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CMRL enters into technology transfer pact with NIIST

Staff Reporter

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Technology jointly modified by CMRL and NIIST

CMRL to double capacity of the Edayar plant

Kochi: Cochin Minerals and Rutile Limited (CMRL) has entered into a technology transfer agreement with the National Institute for Interdisciplinary Science and Technology (NIIST), formerly Regional Research Laboratory (RRL), Thiruvananthapuram, for commercialisation of a new process for manufacture of synthetic rutile.

A press release said here that the technology document was handed over to S. N. Sasidharan Kartha, Managing Director, CMRL, Aluva, by S.K. Brahmachary, Director General, CSIR, at a function at NIIST on Wednesday.

The new technology is based on research spanning a period of 20 years, said the press release. The technology was jointly modified by the CMRL and NIIST.

In the new process, all the by products are recovered as saleable products making the process eco-friendly. Low acid consumption in the new technology will enable the CMRL to achieve near-zero effluent status.

It is estimated that there are about 350 million tonnes of Ilmenite and proportionate allied minerals deposit in the country.

Value-added products

Their utilisation is insignificant due to lack of proper technology. Various value-added products from heavy minerals are essential ingredients for jet engines, missiles and aviation industry.

The CMRL proposed to double the capacity of its plant at Edayar by adopting the new technology at an estimated cost of Rs.100 crore.

The plan is to evolve an industrial complex manufacturing the entire range of value-added products from beach minerals to titanium metal, pigments and alloys.

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