

State on JKLC radar for grinding unit

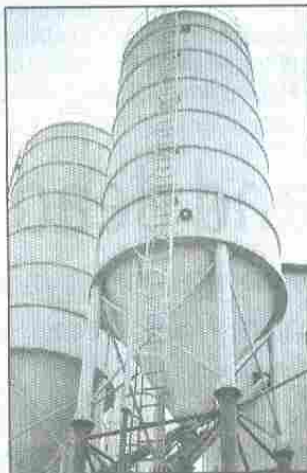
Udit Prasanna Mukherji | TNN

Kolkata: JK Lakshmi Cement of JK Group may look at Bengal for the one million tonne cement grinding unit which could entail an investment of over Rs 250 crore. Currently, the J K Group firm does not have any presence in the east. A strong presence in east is part of its strategy to become Rs 5,000-crore company in next 3 years. Now, the company has a turnover of Rs 1,400 crore.

JKLC director S Chouksey told TOI that it would set up two grinding units of one million tonne each in east. "We have already identified land for one unit in Orissa. The second unit will be set up near Jharkhand Bengal border or in Bengal. We want to be in the vicinity of the market. After political change in Bengal we are bullish. The company would require 60 acres for the plant in Bengal," he added.

Now, JKLC has a capacity of 4.7 million tonne. It is setting up a 2.7 million tonne clinker plant near Durg in Chattisgarh with an investment of Rs 1,250 crore. It would take the capacity to over 8 million tonne by end of 2013. The master plant of the group is in Sirohi, Rajasthan.

According to him, the clinker produced in Durg will be used for two grinding



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units in east. "We are also setting up a 0.7 million tonne grinding unit in Durg," he added. Commenting on the power plan, he added that it is increasing the capacity to 87 MW from 66 MW. "Our own requirement is 66 MW and the rest will be sold," he added.

Elaborating on the ready mix concrete (RMC) business, he added that keeping in touch with the global construction trends & changing needs of customers, the company has introduced state-of-the-art RMC with the brand name "JK Lakshmi Power Mix". Currently, the company has 10 fully operational plants in Western & Northern regions of the country and is further expanding in this area.