



HAPPY GANESH CHATURTHI



# VIZAG INDUSTRIAL SCAN

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## VPA awards Rs 57 cr order to DCIL

VIS News Service

Visakhapatnam Port Authority (VPA) recently awarded the Annual Maintenance Dredging contract to Dredging Corporation of India Limited. As per an official release this contract includes Dredging at New Sand Trap (NST), Its approaches and other areas of VPA and also to

pump the dredged material to the shore for Beach Nourishment for three years i.e. 2022-23, 2023-24



and 2024-25 with the project cost of about 57.0 CR INR. The Annual Maintenance

Sand Trap Dredging contract award by Visakhapatnam Port Authority is important for Dredging Corporation of India Limited, Visakhapatnam which is aiming to achieve a record high turnover of Rs.1000 Cr in this financial year 2022-23. DCI, Visakhapatnam is a listed dredging company in

Contd. on Page ..7

## Address needs of MSMEs: CM to DMs

VIS News Service

The state of Andhra Pradesh topped the list of GSDP for 2021-22 by registering a growth rate of 11.43 % compared to the country's average of 8.7%.

Lauding this as a great achievement the CM said this was the highest among the 19 states for which the data had been currently released and attributed the Growth to the transparency brought in by the government.

Speaking to officials in a recent Spandana review meeting Mr Jagan Mohan Reddy urged district magistrates and senior officials of the state to sustain this going forward. The CM equally instructed the



Industry is very important for any district so their grievances should be dealt with proactively.

- Mr Jagan Mohan Reddy

officials to assist MSMEs in every way possible. 'You need to ensure that the needs of MSMEs are properly addressed to and

Contd. on Page ..6

## AMNS to take over Essar's Vizag Berth

VIS News Service

ArcelorMittal Nippon Steel India (AMNS India or the Company) – a joint venture between ArcelorMittal and Nippon Steel, recently announced that it has reached definitive agreement to acquire port, power and other logistics and infrastructure assets in India from the Essar Group for a net value of approximately US\$2.4 billion. The transaction is expected to be funded only by AM/NS India.

As part of this deal Essar port's 16 MTPA all-weather, deep draft terminal at Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh along with an integrated conveyor connected to AM/NS

Contd. on Page ..4

## Work on Machilipatnam port slated to begin Oct'22

Aditya Sabharwal

Among the three greenfield ports being built by the state government, works on the Machilipatnam port is slated to begin in October this year. Giving this information at the recently held maritime conclave orga-

nized by VPA, APMB's (Andhra Pradesh Maritime Board) newly appointed CEO Mr Sagili Shan Mohan said that land has already been acquired for the port and that work shall begin in mid October this year.

We are looking at getting

the 3 green field ports operational and are also working on getting the fishing harbours ready too' said Mr Sagili Shan Mohan. Machilipatnam port is envisaged to have 4 berths wherein one of the berths is being planned for coal

Contd. on Page ..7



# Hindustan Shipyard Limited

(The First ISO-9001 Ship Building Company in the Country)

A Govt. of India Undertaking-Ministry of Defence



## Powering Shipbuilding on India's Eastern Seaboard



Dr. (Smt) Tamilsai Soundararajan, Telangana Governor visited Shipyard Exhibition



Released a Coffee Table Book titled "200 Ships & Beyond"

200

SHIPS BUILT



2000

SHIPS REPAIRED



Instituted newly refurbished Submarine Pump Test Bed Facility



Ready for Concurrent Floating of DSVs in Sep.22



MAKE IN INDIA



Release of Spandana NIC mail services to all Officers

## Celebrating 'Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav'

The iconic Hindustan Shipyard limited recently marked the completion of its extensive and diverse set of activities undertaken to celebrate 'Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav (AKAM)' to commemorate 75 years of India's independence.

The PSU under the Ministry of Defence undertook a plethora of activities to celebrate this monumental initiative of Govt of India. From holding exhibitions highlighting the opportunities for MSMEs at the yard to vendor development programs to inviting school and college students showcasing the historic yard to marking the completion of 200 ships and repairs of 2000 ships the past 1 year has been action packed and a memorable one for the Hindustan Shipyard Ltd.

As a part of 'Har Ghar Tiranga' programme HSL has distributed 750 Tiranga to employees and these were hoisted inside the shipyard, HSL colony and residence of employees from 13-15 Aug 2022. On the business front HSL under the able leadership of its dynamic and charismatic leader Cmde Hemant Khatri, IN (Retd.) saw a remarkable FY22. The dedicated efforts of the yard led by its C&MD and aptly supported by its employees resulted in HSL recording the highest ever turnover of Rs 755 Cr since inception and posting a Net Profit of over Rs 50 Cr during FY 2021-22.



Organized Blood Donation Camp



Observed International Yoga Day



Celebrated 75th Anniversary of Independence Day



Conducted Safety Meetings for HSL Staff, Workmen & Contractors



Inaugurated Model Room & Motivation Hall



Installed CNC Plasma Cutting Machines



Inaugurated World War II Bunker Museum inside HSL



Workshop for HSL Women Officers



Plantation Drive of 200 Saplings



## SAIL's New Director personnel

VIS News Service

**Mr. Krishna Kumar Singh** has recently assumed charge as Director (Personnel) of Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL). Mr. Singh did his graduation in Electrical Engineering from IIT, BHU and holds PG Diploma in Human Resource Management. Mr. Singh joined SAIL in 1987 in the Company's Bhilai Steel



Plant as Management Trainee (Technical).

## Over 100 coal blocks for auction

**MoC Signs 16 pacts with Successful Bidders**

VIS News Service

Union Minister of Coal, Mines and Parliamentary Affairs **Mr Pralhad Joshi** has said that in the near future more than 107 coal blocks will be made available for auction by the Ministry of Coal. He stated this at a function in which the Ministry of Coal executed agreements with successful bidders for 16 coal mines under sale of coal of 13<sup>th</sup> tranche,

stated. The event marked **Narendra Modi** in June, 2020. The total annual revenue generation from these three tranches of commercial auction is estimated at Rs.4286.53 crore considering production at aggregated Peak Rate Capacity level of 23.77 million ton per annum.

Once fully operational, these coal mines are expected to generate

► **Rs. 4286.53 crs. Revenue and 31945 Employment Opportunities Estimated**  
 ► **Rs. 3565.50 cr. Investment Anticipated**  
 ► **Coal Ministry Targets 100 Million Ton Coal Production During this Financial Year**

14<sup>th</sup> tranche and second attempt of 12<sup>th</sup> tranche. The Minister said that during the last four months Coal India Ltd has set new record by producing around 207 million ton coal. Ministry of coal is targeting production of 900 million ton this financial year and the target of CIL comes to 700 million ton. By the year 2030 India's coal requirement will be of 1.5 billion ton, the minister

employment for 31,954 persons directly & indirectly. A total investment of Rs.3565.50 crore will be incurred to operationalise these mines. In the 13<sup>th</sup> tranche, 88 coal mines were put up for auction. In the 14<sup>th</sup> Tranche, 99 mines were put up for auction. In the second attempt of 12<sup>th</sup> Tranche, 11 coal mines were put up for auction.

