



TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT

Looking at the impressive growth which the SME sector has registered in the last few years, especially in the field of light engineering, textiles, biotech and IT, the State Government will give special focus on the SME sector to achieve its objective of high growth with greater employment opportunities. The Government will, therefore, initiate measures to address the challenges faced by the SME sector in the areas of availability of cheap and timely finance, technology upgradation, upgradation of skill sets of those employed in this sector and marketing. The State will also take all necessary measures to complement the initiatives proposed by the Central Government in its Small & Medium Enterprises Bill, including setting up of a special institution for the SMEs. It will also provide the following incentives to promote quality competitiveness, research and development and technology upgradation.

5% subsidy on capital equipment for technology upgradation limited to Rs 25 Lacs

50% subsidy on the expenses incurred for quality certification limited to Rs. 1 Lakh

25% subsidy on cleaner production measures limited to Rs.5 Lakhs

50% subsidy on the expenses incurred for patent registration limited to Rs. 5 Lakh

Testing Laboratories:

To assist the small scale enterprises in testing raw materials, products and processed items, the Department is running testing laboratories in accordance with statutory requirements. For electrical and electronics testing, the laboratories are at Kakkalur and Hosur and for chemical testing, the laboratories are at Chennai, Madurai, Salem, Coimbatore and Thoothukudi. These laboratories provide testing facilities to small scale industries at

concessional rates. During 2006-07, 6080 samples have been tested in electrical and electronics laboratories and 54,279 samples have been tested in chemical laboratories.

Electro Medical Equipment Centres:

The Government have set up four Electro Medical Equipment Centres at Guindy, Madurai, Thanjavur and Coimbatore for repairing and servicing electro medical equipments belonging to Government hospitals. It is proposed to take measures to improve the functioning of these centres.