

KIADB to adopt GIS to map industrial units

Entrepreneurs will just have to click a button to pick a plot

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MYSORE: Entrepreneurs will soon be able to choose a plot of land for setting up industries in any of the industrial areas in the State at the click of a button. This would be possible as the Karnataka Industrial Areas Development Board (KIADB) is mapping industrial areas, numbering over 125 in the State, using the Geographic Information System (GIS). Work on the project has commenced and the system is likely to be ready next year or early 2012.

The board's move is seen as an attempt to ensure orderly development of industrial areas to attract more foreign investment.

The onus is on the KIADB to ensure balanced industrial development in all regions with Karnataka being promoted as a premier destination for industrial ventures.



CHANGING WITH TIME: GIS mapping of industrial units will be a plus point for development in the State. - PHOTO: M.A. SRIRAM

Contract with Rolta

The contract for developing the GIS applications and networking of the industrial sites has been bagged by Rolta, a leader in providing solutions and services for Geospatial and Geographical Information Systems.

"Using state-of-the-art information technology solutions and software and customised web-based GIS applications, the company will develop the system essential for us to map the industrial units and thus help in taking industrial development to new heights," said KIADB General Manager Ashok Mamani.

In an exclusive chat with *The Hindu*, Mr. Mamani said GIS mapping would enable investors to know the status

- Investors will glean status of occupancy, availability of plots, stage of projects

- Work to be completed in 18 months

of occupancy, availability of plots and implementation of projects by allottees, and other information.

Convenience

"It would be convenient for us to explain the profile of the industrial units on the computer screen rather than showing the plots on paper," he said.

He said the company had been asked to complete the work in 18 months. "Once the software and other applications are ready, the data available with us on the units will

be incorporated, which can be accessed by the entrepreneurs at the click of a button," Mr. Mamani said.

Utilisation of land allotted to entrepreneurs has to be monitored regularly to ensure planned and orderly industrial development. The GIS applications can help the board in this, official sources said.

Networking

In addition, the board plans to computerise all its activities, including acquisition and development and al-

lotment of land, as well as linking the headquarters with field-level officers for better governance, sources added.

In fact, the board had plans of mapping the Peenya Industrial Area in Bangalore and Dobbepet Industrial Area on the Bangalore-Pune Highway on a pilot basis before launching the GIS mapping project in the State.

The KIADB has developed 126 industrial units spread across 40,000 acres of land in the State. Peenya, Electronics City and the Export Promotion Industrial Park (EPIP) in Bangalore; Hebbal in Mysore; Baikampady in Mangalore; Tarihal in Dharwad; Kakati in Belgaum; and the Auto Complex in Shimoga are among the prominent industrial areas developed by the KIADB.