## Coal Minister's Awards

VIS News Service

Union Minister of Coal, Mines and Parliamentary Affairs **Mr Pralhad Joshi** recently



conferred the coal minister's awards for 2021-22. Addressing the gathering Mr Joshi pointed

out that coal sector has played a crucial role in ensuring energy security of India and urged CIL and its subsidiaries to focus on infrastructure

development, transportation and new technologies to increase coal production. Of the

## Portal for Mines Ministry Under PM Gati Shakti

VIS News Service

In compliance with the IPM Gati Shakti National Master Plan, Ministry of Mines entrusted the responsibility for creation of individual portal to Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM) through BISAG-N (Bhaskaracharya National Institute for Space Applications and Geo informatics). So far, two data layers have been created stated an official release from the ministry of mines. The first layer covers the spatial data of Mineral concessions which included existing mining lease and existing composite license granted



GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
**MINISTRY OF MINES**

through auction. The second layer includes mineral auction block which have been auctioned successfully but execution of mining lease is pending. Spatial data of around 3154 mining leases (both working and non-working including auctioned blocks) covering 297200 Ha area all over the country have been uploaded on the portal, which is being validated. The process of validation is likely to be completed by the end of this month stated the release.

It will also extensively leverage technology including spatial planning tools with ISRO imagery developed by BISAG-N.

awards in five categories Mahanadi Coal Fields Ltd (MCL) bagged the first prize in three categories namely safety, production & productivity and quality. While the first prize in sustainability category went to Western Coalfields Limited (WCL), Northern Coalfields Limited (NCL) bagged first prize in implementation of ERP. Started last year, the purpose of the Awards was to not only appreciate and acknowledge the best performers among CIL's coal producing companies, but also to create a congenial and competitive spirit to outperform each other.

## Steel sector needs 60 million tons of coking coal

**90% are met thru imports**

VIS News Service

Stating that India needs aggressive focus on increasing coking coal production to reduce import dependence Union Minister of Coal, Mines and Parliamentary Affairs, **Mr Pralhad Joshi** invited suggestions from all stakeholders for finding technology solution and using available coking coal in the country.

Mr Joshi was addressing a workshop on "Coking Coal Strategy for Indian Steel Sector" moving towards an Atmanirbhar Bharat, organised by the Ministry of Coal, the Coal India Limited (CIL), and the Confederation of Indian Industry.

Speaking on the occasion, the minister stated that there has been increase in import of coking coal in the last few years although domestic coking coal production also increased to 51.7 million ton. It was informed that the coking coal block auction did not receive good response from industry and Ministry of Coal is keen to understand the issues faced by industry

in this regard. The minister urged to find technology solution and powerful strategies for using available coking coal in the country which will help the sector aligning with the PM's five-point vision



towards an Atmanirbhar Bharat.

There are nine new coking coal washeries having capacity 30 million ton to be set up by Coal India Ltd (CIL) and necessary

**Coking coal fuel for the steel sector**

infrastructure reform has been made for the same. **Mr Sanjay Singh**, Secretary, Ministry of Steel made a narrative on domestic coking coal production while highlighting the dichotomy of coking coal. The steel

sector needs 60 million ton coking coal, 90% of which is met through imports. The ministry has initiated working on a strategy for having domestic coal use in blast furnaces and washeries and increase domestic coal blending to 25-35%. Mr Singh suggested increase in

consumption and scrap generation as short-term strategy and four-time production increase in the longer-term for lowering dependence on iron ore and coking coal. **Mr A K Jain**, Secretary, Ministry of Coal said that significant use of technology will be in focus for washing coal, lowering ash content and further bringing end to end solution to enhance domestic coking coal production. Welcoming the minister and other dignitaries in the seminar, **Mr Pramod Agrawal**, Chairman, CIL emphasised on a four-point agenda of bringing balance between the supply and demand sides of coking coal, delineating the role of private sector, improving the quality by substituting low-grade coal, and bringing high focus on technology integration.

## NTPC augments its solar footprint

**Achieves 69454 MW of installed capacity**

VIS News Service

NTPC Limited, India's largest integrated energy company achieved 69454 MW of group installed and commercial capacity with the commissioning of 56 MW Kawas Solar PV Project at NTPC Kawas, Gujarat.

Mega Watt has been commissioned.

This includes the country's largest floating solar of 100 MW at Ramagundam in Telangana, 92 MW at Kayamkulam in Kerala, and 25 MW each at Simhadri, AP, and Kawas in Gujarat. These projects would light more than

► **Power giant lowers its carbon footprint through installation of RE projects**

► **NTPC becomes world's first Energy major to declare its Energy Compact goals**

NTPC is steadily lowering its carbon footprint by reducing greenhouse gas emissions through the installation of renewable energy projects in its existing stations as well as putting up green field RE projects. The Company has planned 262 MW floating solar on over 1300 acres of its reservoir area by installing over 9,50,000 PV modules at its various stations out of which 242

2,00,000 households and would be instrumental in reducing over half a MT of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions on an annual basis. Besides these, the projects would entail a saving of 5 trillion liters of water per annum, sufficient to meet the yearly water requirements of 15,000 households. NTPC has become the world's first Energy major to declare its Energy Compact goals.

## Date extension for PLI Scheme for Specialty Steel

VIS News Service

The last date for receipt of applications under the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme for Specialty Steel through the online application window (at <https://plimos.meconlimited.co.in/>) has been extended up to 15.09.2022. Criteria for



participation, eligibility and other parameters have been notified on 29.07.2021 and the same are available on the portal.. Interested companies are requested to first register and then apply on the portal well before the deadline.



## New CGST Commissioner

VIS News Service

**Mr. Mannem Raghu Rami Reddy** has recently taken charge as the new Commissioner of C G S T Visakhapatnam. Mr. M R R Reddy represents IRS Batch of 1993. He joined IRS as a Commissioner Service Tax and has served as IRS in

the state of A.P., Chennai, Ahmedabad & Gujarat. He has also worked in Mumbai and has been awarded with a Medal for distinguished Services by the President. Prior to taking over in Visakhapatnam he was Commissioner CGST in Secunderabad.



### IN BRIEF

## Awareness program on Cloud Computing

Indian Society for Training and Development Visakhapatnam Chapter has organised an Awareness Program on "Careers and Opportunities in Cloud Computing with Amazon Web Services" for the students of Vignana Institute of Engineering and Technology. Chairman of Visakhapatnam Chapter **Dr ORM Rao** emphasised that students should focus on soft skills and on upgrading their technical skills. **Dr Hema Yadavalli**, Honorary Secretary said that many training programs will be conducted for students and corporates in the future.



## PF Near You on Sept. 12

The next Nidhi Aap Ke Nikat or *PF Near You* will be held on September 12 at Regional office Murrupalem, Visakhapatnam. Accordingly, all Employees' Provident fund subscribers as well as employers (both exempted and un-exempted establishments) and other stakeholders of Visakhapatnam District having any grievances/issues are hereby requested to prefer the same before the Regional PF Commissioner, Visakhapatnam on or before September 5. You may register their grievances either through post / courier/Fax No. 0891-2558734/E-mail address ro.vizag@epfindia.gov.in



## Canara Bank officers attend IIMV's MDP



VIS News Service

A customized five-day Management Development Program (MDP) for the Canara Bank scale-5 officers recently concluded at the Indian Institute of Management Visakhapatnam (IIMV) campus. As per an official release from IIM the goal of this MDP was to help Canara Bank officials to deal with the changing business environment, challenges, and rising stakeholder expectations.

