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In Expansion Mode: Software Major Takes 129 Acres On 99-Year Lease at Mahindra City

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Infosys Technologies plans to invest Rs 250 crore in its new facility as part of its major expansion programme in Chennai. For this it has acquired 129 acres on a 99 year lease at Mahindra City, an industrial park near the metro. An MoU was signed in this regard in Chennai today by S Gopalkrishnan, COO, Infosys and Arun Nanda, ED & President, Infrastructure & Development sector, Mahindra Mahindra in the presence of Tamil nadu Chief Secretary Lakshmi Pranesh and Industries secretary K Skandan.

Mr. Gopalkrishnan informed media persons on Wednesday that the facility in Mahindra City, once completed would accommodate about 5000 employees. Initially, however it would start around 600 to 1000 people. The growth would depend on the centre's ability to attract people and projects.

The facility would start functioning in the next 9-12 months, he said. As in the case with 16 other development centres spread across nine cities, this facility would offer service across nine cities, this facility would offer service across domains and technologies. There was a possibility of Progeon, a business process outsourcing company, in which Infosys has a majority stake, also using this centre.

Progeon has about 800 employees and seven clients and operates from Bangalore and Pune, he said. Infosys already has a development centre at Sholinganallur, Chennai with 2400 employees. This facility, spread across 13.5 acres, would continue to operate even after the Mahindra City development centre kicks off, Mr. Gopalkrishnan said. Mr. Nanda said Mahindra City that spans 1400 acres, with 700 acres ready in the first phase, had three more contracts, totaling to 100 acres, to sign in this quarter.

The park is also in the process of developing 2.5 lakh sq ft built up space at a cost of Rs 50 crore. This would be ready in 9-12 months. A smaller facility would come up in '04-05.