

MEDIA RELEASE

IE Singapore partners Pune to help Singapore urban solutions providers participate in India's Smart Cities Mission

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Singapore, Thursday, 23 March 2017

1. International Enterprise (IE) Singapore today signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Pune Municipal Corporation¹ to further expand our networks with key local government partners across India. The partnership will focus on identifying projects and helping Singapore urban solutions companies access opportunities in smart cities in Pune. This MOU follows previous agreements signed with states of Rajasthan and Gujarat.
2. The MOU was signed by Ms Kathy Lai, Deputy Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of IE Singapore and Mr Kunal Kumar, Municipal Commissioner from Pune Municipal Corporation. Said Ms Kathy Lai, "This partnership with Pune strengthens our networks across India and deepens our in-market engagement with city-level authorities. This helps us open doors to specific leads for smart cities opportunities in Pune and provides a framework for Singapore companies to collaborate and share their expertise with Pune."
3. Pune, the second largest city in the state of Maharashtra, is home to more than 3 million people. In recent years, Pune has emerged as a key automotive manufacturing, engineering and IT hub in India. This rapid growth has led to an increased demand for smart city solutions to alleviate the stress on its urban infrastructure.

¹ Pune Municipal Corporation is the civic body in charge of the administration of Pune city. Its areas of administration include IT, transport, health, roads, water and emergency services.

4. Pune is among the 109 cities shortlisted to date for India's Smart Cities Mission, and the city has allocated an estimated US\$5.2 billion to its smart city development plan. Pune has identified its key priorities to improve urban mobility, provide access to water, enhance citizen outreach efforts and improve infrastructure in energy, housing, safety and security. A recent Smart Cities report card² by India's urban development ministry ranked Pune the eighth fastest city in implementing its smart city plan.
5. Under the MOU, IE Singapore will work closely with the Pune Municipal Corporation to enable more Singapore companies to participate in Pune's smart city projects. Specific areas of collaboration include upgrading Pune's transport infrastructure and traffic monitoring systems, treatment and management of water and waste water, as well as e-governance and citizen engagement service.
6. Both IE Singapore and Pune Municipal Corporation will facilitate public-private sector participation in these projects by bringing together Singapore companies as well as relevant companies from India and other countries. So far, IE Singapore has facilitated visits to Pune for over 15 Singapore companies to discuss smart cities opportunities.
7. Other than smart cities, Pune has been an attractive business destination for Singapore companies. Companies making headway in this city come from diverse sectors including technology, logistics, urban solutions, consumer and finance. Examples include Ademco, Anchanto, Ascendas Singbridge, Charles and Keith, DBS Bank, Etonhouse Group and Hyflux.

Keywords: IE Singapore, Pune, India's Smart Cities, Smart Cities Mission, infrastructure, urban solutions

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² The Economic Times India

Note to Editor

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For media enquiries and/or event photos, please contact:

Ms Cheryl How
Manager (Media), Corporate Communications Group
DID : +65 6433 4655
Email : Cheryl_HOW@iesingapore.gov.sg

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IE Singapore attracts global commodities traders to establish their global or Asian home base in Singapore. Today, Singapore is a thriving trading hub with a complete ecosystem for the energy, agri-commodities and metals & minerals trading clusters.

Through our Global Company Partnership and Market Readiness Assistance, we also work with Singapore-based companies in their various stages of growth towards being globally competitive.

Our global network of overseas centres in over 35 locations provides the necessary connections in many developed and emerging markets. Visit www.iesingapore.gov.sg for more information.

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