The programme taught officers the essential leadership qualities necessary for achieving outcomes and excelling at the organisational level and further assisting the bank in enhancing its performance. The Chief Guest for the event **Mr Ch. S S Mallikarjuna Rao**, the former MD & CEO of Punjab National Bank, spoke about the importance of gaining management skills and the need to constantly learn in one's career.

# Japanese Tire Mfg commisions Rs 1200 cr Vizag plant

## Assures 75% employment to locals

VIS News Service

Yokohama off highway tires (YOHT) recently started operations at its state-of-the-art green field facility in Atchutapuram, Visakhapatnam.

Built in a record time of 15 months ahead of its 30 month schedule the plant has made an investment of Rs 1250 crores in phase 1 with a capacity of manufacturing 69 rubber tonnes a day. The construction of phase 1 of the plant started in Feb 2021.

Unveiling the phase 1 of the plant the management informed the Chief Minister, **Mr Jagan Mohan Reddy** that the company looks to employ over 1000 people in phase 1.

Yokohama off highway tires is a fully owned subsidiary of The Yokohama rubber company, Japan wherein more than 95% of its products are exported. Unveiling the plant at Atchutapuram the company heaped praises on the state government for providing full support in getting



*It's no surprise that Andhra Pradesh is ranked number 1 in ease of doing business as we have experienced this first hand ourselves. There is a great deal of bureaucratic support available in AP.* **YOHT Senior Management**

their plant ready in record time.

'Its no surprise that Andhra Pradesh is ranked number 1 in the ease of doing business. We have experienced this first hand' said **Mr Nitin Mantri**, CEO Yokohama Off highway tires. The company's COO too lauded the government's proactive stance for attracting investments. 'We have had great interaction and support from the GoAP. We never felt like we were in the

government's office. I have interacted with many

### YOHT's AP Plant:

- Phase-1 Investment: Rs 1250 crs
- Capacity: 69 rubber tons/day
- Phase-II Investment: Rs 1000 crs
- Capacity: 132 Rubber tons/day
- Total Employment: Over 2200 people

governments and my experience with the government of AP has been extremely refreshing. There is a great deal of bureaucratic sup-

port available in AP' said **Mr Anil Gupta**, COO. Speaking on employment opportunities the company informed that preference will be given to locals. 'We have made a commitment to the chief minister on this and we will be hiring local people 75% or higher' said **Mr Mantri**.

### Addl Rs 1000 cr Investment.

The company further announced the inauguration of phase 2 with an additional investment of Rs 1000 crores thereby enhancing total employment to over 2200 people. At the completion of phase-II the company's capacity will go to 132 tonnes per day. The Sr. management of the

company stated that this will be one of the best plants in the off-highway segments & will be a key plant in their global ambitions.

## APMSEFC reconstituted

VIS News Service

The Government of Andhra Pradesh has recently reconstituted the Andhra Pradesh Micro and Small Enterprises Facilitation Council (APMSEFC) for a period of two years w.e.f June 6, 2022- June 1, 2024 with the following members. In the newly constituted the Director of Industries will be the Chairman, the other members will include President, Federation of Andhra Pradesh Small Industries Association (FAPSIA) or his Nominee, who shall be Executive Committee member nominated by the President, FAPSIA, Managing Director, APSFC or his Nominee not below rank of Deputy General Manager, General Manager (Legal), APIIC, Mangalagiri, Joint Director of Industries (MSME), O/o Director of Industries. The Council shall function at the office of the Director of Industries, Mangalagiri. stated a release issued by **Mr. R.Karikal Valaven**, Special Chief Secretary.

## SS Lamba as Addl. Director at NLS



VIS News Service

**Nectar Life Sciences** at its recently held Board of Directors meeting approved the appointment of **Dr. Sanjit Singh Lamba** (DIN 01741827) as an Additional Director on the Board. He has also been appointed as a Wholtime Director designated as Director (Technical) of the company for a period of 2 years. Named thrice in the list of "100 of the most inspiring People" in the Lifesciences industry by Pharma VOICE, USA. Dr. Lamba has more than 33 years of experience in the pharma-

ceutical industry. His Core skills and competence include Global Regulatory Compliance, Change Management, P&L Management, Quality management, Plant Operations, Operational Excellence, SME for Sterile Products, Contract Manufacturing, Custom Manufacturing, Pilot Scale development and Cost Optimization etc. He is associated with professional bodies like Indian Pharmaceutical Association, International Society for Pharmaceutical Engineers (ISPE).

He also served as Past Chair—India Chapter for Parental Drug Association (PDA) and past Chairman - Technical & Supply Chain Committee for Organization of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI). He is also a Judging member for ISPE FOYA, USA.

## SCR clocks over Rs.5k crs. in Rev.

VIS News Service

Highlighting the outstanding performance SCR in-charge general manager **Mr. Arun Kumar Jain** stated that SCR's gross originating revenue clocked Rs. 5909 crores during April - July 2022, surpassing the last year's achievement by 43%. The Zone recorded originating freight loading of 43.5 Million tonnes during April - July 2022 generating Rs 4048 Crores in freight revenue, a significant increase of 20% over the last year.

**Mr. Jain** said that SCR had carried 78 million passengers and generated Rs 1617 crore revenue in the first four months of the current financial year, registering a growth of 175 per cent in passenger revenue the SCR GM was addressing the employees at 75<sup>th</sup> Independence day Celebrations.





## IN BRIEF

## Drive through Container Scanner at Chennai port

Union Minister of Ports, Shipping & Waterways and Ayush, **Mr. Sarbananda Sonowal** inaugurated a new Drive Through Container Scanner at Chennai Port recently. This will help to boost up business and trade.



Union Minister of State for Ports, Shipping & Waterways **Mr. Shripad Naik** accompanied him. Mr. Sonowal also laid the foundation stones for two

Sewage Treatment Plants at the port in order to champion the cause of sustainable growth. The minister also launched a Computer upgradation programme in order to augment IT infrastructure at the port. A total of 440 units of modern computers are to be set up as per this programme.

## New record set at Deendayal Port

The vessel M.V. Anna-Elisabeth, at Deendayal Port Authority, Kandla, set a new record in cargo handling by loading 52,500 MT of mill scale in bulk in 24 hours on 27-07-2022 at Cargo Jetty 10. This was facilitated by the Handling Agent Shree Ashapura Stevedores, a unit of Ashapura Shipping Group. The exporter was Singhvi Tradelink LLP and the Vessel Agent was Atlantic Global. Deendayal Port Authority appreciated and congratulated all stakeholders involved in this handling for their continuous efficiency and proactive efforts in achieving this great milestone, emphasised a release.



