

FICCI releases report on FICCI-Intel Project on 'Ease of Doing Business'



Kumud Srinivasan, President, Intel India and Dr. A. Didar Singh, Secretary General, (centre) during project kick off meeting of the FICCI-Intel Ease of Doing Business Project.

In May 2014, Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) and Intel launched an initiative for enhancing ease of doing business in the country by addressing process inefficiencies/bottlenecks that slow down foreign investment flows into India. Under the first project of this initiative, specific foreign investment cases were identified and studied in depth to identify process gaps and inefficiencies. The main goal of the first project was to address implementation issues within existing policy framework. Activities taken up during the project included identification of issues/challenges arising out of process gaps and outreach to relevant stakeholders in order to address the gaps.

A total of 19 cases of foreign investment sourced from FICCI's Invest India forum and Intel were shortlisted for further analysis. Top three issues linked with process inefficiencies were identified as lack of defined time norms for clearances, inefficiency due to manual processing of

applications, and absence of integrated investor facilitation services. The project has led to the following outcomes:

- Launch of a joint initiative by FICCI and Quality Council of India to work with State governments on timely delivery of government services by leveraging the Right to Public Service Guarantee legislation of the state and bring more investor services under its ambit.
- FICCI worked with the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion, Government of India, to rationalise the processes for Environmental and Mining clearances within the existing policy framework and bring it online. Tracking and monitoring mechanism will be established to ensure that this automation is delivering the desired results. Project Monitoring Group under Cabinet Secretariat has also started the process of getting states to migrate their industrial/investor clearances

online. Best practices on specific aspects of industrial clearances have been shared through workshops organised by FICCI.

- Investment Promotion Intermediaries (IPIs) have been set up to provide information on business environment and opportunities for potential investment. With the launch of the 'Make in India' initiative, an Investor Facilitation Cell (IFC) has been set up as part of Invest India forum to provide information and handholding support to potential domestic and foreign investors. The Make in India portal also facilitates availability of information for the benefit potential investors.

The full report can be viewed from the following link on the FICCI website:

<http://ficci.com/publication-page.asp?spid=20603> ■