



*Report on the participation of the Coir Board in*



*Technical and Vocational Education  
and Training (TVET) Expo 2013*

**COIR BOARD'S PARTICIPATION IN THE  
TVET EXPO, 2013  
28<sup>th</sup> Nov-3<sup>rd</sup> Dec 2013  
GIKONDO EXPO GROUNDS- KIGALI, RWANDA**

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The TVET Expo 2013 was held at Gikondo Expo Grounds, Kigali, Rwanda from 28<sup>th</sup> November to 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2013 and the Board was represented by Shri. M.Krishna, Regional Officer (I/c). The Fair was inaugurated at 3.00pm (local time at Rwanda) on 28<sup>th</sup> November 2013 by Dr. Vicent Biruta, Minister of Education, former Prime Minister and Head of Senate in a well organized function. Many dignitaries/ VIPs from African countries and India were also present.

**INDIAN DELEGATION TO RWANDA**

The Indian delegation under the leadership of Shri. K. H. Muniyappa, Hon'ble Minister of State for MSME, Govt. of India comprising the following delegates (representing both Government & Private Enterprise) has visited Rwanda.

1. Shri. K. H. Muniyappa, Hon'ble Union Minister of State for MSME, Government of India – Leader of the Delegation

2. His Excellency Mohan Suresh, Hon. Consul of Rwanda in Bangalore – Convenor
3. Shri. Surendra Nath Tripathi, Joint Secretary, Ministry of MSME, Govt. of India – Official Delegate
4. Dr. H. P. Kumar, CMD, NSIC, Govt. of India – Official Delegate
5. Shri. Vishal Gagan, P.S to Hon'ble Union Minister of State for MSME, Govt. of India - Official Delegate
6. Shri. P. Ravi Kumar, Zonal General Manager, NSIC, Govt. of India – Official Delegate
7. Shri. M. Krishna, R.O, Coir Board, Govt. of India - Official Delegate
8. Shri. Ramamoorthy Madhusudan, General Manager, Canara Bank – National Head, MSME - Official Delegate
9. Shri. Ramanujam Sampathkumar Dy. Gneral Manager, Canara Bank – Bangalore Rural Head - Official Delegate
10. Dr. Doraiswamy Gandhikumar President, FISME – Chairman, Business Delegation
11. Shri. Srinivasa Ayyangar Sampathraman, CMD, DPK Engineers Pvt. Ltd., - Business Delegate
12. Shri. Venkatramaiah Vasudeve, President, Technospark Granites (P) Ltd., - Business Delegate
13. Shri. Kelagere Chikkannashetty Lokesha, Manager – Projects - Business Delegate
14. Shri. Desikan Srinivasan, DPK Renewable Energy Pvt. Ltd., - Business Delegate
15. Shri. Prakash Kumar Agrawal, Managing Partner Bhavani Maa Stone - Business Delegate
16. Shri. Arup Ratan Manda, CEO, Premium Granites - Business Delegate
17. Shri. Rajamane Chidanand Mahadevappa, Vice- President KSSIA - Business Delegate
18. Dr. Nagaraj Hegde, CMD, High Tech Agri Services - Business Delegate

19. Shri. Prabhakar Sanjay Vijaypur, CEO, InKnowTech Private Limited - Business Delegate
20. Shri. Venkataraman Janak, Sr. Executive, IPO, MM Activ Sci-Tech Communications Pvt. Ltd., - Business Delegate

The handbook released on this occasion carrying the Boards advertisement amongst others is enclosed.



Smt & Shri. K. H. Muniyappa, Hon'ble Minister of State(IC) for MSME, Govt. of India has been extended a grand reception by the Rwandan Government Authorities in the TVET Expo 2013 at Kigali. Rwandan Union Minister for Employment is seen putting steps together

Immediately on reaching Kigali on 27<sup>th</sup> night the preliminary enquiries were made about the stall, location/arrangements and on 28<sup>th</sup> the stall was taken possession. The display materials carried along with the baggage have been shifted to the venue and have put up a beautiful show in the Fair displaying varieties of product posters, sample products display comprising of varieties of mats, handicrafts, garden articles, and so on tastefully arranged.



Products on display at Board's stall in TVET Expo 2013 Kigali-Rwanda

After the inauguration Dr. Vicent Biruta, Minister of Education, former Prime Minister and Head of Senate and other VIPs have visited the Indian pavilion and the Coir Board stall was the leading one. The Minister was well explained about the functions of the Board & Products, Coir Geo-Textiles in particular.



Dr. Vicent Biruta, Minister of Education, former Prime Minister and Head of Senate, Rwanda and other VIPs have been briefed about products and received at the stall by the Board's official

There were different Indian enterprise both Govt & private have participated and displayed their products in the Indian pavilion. Although Expo was for the period from 28<sup>th</sup> November to 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2013, the 2<sup>nd</sup>

December 2013 was packing up day and 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2013 was the Valedictory party. The Indian Pavilion participants packed up on 1<sup>st</sup> December 2013 and all including me have departed Rwanda on 02<sup>nd</sup> December 2013. The display products have been gifted to VIP's.



The Coir Board extended warm reception in the stall at TVET Expo 2013 at Rwanda to Smt & Shri. K. H. Muniyappa, Hon'ble Union Minister of State(IC) for MSME & at the back ground Dr. H. P. Kumar, CMD-NSIC & M. Krishna Coir Board

Also the arrangements were made to play different videos such as Short film on Coir, Wonder fibre Coir, Coir pith, Geo-textiles etc. in the stall. Various literatures and brochures were also distributed to the VIPs and interested visitors.