## 'PPP projects helped Major Ports create new infra'

The Union Minister of State for Ports, Shipping and Waterways, **Mr Shripad Naik**, while speaking at the PPP Conclave in New Mangalore Port recently said PPP (public-private-partnership)



projects have helped the Major Ports to create new infrastructure, improve utilisation of assets and become competitive with international ports. He said that it helped to get an investment to the tune of Rs 5,287 crore for container and LNG terminals at

Kochi, Rs 1,126.69 crore for the development of mechanised coal and container handling terminals at New Mangalore, and Rs 654.97 crore for the development of coal terminal and berth work at Mormugao Port. **Mr AV Ramana**, in his keynote address, said that the PPP mode has become the preferred mode of infrastructure development in Major Ports.

## 'VOC port taking up dev. of outer harbour'

VOC Port Chairman **Mr. T. K. Ramachandran** IAS, after unfurling the National flag stated that 'To transform VOC Port as the 'Transshipment hub of East Coast of India', the Port is taking up the development of the Outer Harbour with two continuous quays of 1000 metres each, at an estimated cost of Rs. 7164 Crores. He also outlined a green vision for the port listing out the renewable projects being implemented including the proposed Hydrogen park. He congratulated all the Trustees, Port users, Union Leaders, Employees, District Administration and all stakeholders for helping the Port to handle 34.12 Million Tonnes of cargo and achieve a growth of 7.33% during the last financial year 2021-22.



## India hands over 6 Mobile Harbour Cranes to Iran

VIS News Service

The Union Minister of Ports, Shipping & Waterways and Ayush, **Mr Sarbananda Sonowal**



*Our shared historical relationship has been the seedbed of Indo Iranian bilateral relationship.*

**Mr Sarbananda Sonowal,**  
Union Minister of Port,  
Shipping

recently paid a visit to the Shahid Beheshti port at Chabahar in Iran to review the progress in the development of the port. In an effort to invigorate the potential of Chabahar port, the Mr.Sarbananda Sonowal also handed over Six mobile harbour cranes to Indian Ports Global Chabahar Free Trade Zone (IPGCFTZ) at the port.

## IR Class Academy signs MoU with CSIM

VIS News Service

IRClass Academy, the training arm of Indian Register of Shipping, has signed a Memorandum of Understanding [MOU] with Singapore-based marine and offshore asset integrity management consultant and designer – CSIM Systems Pte Ltd (CSIM). The two parties have agreed to cooperate and provide technical maritime and management training. CSIM will deliver IR Class Academy courses and utilise IR Class expertise. Both IR Class Academy and CSIM are committed to provide specialised training programs for the local industry to help them enhancing the productivity.

Both the delegation discussed the possibilities of trade & unlock trade potential between Central Asian countries with South

Asian, ASEAN and even from Far East countries like Japan and Korea. The Union Minister Mr.Sarbananda Sonowal reiterated the role Chabahar port can play in reducing distance, time and cost. It was decided to form a joint technical committee for smooth functioning of the port. The meeting also addressed the future course of action towards development of the port.

## Buyer-Seller Meet on Dragon Fruit export

VIS News Service

In a first of its kind initiative, a "Buyer Seller Meet on Dragon Fruit" was organized by Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA), Bangalore Regional Office in collaboration with University of Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore and KAPPEC, at the GKVK Campus, Bangalore to promote export of Dragon Fruit. Delivering the keynote address, **Dr. M. Angamuthu**, Chairman APEDA said that more stakeholders interaction will be done in future and a Reverse Buyer Seller Meet will be organized for



promotion of Dragon Fruit and value added products in order to boost exports. He pointed towards the collaboration with I.I.H.R. for standardization of fruit parameters and value added products to help the industry.

The Meet was attended by Farmers/FPOs and Exporters. Officials from J D G F T , KAPPEC, UAS were present during the event. **Dr. S. Rajendra Prasad**, Vice-Chancellor, UAS (B) inaugurated the event. APEDA, a Statutory Body under the Ministry of Commerce & Industry, for promoting Indian agro and processed food exports.

## AMNS to take over Essar's Vizag terminal

Contd. from Page 1

India's 8 MTPA iron ore pellet plant in the port city shall be acquired. Similarly the other assets in Essar group's ports segment that will go to AMNS include a 25 MTPA jetty at the all-weather, deep draft bulk port terminal at Hazira, Gujarat, captive and adjacent to AM/NS India's flagship steel plant and a 12 MTPA deep-water jetty at Paradip, Odisha along with a dedicated conveyor that



*With this deal, Essar Ports & Terminals has unlocked value for all its stakeholders and will continue to focus on building new and modern core infra assets.*

**Mr Rewant Ruia**, Director, Essar Ports & Terminals Ltd,

handles 100% of pellet shipments from AM/NS India's Paradip pellet plant. The deal also envisages a 50-50 Joint Venture partnership, for building a 4

MTPA LNG terminal at Hazira, Gujarat, between Essar and ArcelorMittal. Mr Rewant Ruia, Director, Essar Ports & Terminals Limited, said "With this deal,

## CONCOR's New Vizag Head



VIS News Service

**Mr. K.V.S.R.K. Kishore**, IRTS, has recently joined as General Manager (C&O) and Cluster Head of Container Corporation of India Ltd. (CONCOR) Visakhapatnam. He is also the Cluster Head of Raipur and Kakinada. A graduate in Electrical and Electronics Engineering from BITS Pilani, Mr. Kishore belongs to IRTS 2008 batch and has held important posts like SR DOM Waltair and SR DOM Khurda Road. He has also received two GM awards and one National award in Railways.

## Aqua Bazar launched in Matsya Setu app

VIS News Service

Union Minister for Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, **Mr. Parshottam Rupala**, recently launched the Online Market Place feature "Aqua Bazar" in the "MatsyaSetu" mobile app during the 9<sup>th</sup> general body meeting of the National Fisheries Development Board. The app is developed by the ICAR-Central Institute of Freshwater Aquaculture (ICAR-CIFA), Bhubaneswar, with the funding support of the NFD, Hyderabad. through the PMMSY. The online marketplace will help the fish farmers and stakeholders to source the inputs such as fish seeds, feed, medicines, etc.,

which yields a multifold return on our investments, Essar Ports & Terminals has unlocked value for all its stakeholders and will continue to focus on building new and modern core infrastructure assets in India and overseas."

The closing of the M&A deal is subject to completion of certain corporate and regulatory approvals applicable for respective assets.



## Award for Sri City Founder

VIS News Service

The Deputy Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, **Mr. Kalathur Narayana Swamy**, recently bestowed an award instituted by state government, to **Dr. Ravindra Sannareddy**, Founder Managing Director, Sri City. The award was conferred on him in appreciation of his unique aptitude in industrialisation in Tirupati District.



Dr. Ravindra Sannareddy thanked the Chief Minister, State Government and the district administration headed by the District Collector for conferring the award to him.

**Mr. Venkataramana Reddy**, District Collector, **Mr. D.K. Balaji**, Joint Collector, and **Mr. Parameshwara Reddy**, District Superintendent of Police were present on the occasion. The award was conferred on him during the 76<sup>th</sup> Independence Day celebrations held Tirupati.

