Government of Karnataka Launches SME Connect '25: Enabling Industry 4.0

Bangalore, September 20, 2024: In a significant move to prepare Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) for the future, the Government of Karnataka has launchedSME Connect'25 initiative. As a part of SME connect initiative, there is a dedicated program SME Connect- Industry 4.0 Enabled. The program is designed to facilitate the adoption of Industry 4.0 technologies that can significantly improve operational processes, enhance product quality and expand market opportunities for SMEs. By building technological capabilities among these enterprises, the government is positioning Karnataka as a leader in Industry 4.0 adoption across key sectors.

This program aligns with the government's vision of a future-ready Karnataka, where businesses of all sizes can leverage innovation and technology to thrive in the global marketplace. This program is a critical component of the Government's strategy to promote technology-drivenand resilient growth as part of its **Global Investors Meet** 2025.

Through this initiative, the government aims to equip SMEs across Karnataka with cutting-edge technologies such as Artificial Intelligence (AI), Internet of Things (IoT), and Data Analytics to improve their operational efficiency and global competitiveness.

As a precursor to the full-scale launch of SME Connect '25, the Karnataka government hosted an Industry 4.0 training workshop at The Lalit Ashok, Bangalore, on September 20, 2024. The workshop equipped SMEs with the knowledge and tools to navigate the smart manufacturing landscape. Participants gained insights into key areas such as overcoming operational challenges, the step-by-step process of digital transformation, and implementing low-cost, smart manufacturing solutions. The workshop emphasized how advanced technologies like AI, IoTand Analytics can optimize business operations, drive innovation and increase competitiveness in the rapidly evolving market. The workshops were done in presence of Smt Gunjan Krishna, IAS, Commissioner for Industrial Development and Director, Department of Commerce and Industries.

The program is being implemented in partnership with K-Tech Center of Excellence in IoT (CoE), NASSCOM. As part of the SME Connect '25 program, the Karnataka government aims to build a future-ready ecosystem that empowers SMEs by fostering a culture of innovation and digital transformation.

To enhance operational efficiency and product quality of SMEs, a series of monthly workshops on AI, IoT and data analytics will be conducted in key industrial clusters across Karnataka. These workshops willprovide SMEs with practical insights into the application of advanced technologies in manufacturing and business operations.

Additionally, these workshops will focus on providing assistance to SMEs in various aspects like overcoming operational challenges and adopting digital solutions tailored to their needs. The initiative will serve as a a platform to SMEs to showcase their smart solutions at the Global Investors Meet 2025, providing them with an international platform to highlight their technological advancements and explore new growth opportunities in domestic and global markets.



Clip: SME Connect 2025

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