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Title : IT sector will create 1.2 cr jobs by 2020: Kriparani

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# IT sector will create 1.2 cr jobs by 2020: Kriparani

- *IT Exports to touch ₹20 lakh crore by 2020*
- *IT Exports from Visakha ₹1200 crore*
- *Visakha to become Hardware hub*

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**Visakhapatnam:** Union Minister of State for communications and Information Technology, Killi Kruparani said that the union government was promoting the Information Technology sector to create more employment opportunities in the country. Addressing the one-day workshop on growth of IT sector, she said the direct employment would reach 1.2 crore and indirect employment 5 crore by end of 2020. At present only 22 lakh persons were directly employed and 80 lakh indirectly in this sector.

She said that the IT exports which were Rs.50, 000 crores in 2000 increased to Rs. 2.5 lakh crores and expected to reach to Rs. 20 lakh crores by 2020.

Giving details of the development process, she said 10 new Software Technology Parks of India would be set up in the next four years year, adding to the existing 51 parks in the country,

"STPIs are already getting exemption from Central excise and custom duties and now we are seeking exemp-



*Union Minister for IT Killi Kriparani and State IT Minister Ponnala Lakshmaiah at the STPI meeting in Visakhapatnam on Monday*

tion from Central sales tax as well so that more foreign investment can be attracted," she added.

The State Minister for Information Technology and Communications Ponnala Lakshmaiah said that the state and Central governments were taking all steps for the promotion of Information Technology. The State government was planning to build IT incubation towers in Kakinada, Tirupati, Warangal and Karimnagar. He said the State had only 334 IT companies and

generating exports of Rs.5025 crore with an employment of 50,000 professionals until 2003.

"Today the IT exports touched to Rs.53, 000 crores with a employment of 3.25 lakhs

through 1250 IT companies in the state" he added. He said the total exports from Visakhapatnam was over Rs.1200 crores with an employment of 16,000 IT professionals through 123 software development and IT enabled services companies. He said ICT policy

2010-2015 was to make Andhra Pradesh one of the forerunners in IT sector in the country.

As a part of it the state government was intended to make Visakhapatnam as the next Electronic Hardware Hub as the state government was creating Electronic Manufacturing Clusters and one such cluster would be opened in Parawada in the district. This cluster would house all the electronic manufacturing companies, he said.

The Rushikonda Information Technology Park Association (RITPA) President P.Vishnu Kumar Raju and Vice-President O Naresh Kumar urged State Government to provide basic amenities like street lights, roads and bus connectivity in the IT special economic zones.

Naresh Kumar asked the Minister to take steps to provide uninterrupted power supply to the IT companies and exempt them from the penalties charged for drawing over load by the discoms as part of Restructure and Control measures being imposed by the Andhra Pradesh Electricity Regulatory Commission (APEREC).