## VPA hastens steps towards becoming a Landlord Port Hails PPP model for ease of Business

VIS News Service

Emphasising the importance of PPP in the ports and shipping sector, Visakhapatnam port authority's chairman, **Mr Rama Mohan Rao** identified PPP to be an effective tool for attracting major investments in both Major Ports and Minor Ports. As of now, 86 Projects worth of Rs.55,000 Crores have been granted approval by Government of India under PPP mode, said the chairman VPA and informed that Visakhapatnam Port Authority is too moving ahead in this era of PPPs. 'We have envisaged to become a full-fledged Landlord Port within a few years' said Mr Rama Mohan Rao speaking at the Maritime PPP Conclave organized by VPA to celebrate the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the 1st PPP Project in the Port Sector. The Port presently has 6 (six) BOT/PPP Terminals operating in the vicinity, viz., VGCBPL, EVTL, VCTPL-I & EXTN, AVR IPL and VSPL and four more PPP projects are under pipeline this year. There is immense potential for the country to move forward in the direction and to



attract more and more Private Investments through PPP mode, in the overall growth prospects of India's Trade. Delivering the inaugural address Mr Shripad Yesho Nayak Minister of State MOPSW said that the government's emphasis on Port-led Development, and ensuing plans for commissioning projects under Sagarmala, inland Waterways and Smart Port cities requires Private Investments which is possible through PPP. He also noted that in the existing PPP Model Concession Agreement (MCA) there are 4 main issues - Levying accountability on the concessioning

authority: Need for flexibility in specifying minimum guaranteed cargo (MGC); Sharing of project risks: Absence of a grievance redressal mechanism. To address all these issues, MoPSW has brought new MCA 2021 which will be a game changer in the PPP in Port Sector. Other senior officials like **Mr K.Engineer**, Commissioner Customs, Vizag; **Mr Anup Kumar Sathpathy**, DRM, Vizag, **Mr Durgesh Dubey**, Dy.Chairman VPA and **Mr J. Pradeep Kumar**, CVO and a large number of stakeholders of VPA, AP Maritime Board, Trade, Govt officials attended the 2 day programme.

### IN BRIEF

## Indoor Shooting Range at INS Karna, ENC

A first of its kind, Composite Indoor Shooting Range (CISR) was recently inaugurated by **Vice Admiral Biswajit Dasgupta, AVSM, YSM, VSM**, Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Eastern Naval Command at INS Karna, on the Eastern Seaboard. The CISR is a state-of-the-art, self-contained, 25 m, six lane, live firing range for all primary and secondary weapons in the Navy.



With advanced target systems with associated control software, this range would enable personnel to hone their firing skills, enabling them to challenge and take on adversaries in demanding scenarios. The range has been setup to contemporary international standards by an Indian firm and is a shining example of Atma Nirbhar Bharat in the year of 'AKAM'. The entire facility was setup in record time of 120 days from the award of contract to the firm. INS Karna is the first in the Navy and perhaps the only military unit in the country to setup and use CISR presently.

## ICSI, Convocation 2022 held at GITAM

The Institute of Company Secretaries of India (ICSI), Southern Region Convocation 2022 was held recently at, GITAM University, Visakhapatnam. HSL CMD **Cmdr Hemant Khatri, IN (Retd.)**, who was the Chief Guest, presented certificates to Fellow and



Associated Members of the Southern Region of the ICSI who got admitted between October 2021 to March 2022. The Chairman & MD, HSL and Vice President, The ICSI, advised the newly admitted members to maintain the ethics of the Profession and stand for good Corporate Governance in true letter and spirit. **CS Manish Gupta**, Vice President, The ICSI, **CS Ashish Garg**, Past President, The ICSI, **CS Dr V Ahalada Rao**, Central Council Member, The ICSI, **CS AVVSSCHB Sekhar Babu**, Chairman Southern India Regional Council, The ICSI and **Mr. Ankur Yadav**, Joint Secretary (SG), The ICSI were also present on the occasion.

## AMTZ Vizag unveils India's first PCR Kit for Monkeypox

VIS News Service

India's first MonkeyPox RT-PCR test kit by Erba-Transasia was recently launched by **Prof. Ajay Kumar Sood**, Principal Scientific Adviser to the GoI along with the host of Senior Officials at AMTZ, Vizag.

Transasia - Erba Monkeypox RT-PCR Kit is a highly sensitive but easy to use RT-PCR assay with uniquely formulated primer and probe for enhanced accuracy stated an official press release from the company.

"It's a proud moment for us to launch another 'Made in India' highly sensitive RT-PCR test kit to our growing range of immune assay and molecular solutions. This further emphasizes our commitment to the health of the people of India and the world," said **Mr.**



*I congratulate the team at Transasia for launching yet another Made in India, next-gen, quality product.* **Dr. Jitendra Sharma** MD & CEO, AMTZ

**Suresh Vazirani**, Founder Chairman of Transasia-Erba Group of Companies. "Being the first and only indigenously developed, highly sensitive MonkeyPox RT PCR, we are sure it will allow an opportunity for early detection and better management of infection. This also indicates that the Transasia-Erba group is capable of producing affordable and reliable

devices through innovative research," he cited. **Dr. Manoj Chugh**, Vice President, R&D Reagents, Transasia Bio-Medicals Ltd. further added, "The ErbaMDx Monkey Pox RT PCR kit is compatible with commonly available RT PCR analyzers and extraction platforms. This kit further ensures zero cross reactivity from other orthopox viruses or organisms."

## Investors Summit Next Year

VIS News Service

Minister for Industries and IT **Mr. Gudivada Amarnath** has said that the Government will conduct the Global Investors Summit in Visakhapatnam next year.

He asked the officials to attract investments in IT, Health, Education, Agriculture, Energy, Tourism and Textiles. He said AP is providing conducive atmosphere to the investors, and added that it is evident with the State occupying the top place in the EODB rankings.

**Mr. Amarnath** said that the Chief Minister **Mr. Jagan Mohan Reddy** has asked to make the Global Investors Summit a grand success by attracting huge investments in Andhra Pradesh.

## GPL bags Greentech CSR Award

VIS News Service

Recognizing Gangavaram Port's work in the area of rural development and community welfare, the port was recently awarded the prestigious "Greentech CSR Award 2022" at the 9<sup>th</sup>

Assam in the presence of **Mr Parimal Baidyasukla**, Minister of Transport & Excise, Govt. of Assam & **Dr. Arup Kumar Misra**, Chairman, Assam State Pollution Control Board. "We are extremely delighted to receive this

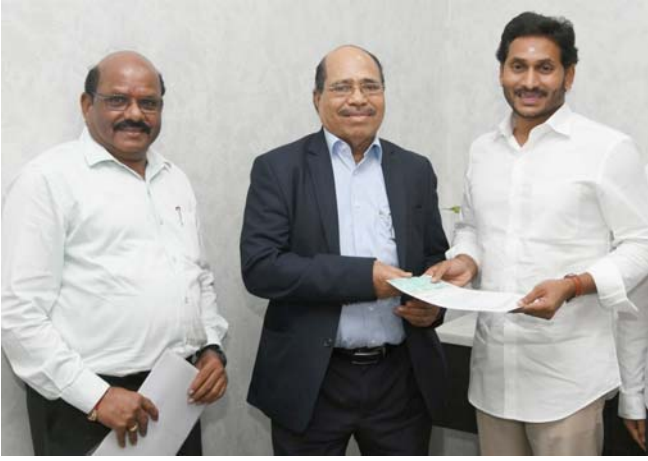


Annual CSR India Awards. Given under the category of "Rural Development" as a recognition of their work towards Healthcare, Education, Sports and Infrastructure the award was received by **Dr. Jyothi D**, VP, Gangavaram Port and was presented to her by **Mr Bimal Borah**, Minister of Industries & Commerce & Public Enterprises, Govt. of

award. Our CSR activities are designed for long-term community benefits and to foster sustainable growth. We want to thank our entire team who have been instrumental in executing these rural dev. initiatives and have been the change makers of the future" said the Gangavaram Port Management via a press release.



