



PRESS RELEASE

**Lavasa to host SpaceWorld,
Asia's first space edutainment centre
at Rs 400 crore investment**

- *Technology inspired by United States Space and Rocket Center (USSRC)*
- *Joint initiative with Space Investment Co., LLC, to set up a 65-acre space centre at Lavasa for space like experience*

New Delhi, January 21, 2009: Lavasa Corporation Ltd. has entered into an agreement with Space Investment Co. LLC (SIC), to build and manage SpaceWorld, Asia's first hi-tech centre for space edutainment. This landmark, 65-acre SpaceWorld will come up along the backwaters of the Warasgaon dam at Lavasa near Pune, at an investment of Rs. 400 crore. SpaceWorld at Lavasa will be operational by the end of 2010.

Lavasa is free India's first and largest Hill City being developed by Lavasa Corporation Ltd., an HCC Group Company. SIC is the partner and licensee of the United States Space and Rocket Center (USSRC) that operates SpaceWorld Arabia in the UAE. The edutainment programmes for the SpaceWorld at Lavasa are prepared with inputs from the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) representatives, educators, veteran astronauts and scientists with active assistance from USSRC's space management experience. The centre will offer courses primarily aimed at new technologies and space browsing. These programmes will help create understanding of aerospace science in an entertaining way.

Sharing the details on the new initiative, Mr. Ajit Gulabchand, Chairman, Lavasa Corporation Ltd., said, "We are committed to bring in world-class facilities at Lavasa, be it hospitality, research, health or living experience based on the concept of new urbanism. With SIC as our partners, we aim to create SpaceWorld, a first of its kind project in Asia, which will offer a space like experience to the visitors. As India takes giant steps with its space exploration programme, we expect SpaceWorld at Lavasa to provide a lifetime experience that will fascinate researchers, students, tourists, both adults and children alike".

"We chose Lavasa due to its exotic location and unique characteristics. With a large number of top educational institutions setting up here, it is a perfect setting for the space centre. It will offer visitors a chance to learn about the galaxies and experience outer space dynamics through gravity rides and games as well as interactive aviation robotics and survival programmes," said Mr. Ghazi A Al Ibrahim, Chairman and CEO, Space Investment Co., LLC.



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With state-of-the-art facilities, the SpaceWorld edutainment centre will offer visitors an inspiring and entertaining educational experience about life in space. A Space Camp, an Aviation Camp, Robotics, Rocketry and X-Camp Survival training, scuba, fun rides (demonstrating weightlessness) and a theatre, in addition to a Space Mall and Hotel have been planned in the proposed centre.

SpaceWorld will also host an entertainment area, space lectures by astronauts, simulation of missions that astronauts experience and live communication with the International Space Station.

Lavasa has already established tie-ups with the best of international as well as domestic institutions such as ITC Hotels (Fortune Select) and Accor (Pullman, Novotel and Grand Mercure) in the field of hospitality, Oxford University (Said Business School), Girls' Day School Trust (UK), Ecole hotelier de Lausanne (Switzerland), Symbiosis (Pune) and Christ University (Bangalore) and NSHM (Kolkata) in the field of education and Apollo Hospitals in health and wellness.

About Lavasa

Lavasa is free India's first and largest Hill Station being developed by HCC (Hindustan Construction Company) where people can Live, Work, Learn and Play in harmony with nature. A complete new town, based on principles of New Urbanism, it is fast being developed amidst 12,500 acres of land, 3 hours' drive from Mumbai and 1 hour from Pune. Lavasa will host a complement of global leaders in hospitality, tourism, education, healthcare, business research and industry. The Hill Station Town provides contemporary yet timeless architectural designs, multiple options for housing and state of the art infrastructure and amenities, thus enabling people to live life in full. For more information, see www.lavasa.com.

About Space Investment Co. LLC

Space Investment Company is the premier provider of authentic, inspiring and entertaining educational experiences in space science and aviation in the Middle East, North Africa and the Indian Sub-Continent. We bring the U.S. space technology to the Asian and African continents through SpaceWorld villages in the Arabian Gulf, India and North Africa. Our mission is to use U.S. Space & Aviation Technology to stimulate regional interest in the study of aerospace sciences. We aim to see thousands of Space and Aviation Scientists in our regions, scientists who are as competent as those preceding them in America. For more information, see www.spaceworldarabia.com.

For further information please contact:

Sandeep Sawant –Hindustan Construction Company Mobile : 9833992874 Email : sandeep.sawant@hccindia.com	Kapil Sabharwal –Comma Consulting Mobile: 98115 59835 Email: ksabharwal@comma.in
Vaibhav Tiwari –Lavasa Corporation Mobile: 98200 97475 Email: vaibhav.tiwari@lavasa.com	Amrita Thukral –Comma Consulting Mobile: 9891171040 Email: athukral@comma.in