecosystem to support and nurture MSME as well as large industries and start-up entrepreneurship in the State. The State already has the third largest road coverage in the country along with a high share of navigable waterways in the country. Various critical infrastructures such as the Eastern Dedicated Freight Corridor, Asian Trilateral highway, BCIM Corridor, Varanasi- Kolkata Corridor, Kolkata multi modal corridor as well as development of Tajpur Port shall contribute to further development of the state.
- 1.7. In order to leverage on the above and to further capitalize on the immense manufacturing potential of the region and the infrastructure development already created, the Government of West Bengal has approved the West Bengal Economic and Industrial Corridor Policy which is expected to make a huge contribution to the overall economic and social development of the region and multiply employment opportunities. Supported by an enabling environment and high quality class infrastructure, the corridors will accelerate the manufacturing potential of the State, attract global investment and create immense employment opportunities.

Advantage West Bengal

- ✓ High Quality Enabling Infrastructure
- ✓ Rich Labour Pool
- ✓ Competitive Cost of doing business
- ✓ Growing economic Prowess
- ✓ Intellectual Capital
- ✓ Ease of doing Business
- ✓ Access to growing domestic and global market
- ✓ Abundant natural resources
- ✓ Home to top companies
- ✓ Gateway to South East Asia and North east India

2. Vision

"To make West Bengal as one of the top industrial destinations in India and facilitate balanced, equitable and holistic industrial development through increased participation of private players"

3. Key Objectives

- 3.1. The West Bengal Economic and Industrial Corridor Policy has been developed with the objective of unleashing the immense economic and employment potential of the state by leveraging on quality industrial infrastructure and an enabling business friendly environment along the identified corridor, thereby, attracting investors into industrial development and generating economic activity and employment.

3.2. The policy proposes to achieve the following broad objectives:

- Increase the State's GDP, accelerate economic development, and generate employment;
- Attract Investments through holistic planning;
- Create an enabling environment to attract investments and encourage industrial development;
- Create a robust industrial agglomeration utilising cluster-based approach;
- Increasing employment opportunities in the manufacturing/formal Sector;
- Facilitate living and social facilities for the new and growing workforce;
- Encourage development of complimentary infrastructure like logistic parks, townships along with other urban amenities;

4. Corridor Influence Zone & Coverage

4.1. The approach adopted for identification and development of the West Bengal Economic and Industrial Corridor is to leverage on the key connectivity corridors already developed or under development with the objective of unleashing the inherent and underutilized economic potential of the region being covered.

4.2. In the first phase, three corridors are being developed in South Bengal : Raghunathpur-Dankuni-Tajpur Corridor (398 km), Dankuni - Kalyani Corridor (43 Kms) and Dankuni - Jhargram Corridor (160 Kms). In North Bengal, the Government is also taking up the development of an economic & industrial corridor stretching from Darjeeling More, Paschim Bardhaman to Cooch Behar in North Bengal covering 639 Kms. These corridors pass through Purulia, Bankura, Jhargram, Paschim Bardhaman, Purba Bardhaman, West Medinipur, East Medinipur, Hooghly, Howrah, Nadia districts in South Bengal and in the North Bengal - Birbhum, Murshidabad, Malda, South Dinajpur, North Dinajpur, Darjeeling, Kalimpong, Jalpaiguri, Alipurduar and Cooch Behar.

West Bengal Economic and Industrial Corridor : Key enablers

- ✓ Quality Logistic linkages
- ✓ Excellent Industrial Infrastructure
- ✓ Availability of Land Bank
- ✓ Enabling Regulatory Support and Facilitation
- ✓ Access to Manpower Resources and Ancillary support
- ✓ Access to abundant raw materials
- ✓ Access to growing domestic and Asian Market
- ✓ Rapid Urbanisation

4.3. Two more industrial & economic corridors: Gurudi (Purulia) to Joka (South 24 Pgs): 234 Kms and Kharagpur, Paschim Medinipur to Moregram, Murshidabad:230 Kms are in the planning stage.

4.4. The Corridor Influence Zone within which economic and industrial development are proposed under this policy in a phase wise manner shall constitute :

- I. The area extending to 10 kms on both sides of the industrial corridor.
- II. Additional Strategic Zones/ Nodes which shall be notified from time to time;

4.5. WBIDC shall identify economic zones/ nodes within the above Corridor Influence Zone which will be taken up for development under the Economic and Industrial Corridor Program.

West Bengal Economic and Industrial Corridors



5. Nodal Agency for the Corridor

- 5.1. The Government of West Bengal is committed to create a simplified and unified institutional framework for the overall planning, development, implementation, operation, supervision and monitoring of projects under industrial & economic corridor so that the projects could be planned seamlessly, and business can operate with ease and efficiency.
- 5.2. In line with the above, West Bengal Industrial Development Corporation, an undertaking of Industry, Commerce and Enterprises Department, Government of West Bengal is nominated as the Nodal Institution for the proposed corridor. WBIDC shall be responsible for providing strategic directions and policies for development of industrial corridors, nodes and investor promotion and wherever applicable development, financing & implementation of relevant infrastructure projects as a part of the corridor development.
- 5.3. WBIDC shall be empowered to carry out the following activities in the defined influence zones/industrial nodes of the proposed industrial corridor :
 - i. To prepare Land Use and Development Plan for the Corridor Influence Zone;
 - ii. To make regulations for Development, Operation, Regulation and Management of the Corridor Influence Zone;
 - iii. To supervise, monitor, regulate and ensure the planned development of the Corridor Influence Zones/identified industrial nodes;
 - iv. To levy and collect fees, user charges;
 - v. To acquire land and hold properties and sale, lease and transfer the properties including land;
 - vi. To monetize the land and use the funds for infrastructure development;
 - vii. To leverage resources by raising long term debt finance through credit enhancement and other instruments.
 - viii. No change in Master Plan/ Development (including change in land use) to be permitted without the approval;