## At the Secretariat



Chennai-based Imperial Granites Private Limited (Gem Granites Group of Companies) donated Rs.1,05,00,000 to CM's Relief Fund. Chairman of the company **Mr. R. Veeramani** seen handing over the cheque to Chief Minister **Mr. Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy**. Mr. Veeramani lauded the measures taken by the CM to prevent Covid-19.

## DESH -Transitioning to SEZ 2.0



Abhinav Srivastava

Introduced in the year 2005, the Special Economic Zones Act, 2005 gained prominence due to various tax benefits offered under direct and indirect tax laws.

The future of the said scheme started to bleak out with imposition of sunset clause on income tax holiday. In view of Central Government's focus on ease of doing business, domestic manufacturing, implementation of Goods and Services Tax Act, it was only evident that overhauling of the SEZ scheme was in the reckoning.

Apart from the various factors, another cause to revamp the scheme was to bring the export incentives to be in compliance with the World Trade Organisation ('WTO') norms. As per the WTO panel, the incentives given to SEZ units in India appear to be in violation of the agreement on subsidies. With the introduction of the Development (Enterprise and Services) Hubs Bill, 2022 ('DESH') bill, the Government aims to overhaul the SEZ policy by expanding the ambit of these exclusive zones to make them WTO compliant and perform roles that go beyond export-orientation. Also, this

scheme integrates existing industrial estates into Development Hubs, classified between enterprise and services hubs.

The focus on indigenous manufacturing is prominent in the draft bill and the businesses can cater to the indigenous market and engage in sub-contracting as well. With the removal of the significant clause of achieving positive Net Foreign Exchange Earnings ('NFE'), the intention of the DESH scheme is also to attract a wider set of occupants. For this, the concept of industry-specific zone is replaced with multidisciplinary businesses and more importantly, the supplies are not limited to global market.

Apart from the tax benefits, other aspects to promote ease of doing business include single-window clearances, removal of restrictions around foreign currency payments, allowing partial de-bonding of SEZ premise by developers, single point of contact across multiple ministries within government.

The proposed DESH bill in many ways, is a blessing to various stakeholders and it could be a game changer with an integrated approach of government and industry stakeholders to achieve the Make in India goal. However, one must understand and analyse the nitty-gritties of the final enactment to ascertain the specific and overall impact from an operational and business standpoint.

(The writer is a Partner at BDO India LLP)

# Opportunities galore in Ship Building & Repair: CMD, HSL

## 200 new Tugs Needed

Aditya Sabharwal

Identifying the ship building and ship repair sector as a sector of myriad opportunities, Hindustan Shipyard Limited's C&MD, **Cmdr Hemanth Khatri**, IN (Retd.) called upon MSMEs to march ahead and capitalize on this mega opportunity.

'India has ambitious plans for port expansion and construction under the Sagarmala Project with \$82Bn investment by 2035. As such about 200 new tugs will be needed by 2032 in line with growing maritime trade and port infrastructure' informed the C&MD addressing the gathering at the Maritime Conclave organized by VPA celebrating 25 years of PPP.

HSL till date has constructed a total of 29 tugs of capacities ranging from 10T, 25T, 30T, 45T and 50T with both types of propulsion viz. Steerable Rudder

propulsion and Voith propulsion for Indian Navy & various port authorities and has gained vast experience in construction of tugs.

'Some of the tugs used in VPT are also HSL built tugs' said the C&MD.

He further pointed out to the indigenisation list released by the ministry of defence that helps accelerate and promote the make in India initiative. 'We at HSL work

very closely with MSMEs. There are approximately 250 MSMEs HSL is engaged with. In fact we recently awarded a Rs 165 crore worth order to a private company' said C&MD HSL. He however cautioned MSMEs to become more competitive and to put

their focus on quality enhancement and time management.

And in order for MSMEs to benefit from the huge scope of available work at the yard, Cmdr Khatri urged MSMEs to list themselves on the GeM portal.

waterways as an essential means of transport' said Cmdr Khatri.

### Role of Technology

The C&MD also emphasised the role of technology and being a huge enabler and said that there is an imminent need



### New Areas of Opportunities in Maritime

- High speed boats
- Ferry and Coastal Tourism
- Cruise Tourism
- Ro-Ro Service
- Role of Technology
- Smart ferries/Smart Shipping

'MSMEs need to be listed on GeM as it is from there that we have been mandated to source' noted Cmdr Khatri. Another area of opportunity he spoke keenly about was the Ferry and Coastal Tourism. 'There are about 14.5 crores passengers using

for new technology in ship propulsion, decarbonization and also in smart shipping and smart materials.

Talking on HSL's relationship with Vizag port he said it's a very special relationship. 'We have an 81 year old partnership with VPA' said the C&MD.

## Address needs of MSMEs: CM to DMs

Contd. from Page 1

their grievances, especially from industry should be properly heard and addressed to. Industry is very important for any district so grievances from them should be properly heard, addressed and proactively



dealt with' said Mr Jagan Mohan Reddy.

Spandana is a One-Stop public grievance redressal platform for the citizens of Andhra Pradesh. Grievances raised through spandana are to be redressed in a specific time frame.

The CM entrusted the responsibility of conducting spandana on the district collectors and also said that there was a need to monitor the state's SDGs as every scheme is connected to SDGs.

## IIIT-Sri City holds 5<sup>th</sup> convocation

VIS News Service

The Indian Institute of Information Technology (IIIT)-Sri City recently conducted its 5th convocation. Union Minister of State for Education **Dr. Subhas Sarkar** took part as chief guest and delivered the convocation address.

Addressing the students **Dr. Subhas Sarkar** congratulated the graduating students and said, "What you have achieved is not only the degree,

but learning and experiences in the campus that you will cherish lifelong." Stating that the golden era of startups has started in the country, he quoted the Prime Minister **Mr. Narendra Modi**, and urged the graduates, "Showcase your talent and give a dimension to the flight of your imagination, be an entrepreneur, work for yourself and work for your nation." **Mr. M. Balasubramaniam**, Chairman, Board of Governors of IIIT-Sri City said that future growth relies on competitiveness and innovation, skills and productivity, and these in turn rely on the education of our people.

Also speaking on the occasion Prof. Kannabiran, Director of the Institute said that the institution is uniquely located in a modern industrial city, viz. 'Sri City', that comprises a large number of MNCs and domestic industries. 'As facilitated by Sri City, which is



our industry partner, we have access to over 200 manufacturing industries. Placement opportunities for our students have significantly improved over the past three years, and we have out in place a structured and systematic effort for training and placement" said **Prof Kannabiran**.

