

State plans tech development board to aid indigenous technologies: DyCM

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DEPUTY Chief Minister C N Ashwath Narayan who also holds additional charge of Information Technology, Biotechnology, Science and Technology ministries on Friday said "the department is planning to set up a Karnataka Technology Development Board to push indigenously developed technologies to encourage entrepreneurs".

"Just as we have Karnataka Innovation Authority and Vision Group for Startups, we are also coming up with a plan to set up a Technology Development Board for Global In-house Centres (GICs) and Research and Development Centres,"

Narayan said during an exclu-



sive interaction with The New Indian Express on Friday, adding that more than 50 percent of the companies have R&D centres in Bengaluru.

The Technology Development Board concept is at its nascent stage and aims to encourage IT, BT and ITES companies for investment promotion, facilitating interactions with government agencies and more.

As of now, Google, Shell,

Huawei, Intel, Samsung, GE, Airbus, NetApp, Tesco, Qualcomm, SAP, ABB Switzerland, Mercedes Benz, Nvidia, Alcatel, Astra Zeneca, Phillips, Boeing, Goldman Sachs, Texas Instruments, Volvo, Adobe, Cisco, Walmart, Honeywell, Accenture are some of the GICs in Bengaluru which are into research and development.

The Karnataka Innovation Authority on the other hand is being set up to clear

legal hurdles for startups. The state government also intends to implement post approval process, where startups can take approvals even three years after being set up.

"We are forming talent accelerators for engineering graduates. Though they were in vogue earlier, they were not relevant. The upcoming initiative will hone skills of students at the level of institution itself," he said.

The IT policy will also be unveiled soon he said, which will decongest Bengaluru and attract investments in tier-2 and tier-3 cities. It will facilitate single window clearance and post approval process for startups and tech companies.

For those companies that enjoy concessions in terms of tax, land etc., the State Government plans to make it mandatory to hire Kannadigas.

BENGALURU TECH SUMMIT

Speaking to TNIE ahead of three-day Bengaluru Tech Summit which starts on November 18, Narayan said that there will be pavilions for all sectors in specific areas with prominent companies participating in panel discussions. "They will share their advancements in the fields of IT and BT. Ministers and diplomats from 25 countries will attend the event, along with 3,500 delegates, 12,000 visitors and 200 stalls at the exhibition showcasing technology from around the globe. It will help networking among stakeholders" he said. Robotics competition, impact awards for nine unicorns from Bengaluru and Smart Bio Awards are the new additions to the summit this year.