6. Setting up an Investment Desk

An Investment Facilitation Desk shall be set up to provide information to investors on queries related to the opportunities available in the State, availability of land, processes to be followed for setting up industries, availability of incentives and facilities for projects to be taken up under the Corridor development.

7. Incentives

7.1. Objective

The Government of West Bengal with the objective to encourage private sector to take up industrial projects under the corridor programme shall consider the following incentives for large industrial projects taken up under the defined corridor influence zone conforming with the LUDCP and other terms & conditions notified by WBIDC from time to time (Approved Industrial Project). Large companies not falling under the definition of Micro/Small/Medium Enterprise as stipulated by the Department of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises and Textiles from time to time shall be eligible for incentives. The scheme guidelines and details of eligibility and approval process shall be notified by WBIDC.

7.2. Fiscal Benefits for Approved Industrial Parks

- A. Industrial Parks which will come up in the Economic & Industrial corridor will be entitled to incentives as under the State Approved Industrial Parks (SAIP)
- B. For industries not covered under any Incentive Schemes, the following additional incentives will be provided:
 1. **Stamp Duty Reimbursement** : An approved Industrial Project shall be entitled to reimbursement of Stamp Duty paid by the Individual Unit/ SPV for registration of land documents within the State relating to purchase of land for development of the project
 2. **Offsite Infrastructure will be provided as approved.**

7.3. Non Fiscal Benefits for Approved Industrial Parks

Power substation catering to the Project on exceptional cases, for which the requirement is justified and approved, shall be set up by the concerned State Government agency free of cost. Suitable land for setting up the substation shall be provided by the individual unit/SPV without cost. Only the Power Sub-station for the Project will be provided by the State Government. The cost of internal 11 KV, or, LT network will be borne by the Developer of the Park/ DISCOM as per existing regulatory practice.

Construction of Approach Road: Approach Road (Two-lane Road up to a maximum length of 1.5 km from the nearest major road) catering to the AIP, for which the requirement is justified and approved based on factors including distance of the proposed park from existing major road, shall be set up by the concerned State Government agency free of cost.

- 7.4. **Incentives** shall be provided on reimbursement basis after physical verification of the Basic and Essential Common Infrastructure Facilities constructed as a part of the project and fulfilment of other compliances under this Scheme and stipulated conditions as recommended by WBIDC and approved by State Level Empowered Committee (SLEC). The inspection shall be undertaken by WBDIC or through an accredited Third-Party Inspection agency.
- 7.5. The fiscal and non-fiscal incentives and concessions shall be available to the individual unit/SPV only and reimbursement shall be made only for the expenditure that has been incurred by it.
- 7.6. The individual unit/SPV availing of incentives under any others Schemes of the State Government / Government of India shall not be eligible to avail incentives under this policy. Unit/SPV availing benefits under the SAIP of the Department of Micro Small and Medium Enterprises and Textiles, Govt of West Bengal shall not be eligible for incentives under this policy and vis-versa.
- 7.7. **Duration:** The Incentive Scheme will come into force on and from the date of notification in the whole of West Bengal and shall remain in force up to 5 years, if not withdrawn / amended by a notification in the official gazette to that effect.

8. Constitution of State Level Empowered Committee (SLEC)

The State Level Empowered Committee shall be notified by the Department of Industry, Commerce and Enterprises, Govt. of West Bengal for selection and approval of applications under the West Bengal Economic & Industrial Corridor Policy.

9. Development of Land Portal

In order to allow investors to identify their preferred locations, industrial nodes and land parcels to be taken up under the corridor programme is being plotted on a GIS-based Portal. In addition to the location of the land, the portal shall also indicate key features of the project area such as accessibility, availability of infrastructure and key dimensions and will be updated on a real-time basis. This portal will be accessible to all potential investors.

10. Single Window Clearance

A Single Window shall be created under WBIDC for interaction between investors and Government departments (for all Land Parcels to be taken up under the Corridor). Officials from key line departments (whose approvals are required) shall be deputed as a part of the single window clearance process under MD, WBIDC who will coordinate/ guide issuance of all approvals on a timely manner.

II. Ensuring Planned Development

WBIDC In phases shall develop a LUDCP/Perspective Plan on the identified corridor based on the following principles:

- i. Facilitate balanced regional development that reduces regional imbalance and promote economic equality, agglomeration and industrial clustering;
- ii. Create opportunity for greater economic integration, enhanced productivity and completeness and encourage private partnership;
- iii. Promote industrial development and global investments;
- iv. Enhance the competitiveness of local manufacturers;
- v. Promote Green and sustainable development;
- vi. Create jobs and remove infra bottleneck.



**Department of Industry Commerce
& Enterprises**

**West Bengal Industrial Development
Corporation Limited**