Established in 2013, IIIT Sri City has the unique distinction of being the first IIIT in PPP mode to introduce MS and PhD programmes. In a short span of nine years, the Institute has grown to prominence at national and international levels through the scholastic achievements of students and faculties.

## Choosing CS as a career

VIS News Service

Visakhapatnam Chapter of SIRC of the ICSI recently conducted a programme for participants to choose Company Secretary as a career at Dr BR ambedkar College of Law, AU. **Prof. V Vijay Lakshmi** Principal addressed the participants and said LLB alongwith company secretary course is more worthy, to become a Corporate advisor.

CS Vaghira Jonnada addressed the participants about the advantages for doing the Company Secretary course especially for LLB students, and opportunities available in the present scenario and also mentioned as of now there are 68000+ qualified Company Secretaries in our Country but the requirement is in lakhs. It is a highly in demand Job.

**PRV Sivarama Krishna** explained to students how to register in the Course, what are the exemptions for LLB students, fee structure, fees concessions, fees reimbursements, and also Visakhapatnam Chapter services to students.



# WNS finds its new home in city

**Moves into coveted HSBC Building**

VIS News Service

Business process management major, WNS has found new premises for its office space in Vizag. The iconic Vizag Info Tech park limited most commonly referred to as the

premises (which has now been given up) shall move into the Vizag Info park limited building. WNS in Vizag employs people for its back office operations in different verticals such as Insurance, Banking, Healthcare etc.



HSBC building (as they were the earlier occupants) will now house WNS employees.

As per industry sources the transition to the new place has already begun and more than 3000 employees of WNS shall now call this place their new office.

An all-export oriented unit WNS had started its operations in the city of destiny nearly a decade ago and has two facilities in Vizag i.e. one on Jail road and the other in the Tech Mahindra building. It is understood that the staff at the Jail road

Globally WNS has a presence across 4 continents, 17 countries with over 55000 employees.

The earlier occupants HSBC had started to wind down its operations about a couple of years ago and as per sources has already redeployed most of its staff to other locations. Interestingly it is said that still about 650 of HSBC employees work from home i.e. in Vizag. The Vizag Info park limited is said to have 4 stakeholders wherein the government too is stated to have a minority share.

# 'BoB working closely with GoAP'

Aditya Sabharwal

India's second largest Public Sector Bank in terms of market capitalization, Bank of Baroda has been working closely with the government of Andhra Pradesh supporting the state government's many employment generation schemes.

'We have been financing many of the employment generation schemes of the government of Andhra Pradesh by extending them our credit facilities' said BoB's **Mr Man Mohan Gupta**, General Manager and Zonal Head, Andhra Pradesh speaking exclusively to *Vizag Industrial Scan*.

Last year the bank financed the buying of 9260 vehicles for AP civil supplies depart-

ment. These vehicles named mobile dispensing units (MDUs) are being used for delivery of ration to PDS beneficiaries. The deal encompassing a total ticket size of Rs 450 crores has given the bank a substantial opportunity for cross selling their products too.

Similarly the bank has tied with the government for financing eleven thousand fishermen under the Fish Andhra/Fit Andhra initiative. With an overall credit outlay of Rs 270 crores this initiative aims to help fish-



ermen sell fresh sea produce.

The bank is also supporting the government of Andhra Pradesh's green initiative of promoting EVs among its 1 lakh employees. Bank of Baroda shall provide financing options for the state government

employees for buying electric vehicles at a competitive rate of interest.

**Financing MSMEs**

Stating that the bank has a strong focus on the MSME sector Mr Gupta informed that each branch manager has been set a target of sanctioning at least 1 MSME proposal each month while the regional head has been set a target of sanctioning 2 MSME proposals each month.

Talking on the overall business of the bank in this region Mr Gupta stated that the bank has been doing well and has seen growth in the last fiscal i.e. FY22. 'We have seen a credit uptick of 13% in our MSME segment both in Telangana and Andhra Pradesh' said the general manager.

# Har Hath Tiranga



The Employees of VCTPL led by its COO Mr. Anil Narayanan are seen celebrating 75th year of Independence. VCTPL is the container terminal of Visakhapatnam Port Authority run by JM Baxi Group.

# VPA awards Rs 57 cr order to DCIL

Contd. from Page 1

India under the consortium of four (4) major ports Authorities viz, Visakhapatnam Port, Paradip Port, Jawaharlal Nehru Port and Deendayal Port holding majority shares of 73.47%. DCI is the premier dredging organization

of India catering to the dredging and allied services

to Major Ports, Minor Ports, Indian Navy, Fishing Harbours and other maritime organizations by deepening and maintaining the safe navigational channel for EXIM activities.



# AP Chambers urges Vizag Port to address certain key Infra issues



Aditya Sabharwal

Identifying some of the key challenges being faced by the local trade in the shipping and ports sector, **Mr Sudhir Mulagada**, Vice president, AP Chambers of Commerce and Industry Federation highlighted the steep rentals for storage and warehousing space (falling under the ambit of the port land) as a cause of concern to industry.

'The rentals for storage and warehousing are quite steep and are comparable to commercial rentals in

city premises' noted Mr Mulagada implying that warehousing rentals should be way lower than commercially available space in the city. 'How can a bare four wall warehouse cost as much as a furnished office space in the city' noted Mr Mulagada thereby advocating that industrial use of land should not be benchmarked to GVMC prices for residential and commercial land and thus called for its immediate delinking.

'Delinking will significantly help ramp up warehousing space in the city' said Mr Mulagada. Speaking on rice shipments from VPA he stated that due to certain age-old mechanisms being followed in the port the handling costs of rice shipments have gone up considerably. 'This has led to a lot of the rice shipments going to Kakinada.

There is a need for us to become competitive in this area too' said Mr Mulagada.

Touching upon road connectivity and evacuation of cargo he called for the early completion of the road from port to Sheelanagar and also connecting to the new highway. The chambers appealed to the port to designate this as freight corridor so that cargo vehicles can ply on this road. 'At present there are more personal vehicles on that road than freight trucks. This is seriously impeding the movement of cargo. This is also a safety hazard as you have two wheelers on one side and heavy trucks on the other.

The movement of two wheelers and other light vehicles should be prohibited at the earliest' said Mr Mulagada. The AP chambers however welcomed the ports decision of enhancing the truck parking area from 20 acre to 50 acre which it said was much needed.

# Work on Machilipatnam port slated to begin Oct'22

Contd. from Page 1

while the other 3 will be multipurpose berths. The port is said to have a draft 14.5 meters.

Mr Mohan further stated that each of the 3 green field ports have a land bank of around 5000 acres.

The government of Andhra Pradesh recently started work on the Ramayapatnam port wherein the Chief Minister **Mr Jagan Mohan Reddy** laid the foundation stone in July this year.

With works on 2 greenfield ports being undertaken, work on the Bhavanapadu port might take some time. 'Land needs to be acquired for Bhavanapadu port and we are in an advanced stage of discussions with the central government on this' informed APMB's Deputy CEO, **Lt Cdr Ravindranath Reddy** (Retd.) speaking to *Vizag Industrial Scan*.

