

EDI to set up centre in Kazakhstan

Entrepreneurial Institute Likely To Start Functioning By November

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IN an initiative to promote entrepreneurship in the Central Asian country of Kazakhstan, Gandhinagar-based Entrepreneurship Development Institute (EDI) will set up a centre in Kazakhstan. The centre is likely to be functional in November 2010.

EDI would set up infrastructure and will also appoint and train the staff. In a programme sponsored by the Ministry of External Affairs, EDI had set up similar centres at Myanmar, Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia. The Kazakh centre is being set up in collaboration with Damu Fund (of Kazakhstan), which will infuse \$1.7 billion into the centre.

EDI will do an extensive



study on the business opportunities in Kazakhstan and will prepare profiles of about 100 sectors that have the potential of development there. Talking to ET, Dinesh Awasthi Director of EDI said: "The EDI centre would come up at Almaty. Recently, a delegation from EDI had visited Kazakhstan to understand the requirements and

characteristics of Kazak economy. Soon a large high power delegation consisting of officials of Damu, banking officials, University representatives, would visit our campus to decide the future course of action."

"We will select the director and the faculty for the institute. Later on these members will come here and will receive ex-

tensive training for about 10 weeks at EDI campus. We expect the centre to be functional by November this year," added Mr. Awasthi.

Since Independence in 1991, Kazakhstan has worked to develop its economy, especially its hydrocarbon industry.