

**HON'BLE C.M. –FLEXTRONICS**

**4.11.2006**

**Thiru. Manmohan Singh, Hon'ble  
Prime Minister of India,**

**Tmt. Sonia Gandhi, Hon'ble  
Chairperson of the UPA,**

**Thiru. Dayanidhi Maran, Hon'ble  
Union Minister for Communications and IT,**

**Mr. Michael McNamara, Chief  
Executive Officer, Flextronics,**

**Mr. Peter Tan, President and  
Managing Director, Flextronics, Asia.**

**Ministers of Centre and State and**

**Friends, For people of my generation, operating a telephone was a wonderful boon. When the Computer came, I wished for the day when operating Computers would be as easy as using the telephone. That wish has come true. I have managed to get a hang of the basics of using the computer but thanks to people like Flextronics, I no longer know how to use my telephone! These wonderful gadgets practically bring the globe to your palmtop. They are so complex that it takes a while to understand and use them!**

**It is indeed a great pleasure to be here at the inaugural function of the Flextronics new facility in Tamil Nadu. A wide range of the latest electronic hardware is going to roll out from here to all corners of the globe. My best wishes for a successful and profitable operation!**

**Winning the war against hunger, want and unemployment has always been uppermost in my agenda and close to my heart. I am convinced that arming my people with knowledge and appropriate skills are powerful weapons to win this war. My efforts are therefore focused on creating**

**an eco system that would attract investments from across the globe and thereby create employment and economic prosperity for my people.**

**I set the tone for Industrial Development when I announced in my policy note placed before the State Assembly that the Government has a vision and a commitment. The vision is to accelerate the rate of economic growth in Tamil Nadu by maximising investment in industry and infrastructure; the vision is to give a boost to manufacturing, productivity, competitiveness and employment**

generation. The commitment of the Government is to translate this vision into actuality within a time-frame. Within a short period of assuming office, we have already signed 5 MoU's with manufacturing companies of national and international repute. It amounts to a cumulative investment of Rupees Two Thousand Two Hundred and Thirty Five Crores.

You would recall that during the CONNECT 2006, it was suggested that Tamil Nadu should aspire for a share of 25% of the total ICT production of India by 2011 from the current level of 14%. Today

we find Nokia, Foxconn, Flextronics, Motorola and Dell are already located here. Many more investments in the electronics hardware sector are in the pipeline. Seeing this trend of international and national investments flowing into the State, I am confident that this area will develop as a major hub for manufacturing electronic hardware and we will achieve our goal of increasing our share of ICT manufacture substantially by 2011.

I would like to acknowledge the sterling contribution of the Union Minister for Communication and Information

**Technology Thiru. Dayanidhi Maran, who has worked shoulder to shoulder with the State Government to bring these projects to our State. My thanks are due to the Hon'ble Prime Minister and the Chairperson of the UPA for their solid support to all the State Governments initiatives.**

**What are the factors that make Tamil Nadu such an attractive destination for investments? It is definitely the immense pool of highly motivated and skilled manpower. The IIT, 19 Universities, 12 Deemed Universities, 252 Engineering Colleges, 230 Polytechnics and 626**

**Industrial Training Schools that produce One Lakh Engineering Graduates, 63 Thousand Diploma Holders, One Lakh and Thirteen Thousand ITI-trained manpower and 4 Lakhs 50 Thousand Arts and Science Graduates is probably the largest pool of human resources in the country. Tamil Nadu Government is taking special steps to further enhance the skill set of this huge manpower base. This includes introduction of new courses that would be more relevant to the needs of the emerging industry, skill up-gradation of the faculty by training and establishment of**



finishing schools. All this is being done on a public private participation mode with the active involvement of the Government.

William Arthur Ward, an author writes, *“The pessimist complains about the wind; the optimist expects it to change; the realist adjusts the sails”*. I am aware that the ‘knowledge eco system’ cannot be a ‘state of mind’ alone. The physical state is as important as the virtual one. Hence our Government is firmly committed to putting in place the required infrastructure needed for sustaining the momentum. Time-bound projects have been announced for

strengthening the existing infrastructure and creating new ones. They are being monitored at the highest level.

These include a comprehensive development plan for not only Chennai city but a master plan for providing basic amenities of power, roads, drinking water, sewerage and storm water drainage to meet the demands of the larger Chennai Metropolitan area and its suburban areas. High speed transportation solutions are also being planned like a Metro Rail Project. Also on the anvil are plans to create fully equipped Industrial estates with the entire

social infrastructure required. What would be of particular interest to investors in this area is that the road connecting Singaperumalkoil and Sriperumbudur and the road connecting Vandalur and Walajahbad have been taken up for major up-gradation. The important stretches of these roads will be converted to six lane highways and the remaining portions will be upgraded to 4 lanes. This would greatly enhance road connectivity in this fast developing region.

The Government is also in the process of developing land bank for

**Industry at Sriperumbudur, Oragadam, Ennore and many other parts of the State. I have no doubt that these schemes will put Tamil Nadu in the forefront of the Industrial revolution. We are in close and constant touch with the Industry. I assure you that our Government will not be found wanting in any aspect relating to the sustained development of the State.**

**I take this opportunity to place on record my gratitude to the Honourable Prime Minister and the Chairperson of the UPA for their support. I request them to continue lending their support to the**

**Government of Tamil Nadu in achieving our dream of an economically strong and vibrant Tamil Nadu. Together we will win the war against hunger, want, unemployment and social justice.**

**My congratulations once again to the entire team at Flextronics. I look forward to your speedy growth. I assure you that you can count on the State of Tamil Nadu to stand by you at every stage of your progress.**

**Thank You !**

**நன்றி ; வணக்கம்.**