APPEJAY LOGISTICS TO INVEST ₹ 200 CRORE AT HALDIA BY 2015

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peejay Logistics Park, a 100 per cent subsidiary of Apeejay Infralogistics, will be investing ₹ 200 crore at Haldia by 2015.

The first phase has been completed, chairman Apeejay Surrendra group, Karan Paul said. The logistics park would house state-of-the-art warehouse for specialized and break bulk containerised cargo, truck terminal, light processing units, administrative blocks, offices, and residential areas, apart from food courts.

The employment potential of the project is about 1,400. The logistics park was spread over 90 acres and would be built in three phases. The group is bullish on Bengal. "It has two ports," Paul said. Moreover, West Bengal acts as a gateway not only to land-locked hinterland states as well as neighbouring coun-



(From left) Nikhil Naik, director, Eredene Capital PLC and Karan Paul, chairman, Apeejay Surrendra Group, at a press meet, in Kolkata on Thursday PHOTO: SUBRATA MAJUMDER

tries. Haldia port handled 44 million tonne of cargo in FY07-08 and is expected to handle 64.7 million tonne by 2011-12. The company is also building a logistics park at Kalinganagar in Orissa. "The park is dedicated and focused to

steel, mineral and power sectors," Paul said. The estimated cost of the project is ₹ 50 crore, which would be invested in two phases.

Apeejay has an understanding with Eredene Capital plc to explore more such

opportunities in the eastern states.

Apeejay Infralogistics happens to be a joint venture between the Apeejay Surrendra group and Eredene Capital.

The region's logistics sector has been growing at 8-10 per cent since 2002 and has achieved revenues of more than \$172 billion by early 2009. The company believes that integrated logistics facilities (logistics parks) with adequate infrastructure and containerised transportation to manage multi-modal logistics complexities is going to be the "one stop solution" in the years to come.