

Indo-Canadian jv for sewer cleaning

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"There is immense potential for municipal cleaning systems," says Mr Hemant M. Shah, Chief Executive Officer of Cubex, a Winnipeg-based company, maintaining that the systems are "cost-effective clean-up solutions for some of India's most important environment challenges"

Accompanied by Mr Jason Hannah, Divisional Manager, Municipal and Construction Equipment, Mr Shah interacted with a number of officials in Chandigarh and Punjab, including the Chief Engineer of Chandigarh, Mr Puranjit Singh, and the Commissioner of the Ludhiana Municipal Corporation, Dr S.S. Sandhu. The company offers street sweepers, sewer cleaning systems and highway maintenance equipment.

Now when the government as well as the civic bodies are talking of downsizing these machines could

come in for the manpower to maintain the basic essential civic services.

"We came to India on a probe mission almost a fortnight ago and have visited Hyderabad, Pune, Mumbai and Delhi before arriving here. We already have Cubex-KLR International Inc, a manufacturing facility in Hyderabad, under an Indo-Canadian joint venture," he said.

"Encouraged by the response to our world-class maintenance systems and equipment from various civic bodies, we are keeping our options open, which include setting up our own manufacturing unit in joint sector in and around Chandigarh, giving licence to a partner to manufacture and maintain these cleaning systems or entering into partnership with a local contractor to provide the services in case civic bodies go for privatisation of the cleaning services," Mr Shah added.

"Keeping in view the Indian requirements, including street sweepers and sewer cleaners for narrow

lanes in old cities, we can modify our equipment to meet the requirements. These clean-up machines can be tractor or trailer-mounted and basically run on diesel," said Mr Shah.

Mr Hannah said, "provincial governments and municipal bodies face the issue of cleaning up their communities' air, water and roads. Our line of street sweepers, sewer cleaning systems and highway maintenance equipment can help them cost effectively achieve their environmental goals."

"With 24 years of international experience in maintenance equipment sales, training and service, Cubex delivers the highest level of industry expertise to Indian communities. We're committed to helping solve India's environmental challenges," he said.

"We are overwhelmed by the response. Most of the civic bodies want to see demonstration of our machines. We hope to be back in India by September or October this

year. On our return we would submit feasibility and viability reports," Mr Shah said.

Mr Hannah said that "while Cubex is a global company it has a solid reputation for local service and training support. We are dedicated to equipping, training and servicing our municipal customers."