



Taiwan company to build new carbon black factory in India

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Hyderabad, India, March 2 (CNA) The Taiwan-based China Synthetic Rubber Corp. (CSRC) announced Wednesday that it will invest NT\$9.73 billion (US\$330 million) to build a new carbon black manufacturing plant in the southeastern Indian state of Andhra Pradesh.

A ceremony was held in Hyderabad, the state's capital city, earlier on Wednesday to mark the

launch of the investment. It was attended by Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Kiran Kumar Reddy, CSRC Chairman Leslie Koo, and Pan Kai-tien, chairman of the Continental Carbon India Ltd. -- CSRC's subsidiary in India.

Pan said the planned factory in the coastal city of Visakhapatnam, along the Bay of Bengal, will create 3,000 to 4,000 jobs, and generate a revenue of around NT\$17.69 billion (US\$600 million) after the three-stage construction of the plant is completed.

Minister Reddy voiced his welcome for the investment and suggested Koo can soon consider expanding investment in his state.

The planned new plant will be the eighth carbon black production facility for CSRC, a subsidiary of the Taiwan Cement Group. CSRC currently has three factories in the United States, two in China, one in Taiwan, and one in India to produce the synthetic pigment product. The total carbon black output of the seven plants reached 680,000 metric tons last year, ranking CSRC fifth globally in this industry.

According to Chairman Pan of Continental Carbon India, the first stage of construction is expected to finish within two years. Production will begin at that time, he said.