President Toomas Hendrik Ilves visited today the Nakro Industrial Park, which provides jobs for more than a thousand residents of East-Viru County.

Thirty-six small and mid-sized businesses operate at the Nakro Industrial Park, which was established 11 years ago, and where a total of 1,086 people from Narva, Sillamäe and Narva-Jõesuu are employed. There are plans to create 200 new jobs this year.

"Small businesses have always been the backbone of a market economy," President Ilves said. "At this industrial park, the gaze of the entrepreneurs extends beyond today's difficulties and we sorely need such optimism now."

The production of the companies operating at the Nakro Industrial Park (founded by Aleksandr Brok) ranges from rubber clothing and footwear, furniture and handcrafted motorcycles to electronics.

President Ilves encouraged the entrepreneurs to make use of the government's export refunds and called upon local governments to do more to promote enterprise in their areas.

"It is outside of Tallinn that cooperation between entrepreneurs, local governments and the national government is especially important," President Ilves said.

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