

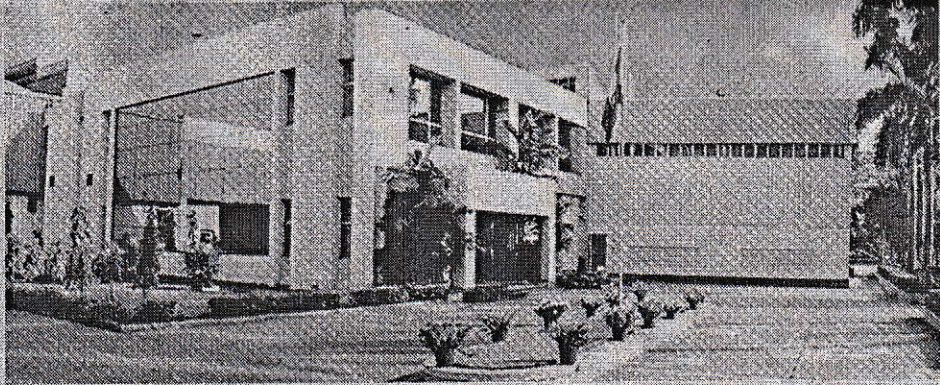
# Vesuvius India expands its Taratola factory

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Vesuvius India Ltd (VIL), a part of Vesuvius Group, a global corporate giant in the field of design, engineering, manufacture and delivery of refractories, systems, and services for high technology industrial applications (especially steel) will invest more than Rs 500 crore in coming four to five years in its seven plants in the country.

While addressing the inaugural function of the company's factory expansion at Taratola unit in the city on Wednesday, Mr Patrick Andre, Chief Executive, Vesuvius Group headquartered in London, said, "We will invest more than Rs 500 crores in seven plants located in five cities - Kolkata, Vizag, Pune, Pondicherry, and Mehsana in Gujarat - within four to five years. We are happy to be here in Kolkata where our first plant was launched thirty years ago."

"We are regularly expanding our plants in India supplying



technology driven products to the steel and foundry industries. We have an annual turnover around Rs 1700 crores in the country owing to regular increase in demand for our products from steel, cement, and foundry industries," Mr Andre said while speaking to reporters during the function.

"There will be a steady increase in our monthly production capability with operations already kicked off in the expanded plant at Taratola unit. Our company is giving special focus on organic investment and research and devel-

opment wing that is running very well at Vizag. We are also a leading supplier of products from the Kolkata plant to South Africa and South Asian countries," The Vesuvius Group Chief Executive added.

The company has 27 manufacturing units worldwide. In the Kolkata plant, monthly productions of black refractories would shoot up to 37k pieces from existing 27k.

"With so many new steel plants coming up in the country and existing ones expanding capacity, demand of black refractories produced by us are

on a sharp rise. Using best technology and skilled human resources, we are facing the challenge in demand and supply of our products in India successfully," said Mr Biswadip Gupta, chairman of VIL.

"Tata Steel, JSW, Arcelor Mittal, SAIL and many other steel manufacturing giants have been using our products for decades," Mr Gupta added.

VIL board members Mr Sudipto Sarkar, Miss Nayan-tara Palchoudhuri and Mr Nitin Jain, Managing Director, VIL, and were also present in the programme.