#### **HNL – HEYARU Groundbreaking Ceremony**



(The ceremony marks the start of the construction works for a new factory in Lommel)

# Diamond Company Heyaru kicks off work on new building with ceremony

On the basis of a Hindu ceremony, the Indian Vikram Shah - founder of the diamond company Heyaru - gave the starting shot on Thursday for the construction of a new factory in Lommel. With an area of 30,000 square meters and some thirty ovens, Heyaru wants to become one of the largest diamond producers in Europe.

Together with investment company LRM, the Indian diamond company Heyaru is pumping 260 million euros into a 2-hectare Lommel site on the Kristalpark III. The intention is to set up a new factory of 30,000 square meters, which will eventually house about thirty ovens. They will be used to produce synthetic diamonds. "In time, about 150 people will be working here. That will benefit employment in the region, "says Vikram Shah. The intention is also to make use of solar energy, coming from the nearby Kristal Solar Park.

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#### **Prosperity**

It is not without reason that Heyaru and LRM are investing so much money in the new factory. "We want to become the largest and most modern diamond producer in Europe here ," Shah told our newspaper earlier. The groundbreaking ceremony took place on Thursday in a festive manner under the watchful eye of mayor Bob Nijs and entrepreneur Willy Naessens, who is responsible for the construction.

A real Hindu ritual took place. "In this way we honor the land before we start the actual construction. We then invite the gods and Mother Nature to give their blessing. As everyone knows, nature is actually disturbed by the structures, which is why we ask for forgiveness during this ritual. The ritual must therefore bring prosperity."



(Willy Naessens Industriebouw is responsible for the works, which is why manager Willy Naessens was present during the ceremony)

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(The intention is to bless the ground there)



(A total of 260 million euros will be invested in the project)