

# South Gujarat's first CEFC to come up near Bardoli

Melvyn.ReggieThomas  
@timesgroup.com

**Surat:** The city-based Science Engineering and Technology Upliftment (SETU) Foundation will sign a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Department of Heavy Industries, Union Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises, for setting up of the Common Engineering Facility Centre (CEFC) near Bardoli, some 40 km from here.

The CEFC, will be set up on 5 acres of land at an estimated cost of Rs 50 crore, with active participation of the local industry and industry associations including Surat Engineering Vikas Association (SEVA), Textile Machinery Manufacturers Association of India (TMMAI) and the Sardar Vallabhai Patel Education Society, Bardoli.

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Girish Shankar, secretary, ministry of heavy industries & public enterprises will sign an MoU with SETU on December 14.

Chairman of SETU, Hetal Mehta told TOI, "This is basically a product development-cum training centre to upgrading our technology and quality of production matching the global standards. This facility

will help the MSME units in South Gujarat to improve their quality of products and efficiency with the use of advance engineering."

SETU has tied up with the France-based software company, Top Solid Design Software, whose 95 per cent of the softwares are used in aviation and ship building sectors world wide. The company will provide software development support at the centre.

Mehta said, "Technology gap in India is more than 40 years compared to the rest of the developed countries. Through this centre, our aim is to help narrow down the gap and provide up-to-date and modern engineering products for the textile and engineering sectors."

Mehta said that even for a small testing, the textile machinery manufacturers and engineering firms have to visit either Mumbai or Ahmedabad.