Presenting COIR BAG as a gift to the Union Minister for Employment, Govt. of Rwanda in Coir Board's stall at TVET Expo 2013 in the presence of Shri. K. H. Muniyappa, Hon'ble Union Minister of State(IC) for MSME, Govt. of India & glimpse of VIP visitors including Ministers of Rwanda & Uganda, Shri. Surendranath Tripathi, Joint Secretary & Shri. Vishal Gagan, PS to Minister, Min. of MSME, His Excellency Indian Ambassador at Rwanda and others

## CULTURAL PROGRAMME

The Expo authorities have organized a get together on 28<sup>th</sup> evening along with a cultural programme which facilitated close interaction with the other counter parts.



*Traditional dance of Rwandees*

## VISIT OF INDIAN DELEGATION TO SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONE

A visit to Special Economic Zone for Indian Delegation was organized on 28<sup>th</sup> November 2013 at 10 a.m. by the Rwanda Development Board to appraise/attract Indian investors for establishing business/industries in Rwanda. There are few players from China, Uganda etc. who have already established their units. There are ample of opportunities for infrastructure industry.



Indian Delegation at Rwanda in TVET EXPO 2013

A small foam mattress unit was also seen present. The Rwandan Govt. is assuring various incentives for the Investors. The Indian companies may try possibly Rubberized Coir mattress industry which might facilitate to cater to African markets.

## HIGH LEVEL DELEGATION MEETING

A high level delegation meeting was held at 1 p.m. on 28<sup>th</sup> November at the Board room of the Rwanda Development Board with the Indian delegation. The senior officers from the Ministry of SME, Industry experts, and banking/infrastructure sector officials were present and briefed all that the Rwandan Govt. offers for the overseas investors with zero percent tolerance on corruption.



The Rwandan authorities holding meeting with Indian Delegation at the Board Room of Rwanda Development Board in the sidelines of TVET EXPO 2013 at Kigali – Rwanda. Shri. M. Krishna, Regional Officer of Coir Board may also be seen

It was told that anybody can buy the land/property at Rwanda at the price that the locals can buy and the Govt. will organize registration/documentation within 3 days. This should be a great opening for Indian players and venture capitalists to take advantage of the opportunity.

#### TVET EXPO SYMPOSIUM

The TVET Symposium was held at Gikondo Expo grounds on 29<sup>th</sup> November 2013. The symposium began with welcome remarks, then keynote address by Hon'ble Minister of State for TVET. The symposium deliberated on various topics such as;

- ✚ “Global trends of TVET development” **by** World Bank TVET Expert
- ✚ “Rwandan TVET Reform” **by** Mr. Jerome Gasana, DGWDA
- ✚ “Role of the Private sector” in TVET **by** CEO PSF



Shri. K. H. Muniyappa, Hon'ble Union Minister of State(IC) for Micro Small & Medum Enterprise, Govt. of India seen delivering speech in the TVET SYMPOSIUM at Kigali-Rwanda on 29<sup>th</sup> November 2013

It was followed by an open session addressed by the following Ministers;

Burundian TETVT, Uganda BTVET, Congo Brazaville TVET, Ethiopia and ultimately Indian Minister of State with independent charge for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME), Shri. K.H.Muniyappa. While he appreciated the steps taken by the Rwandan Govt, he also reiterated the need for such developments in all the African countries and India is very happy to co-operate in the developmental front. He has also highlighted the trend and the latest technologies in MSME Sector in India.

#### TRADE OPPORTUNITIES

The Rwanda is one of the upcoming African countries having strong administration with determination to bring the country to the main stream. The pace of the development is quite appreciable and by 2020 the face of the country is likely to take a 'U' turn. Since it is in the stage of inception in definite development, trade and industry may flourish by 2020. The opportunity therefore for the overseas investors is unlimited. The business enquiry generated may be incidental due to the absence of the coconut or coir

but it doesn't restrict use of the coir particularly in infrastructure development, more specifically roads/ embankment protection projects for Geo-Textiles. So far a lot of work has been done for the beautification /embankment protection in infrastructure work and a lot more to be done. Presently the German enterprise has done the work on a contract using brick and grass as shown below, while no construction material including brick is produced there.



Presently used product & green technique for the slope stabilization cum beautification in Kigali - Rwanda & the Parliament Building is atop; the cost effective coir geo-textile can effectively substitute the present system

In other words the Coir Geo-textiles for bio-engineering applications would bring down the cost enormously while giving a good opening for Indian Coir, if systematically tapped. This requires intense intervention and interaction at appropriate level mainly with the private participation.

There were few general enquiries about the products on minimal scale. The extract of the visitor's book is furnished.

### CONCLUSION

The country doesn't have coconut cultivation and the nearest place where coconut is grown is Tanzania, the neighbor country. There are ample of opportunities for the venture capitalists to invest in overseas country to establish manufacturing units and service providers particularly for Rubberized Coir Mattress manufacturers and suppliers and service providers of Coir Geo-Textiles Road/Embankment protection/Stabilization/ Beautification with the private participation and Govt. facilitation.

Therefore, it is recommended that this information may be circulated in the industry for the best advantage of the trade.

Date: 18<sup>th</sup> December 2013  
Place: Bangalore

  
(M.Krishna)  
Regional Officer