KICL
Kothari Industrial Corporation Limited

Date: 27.11.2026

To

BSE Limited

Phiroze Jeejeebhoy Towers

Dalal Street

Mumbai – 400001

Scrip Code: 509732

Subject: Disclosure under Regulation 30 read with Para B of Part A of Schedule III of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015 – Execution of two MoUs with Thiagarajar College of Engineering and issuance of press release

Dear Sir/Madam,

Pursuant to Regulation 30 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015, kindly find the Press release attached herewith related to Kothari Industrial Corporation Limited ("the Company") has entered into two Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) with Thiagarajar College of Engineering ("TCE"), Madurai, with the objective of establishing a collaborative framework in the areas of drone pilot training and Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) research and development.

Kindly take the above information on record.

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully,

For Kothari Industrial Corporation Limited

ANIL KUMAR PADHIALI

Digitally signed by ANIL KUMAR PADHIALI
Date: 2026.11.27 11:08:20 +05'30'

Anil Kumar Padhiali
Company Secretary & Compliance Officer

KOTHARI INDUSTRIAL CORPORATION LIMITED
CIN No. L81100TN1970PLC005865
Kothari Building - No.114/117, Mahatma Gandhi Salai
Nungambakkam, Chennai - 600 034

enquiries@kotharis.in
www.kotharis.in

+91 44 2833 4564
+91 44 2833 4565

November 26, 2026

STRATEGIC INDUSTRY–ACADEMIA ALLIANCE • AEROSPACE & AUTONOMOUS ROBOTICS

Kothari Industrial Corporation Limited and Thiagarajar College of Engineering Forge Historic Alliance to Pioneer Drone Pilot Training and Next-Generation UAV Research in Tamil Nadu

Twin Memoranda of Understanding signed in Madurai establish an accessible Remote Pilot Training Organization (RPTO) and an advanced Unmanned Aerial Vehicle R&D Center under the Department of Mechatronics.



LANDMARK SIGNING IN MADURAI: Senior leadership and faculty of Thiagarajar College of Engineering (TCE) and Kothari Industrial Corporation Limited (KICL) display the executed Memoranda of Understanding at the TCE campus on November 26, 2026. *(From left to right: Dr. M. Rajalakshmi, Assistant Professor, Dept. of Mechatronics, TCE; Dr. P. S. Manoharan, Head of the Dept. of Mechatronics, TCE; Dr. L. Ashok Kumar, Principal, TCE; Dr. K. Jayanth Murali, IPS (Retd.), Corporate Advisor, KICL; and Mr. B. Jeya Prasanna, Remote Pilot Instructor, KICL.)*

MADURAI, TAMIL NADU — In a watershed moment for Southern India's aerospace and autonomous technology landscape, Kothari Industrial Corporation Limited (KICL) and the prestigious Thiagarajar College of Engineering (TCE) today signed two landmark Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) to establish a state-of-the-art **Remote Pilot Training Organization (RPTO)** and a dedicated **Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) Research and Development (R&D) Center** in Madurai.

Executed on the historic campus of Thiagarajar College of Engineering, the dual-pillar partnership bridges century-old industrial leadership with premier engineering academia. The initiative is poised to democratize access to certified drone aviation training while catalyzing indigenous research in defense, surveillance, and disaster-response robotics across Tamil Nadu.

A Dual-Engine Ecosystem for Aerial Innovation

Under the terms of the strategic alliance, both institutions will pool their infrastructural, technical, and human capital to construct an end-to-end UAV ecosystem anchored within TCE's Department of Mechatronics:

- **Democratizing Certified Drone Aviation (The RPTO Center):** Designed to meet the surging domestic and international demand for certified unmanned aircraft operators, the new Remote Pilot Training Center will commence regular training batches within one month. Alongside regular cohorts of TCE engineering students, the center will welcome students from neighboring institutions across Madurai, unemployed youth, and aspiring professionals. Crucially, the program will operate on a heavily subsidized, highly affordable fee structure to eliminate financial barriers and cultivate a deep reservoir of skilled manpower across Tamil Nadu.
- **Advancing Indigenous Deep-Tech (The UAV R&D Center):** Operating exclusively for the students and researchers of Thiagarajar College of Engineering within the Department of Mechatronics, this specialized facility will serve as an engineering incubator for next-generation aerial platforms. Student teams will design, prototype, and test high-capability unmanned systems tailored for **national defense, strategic surveillance, and rapid disaster management**, building core competencies in autonomous navigation, payload integration, and ruggedized field deployment.

Operational Blueprint: Industry Muscle Meets Academic Excellence

The partnership deploys a clear division of responsibilities that aligns KICL's operational and aviation capabilities with TCE's academic rigor and laboratory infrastructure:

Partner Institution	Core Commitments & Operational Infrastructure
Kothari Industrial Corporation Limited (KICL)	Supplies commercial and training drones, precision UAV components, high-capacity batteries, specialized testing equipment, and certified Remote Pilot Instructors. Provides full access to dedicated flight-training grounds located on the premises of **Kothari Public School in Sivarakottai** for live aerial operations.
Thiagarajar College of Engineering (TCE)	Provides smart classrooms, advanced mechatronics laboratories, institutional governance, academic mentoring, and student trainees across regular batches for both structured pilot certification and long-term UAV research mandates.

Leadership Presence at the Signing Ceremony

The agreements were formally signed and exchanged at Thiagarajar College of Engineering in the presence of senior leadership, faculty members, and aviation specialists from both institutions:

- **Representing Thiagarajar College of Engineering: Dr. L. Ashok Kumar**, Principal; **Dr. P. S. Manoharan**, Head of the Department of Mechatronics; **Dr. G. Kanagaraj**, Professor, Department of Mechatronics; and **Dr. M. Rajalakshmi**, Assistant Professor, Department of Mechatronics.
- **Representing Kothari Industrial Corporation Limited (on behalf of Executive Chairman Dr. J. Rafiq Ahmed): Dr. K. Jayanth Murali**, Retired Director General of Police and Corporate Advisor to KICL, alongside **Mr. B. Jeya Prasanna**, Remote Pilot Instructor, KICL.

> **Regional Impact Outlook:** As unmanned aerial systems rapidly transform agriculture, infrastructure inspection, logistics, public safety, and national security, the KICL–TCE collaboration positions Madurai as a premier hub for aerial robotics in Southern India—uniting subsidized vocational upskilling with high-end engineering research to build a self-reliant workforce for India's drone economy.

ABOUT KOTHARI INDUSTRIAL CORPORATION LIMITED (KICL)

Founded in 1917 and headquartered in Chennai, Kothari Industrial Corporation Limited is a diversified industrial conglomerate with a century-long legacy spanning fertilizers, footwear, hospitality, education, and emerging aerospace technologies. Under the visionary leadership of Executive Chairman Dr. J. Rafiq Ahmed, KICL is spearheading next-generation initiatives in Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs), Remote Pilot Training, and high-impact skill development across Tamil Nadu.

ABOUT THIAGARAJAR COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING (TCE)

Established in 1957 in Madurai, Thiagarajar College of Engineering is an autonomous, government-aided institution affiliated with Anna University and renowned for academic rigor, cutting-edge engineering research, and industry-integrated education. Its Department of Mechatronics stands at the forefront of interdisciplinary innovation in robotics, automation, intelligent systems, and unmanned aerial technologies.

Media Relations & Institutional Communications:
Corporate Communications Office — Kothari Industrial Corporation Limited & Thiagarajar College of Engineering
Madurai & Chennai, Tamil Nadu, India | Web: www.kotharis.in | www.tce.edu

###