



BHEL signed MoU with Maharashtra Government for setting-up units worth Rs 2500 crore. Chief Minister Prithviraj Chavan, Union Minister Praful Patel, Industries Minister Narayan Rane look on. (Centre) Leading industrialists, elected representatives present during the conclave. (Right) Chief Secretary Dr Jayant Kumar Banthia discussing with NIT Chairman Pravin Darade. (Pics by Satish Raut)

# GM rolls red-carpet for...

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THE Central Government is giving subsidy worth of Rs 10,000 crore in this sector, he stated.



Chief Minister Prithviraj Chavan revealing advantages of Vidarbha at the conclave on Monday. (Pic by Satish Raut)

The ultra mega projects worth Rs 1,500 crore with an employment potential of 3,000 men is already underway in the region, he said.

Vidarbha, which has rich cotton belt; will be developed as textile manufacturing zone, the Chief Minister said, adding that "We will ensure that 100 per cent cotton is used for textile here after the new textile policy of Maharashtra government."

Chavan said, the Maintenance Repair Overhaul (MRO) facility of aircraft man-

ufacturing unit Boeing at MIHAN is nearing completion and it is delayed due to certain problems. A taxiway for Boeing is being constructed, he said. Chief Minister said, Tata Consultancy Services

(TCS) and Infosys have launched their projects in MIHAN. Besides developing second runway at Nagpur international airport, the Maharashtra government has extended night landing facilities at nearby airports at district headquarters for easy access, Chavan said, adding that the industrial work culture is excellent here. He said, there are 16 engineering colleges and 68 management institutes producing about 1.40 lakh graduate

professionals every year in Vidarbha region.

Chief Minister said, the Government will consider all the suggestions given by business sector on new industrial policy and may suitably change it accordingly. He emphasised to change mindset of politicians, bureaucrats for promoting industries in the state. He suggested that Government should work as facilitator and industries should create employment, this might be win-win situation for both the sectors.

# Mistry bats for Vidarbha's development, invites India Inc to make investment

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focus on pro-active policy to give an impetus to development," he added.

Recalling the association of Tata Group with Nagpur, Mistry said, "Nagpur has a special place in Tata Group family," Jamshedji Tata, the legendary 'Father of the Indian Industry' set up Empress Mill at Nagpur in 1874. The Group later diversified into various sectors. Shedding light on the activities of Tata Group of Companies, Mistry said that Tata Motors' Pune facility rolled out 45,000 vehicles per year. Tata Power produced over 2,000 MW in Maharashtra connecting 3,60,000 customers through a strong distribution network and Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) had software development centres in Mumbai and Pune.

"TCS is investing Rs 600 crore in Nagpur. The Nagpur campus, coming up in MIHAN-SEZ, in the first phase will offer jobs to 6,000 and in the second phase the intake will be 16,000," Mistry added.

In the city, Tata Realty and Infrastructure Ltd has launched a mega housing project enveloping an area of 1.2 million square feet. "Our presence through Taj Group is very much in Vidarbha as we have resorts at Pench," he stated.

Explaining Tata Group's niche area on R&D, Mistry said that TCS at Pune was developing, a super capability among professionals. Maharashtra was an engineering power house with 4,500 colleges. With this, the State definitely had an industrial edge over other states. Infrastructure was good due to strong road connectivity. As far as power was concerned, there was mismatch between demand and supply. With new power plants coming up, the gap would be plugged, he felt.

The Group has taken up community initiatives in Khed taluka where dozens of facilities are being provided to people.



MIDC CEO Bhushan Gagrani welcoming Tata Group Chairman Cyrus Mistry while Chief Minister Prithviraj Chavan looks on.

# Agenda of 'Advantage Vidarbha' on Day-II

ON TUESDAY, 'Advantage Vidarbha' will discuss specifics of how industrial growth of the region can be promoted.

The first session on 'Agro and Food Processing Opportunities in Vidarbha' will start at 9.30 am. The session aims to deliberate on how proactive policies of Government of Maharashtra will be beneficial to food processing industries.

The second session will discuss 'Knowledge Industry (IT, Biotech & Pharmaceutical)- Building new growth Centres,' and how Vidarbha can be ideal location for new age tech companies.

During second half of Tuesday, the meet will discuss 'Logistics and Transportation Infrastructure: the way forward' to promote MIHAN. The speakers will suggest way forward to put Nagpur back as a true global logistics hub and help generating employment for the region.

Another session on 'Regional Tourism Strategies for growth' will explore the possibility of promoting sustainable tourism in Vidarbha. Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar will be the chief guest for valedictory function.

# Moghe made Advantage Vidarbha a reality

GUARDIAN Minister Shivajirao Moghe, who maintained extremely low profile during inaugural function of Advantage Vidarbha 2013, was a happy man. He was the minister who floated the idea to host such a meet to showcase Vidarbha as ultimate destination for potential investment. For past several months, he pursued the idea and convinced Chief Minister Prithviraj Chavan and Industries Minister Narayan Rane to invite leading industrialists to Vidarbha and announce major incentives. I am sure, Advantage Vidarbha will yield positive results for the region, a visibly Moghe stated while pointing towards MoU's worth Rs 18,500 crore during Day-I. Incidentally,



when Moghe was Guardian Minister during the first stint of Democratic Front government and when Vilasrao Deshmukh was chief minister, he had floated the idea of Advantage Nagpur and several major developmental works were kick-started. The very idea of inviting NTPC to set-up a power plant at Mouda was outcome of that event. While organising such a mega-meet, several hurdles cropped up, but Moghe never made any issues and convinced all elected representatives to shun ego and join hands for the development of region.