

MSMEs Set for Defence Expo in Bangalore

Defence gurus from Ordinance Factories will flock the city in the first week of March

by Anantha Krishnan M

dia's defence and aerospace sector.

Choreographed by the Ministry of MSMEs and directed by the National Small Industries Corporation (NSIC), the second edition of MSME DEFEXPO 2012 has been the supporting system for Industries Department. Close to 200 MSMEs from all over India, with half of them from Karnataka alone, will plug and play their vision on offsets in addition to exhibiting their strengths in

the defence production.

In a telecon with *Express* from Delhi on Thursday, Udaya Kumar, Director, Planning and Marketing, NSIC, said that with the opening up of the defence sector, the MSMEs could strike gold making the right moves. "Today MSMEs have highly competitive production mandate with great flexibility, extensive diversity and lower cost of inputs. The global trends in knowledge, innovation, downsizing and



THE EXPO WILL ALSO HAVE A SEPARATE SEGMENT FOR HOMELAND SECURITY

networking have reduced the gap which had once separated large firms and MSMEs. Compared to the first expo in Hyderabad, the Bangalore one scheduled from March 2-4 will be one opportunity for MSMEs to hear from the masters in defence production," Udaya Kumar said.

Among the biggies to be present are Boeing, Lockheed Martin, SAAB and Dassault Aviation with Russia sending a high-level trade

commission.

"We have confirmations from over a dozen global original equipment manufacturers (OEMs) so far," Udaya Kumar said. On March 3, KPMG is organising a day-long technical workshop covering a wide range of topics including, MRO, certification, opportunities with global OEMs among others.

The expo will also have a separate segment for homeland security.