Talking on the PPP model Mr Sagili Shan Mohan said that GoAP is open to en-



of these fishermen that GoAP has undertaken the development of the 9 fishing harbours.

'By Dec. 2023 we shall complete works on 4 fishing harbours' said Mr Sagili Shan Mohan. However one of the biggest challenges being faced by

gauge private sector participation for operating the 3 green field ports. He further added that APMB is open to Captive berth arrangements with logistics players/big industrial units for committed traffic.

**Expediting work on 9 Fishing Harbours**

With AP being the largest fish producing state with about 3.45 MTPA, APMB is aggressively undertaking works on the 9 fishing harbours which are being constructed at a cost of around Rs 3300 crores. As per the government there are 555 fishery villages in the state with 6.3 lakh fisherman population and it is to improve the livelihoods

APMB is the financing of these fishing harbours keeping their socio-economic benefit in mind.

'Our biggest challenge is to fund the construction of these fishing harbours' cited Mr Sagili Shan Mohan.

APMB is thus trying to work out different revenue models to make it attractive for investors and to raise funds for it. 'To solve this predicament Integrated seafood parks are being planned wherein these will be used for processing of aqua products, packaging, cold storage etc. This will be done to have a sustainable revenue model thereby making it attractive for funding' informed Lt Cdr Reddy.



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## Govt formulating model to allow small investors invest in road projects: Gadkari

**National Highway network to touch two lakh kilometres by end 2024**

VIS News Service

Union Road Transport and Highway Minister **Mr. Nitin Gadkari** said the government is formulating a new model to allow small investors to invest in infrastructure projects at the '3rd edition of Roads and Highways Summit', organised by FICCI.

He said, "(the government) will soon list InvITs on the stock market so that retail investors can trade units (of InvITs), offering an opportunity to common citizens to invest in the infrastructure projects". The Minister said the InvITs assure a 7 to 8 per cent return. The Minister noted the need to expand the national



highway network as they carry about 70 per cent of the cargo and 90 per cent of the passenger traffic in the country. He highlighted that NH at 1.47 lakh kilometres are just about 2.3 per cent of the overall road network and said, "before end 2024, we will take national highway network to two lakh kilometres."

On the occasion, Minister Gadkari also noted logistics costs as the critical challenge to country trade, exports and business. He averred that the current logistic costs in the country range from 14 to 16 per cent as opposed to 12 per cent in European nations and the USA and around 8 - 10 per cent in China. "My

target is to take it up to 10 per cent", the Minister said and encouraged the industry to plan on adopting water transport. "Our first priority is for waterways, second for railway, third road and fourth aviation", he added, highlighting waterways as costing one-tenth of the road transport.

The Minister also alluded to alternative fuels like LNG, bio-ethanol and green hydrogen and said, "ethanol, methanol, biodiesel, bio-LNG, bio-CNG, electric and green hydrogen, the alternative fuels will substitute imports, (are) cost-effective, pollution-free and can save your (industry's) logistic cost."

## Tata Steel to invest Rs 2600 cr in Punjab

VIS News Service

Punjab's Chief Minister **Mr. Bhagwant Mann** welcomed investment worth Rs 2600 crore by Tata Steel in Punjab. The land allotment letter was recently handed over to Tata Steel for setting up a scrap based steel plant at an investment of Rs 2600 crore in the first phase of the project which will be located at Ludhiana, adjacent to Hi-Tech Valley Industrial Park of Government of Punjab. "We are committed to making Punjab a front runner in the industrial sector and the investment by Tata Steel is a step forward in this direction", asserted the

Chief Minister during a meeting with a delegation led by Global CEO & Managing Director, Tata Steel Limited, **TV Narendran**. On the occasion Cabinet



Minister **Anmol Gagan Mann**, Chief Secretary **Vijay Kumar Janjua**, Principal Secretary Investment Promotion **Dilip Kumar**, CEO InvestPunjab **Kamal Kishor Yadav**, Special Principal Secretaries to CM **Ravi Bhagat** were also present.

## Need for R&D investments in tier 2-3 cities



VIS News Service

**Prof. Ajay Kumar Sood**, Principal Scientific Adviser to Govt of India has emphasized on the need to include more R&D in newer technologies especially quantum technologies. "Today, India is at the beginning of the quantum revolution. This area needs enormous R&D push, and it has tremendous business

lot of talent apart from tier-1 cities. There are a number of institutes with huge human capacity available and FDI in R&D should not be looked only in the mega cities but go beyond tier-1 cities by investors," he added. **Mr. Ratan P Watal**, Chairman, Central Vista Oversight Committee while speaking at the valedictory session said that it is imperative to focus on three

*"Tier-2 and 3 areas have a lot of talent apart from tier-1 cities. There are a number of institutes with huge human capacity available and FDI in R&D should not be looked only in the mega cities but go beyond tier-1 cities by investors."*

value including areas like quantum communication, quantum computing, etc. All these areas of quantum frontiers have a lot of opportunities" he said. Addressing the national seminar on 'FDI in R&D- Making India R&D Hub', organized by FICCI, jointly with the Office of Principal Scientific Advisor to Govt of India, Prof Sood said that we have a lot of opportunities not only in big cities but small cities and towns as well. "Tier-2 and 3 areas have a

key areas to make India a hub for R&D which include measuring R&D; having a National Innovation Index while we look at global indices and a robust Science & Technology Policy. "There is a huge opportunity which awaits us especially in the changing geo-political environment in the world, we need to have a National Innovation Index for the states in India. We should also focus on having a robust Science & Technology Policy," he added.

## Samsung's Industry-Academia Program

VIS News Service

Samsung, India's largest consumer electronics brand, is expanding its unique industry-academia program Samsung PRISM (Preparing and Inspiring Student Minds) to 70 engineering colleges in India by 2025, aiming to stimulate the Indian innovation ecosystem and making students industry-ready.

As per an official release from Samsung the program has been successful in driving engineering students to file patents and publish technical papers in cutting edge domains such as Artificial Intelligence,

Machine Learning and IoT, strengthening Samsung's vision of Powering Digital India.

Samsung PRISM was started in 2020 and in the last two years, over 4,500 engineering students and 1,000 professors have worked with SRI-B engineers to deliver live projects successfully.

As part of the program,

Samsung R&D Institute, Bangalore (SRI-B) collaborates with students and faculty at engineering colleges, giving them research as well as development projects (worklets) to be executed over four to six months. Students from engineering colleges that are in top positions of Government of India's National

Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) rankings from across the country have participated in the program so far.

"Over the last two years, we have already seen strong results, with student teams filing patents and publishing technical papers in cutting edge domains," said **Mr. Srimanu Prasad**, Head of Tech Strategy, Samsung R&D Institute, Bangalore.

## PPP the way ahead in Ports & Shipping Sector

**Over USD 3 billion to be invested in 7-8 years**

VIS News Service

Emphasising the role of Public Private Partnership (PPP) in maritime sector, especially in port sector, **Mr. Sanjay Bandopadhyaya**, Chairman, Inland Waterways Authority of India, GoI has said that PPP especially in the port sector is crucial and with the collective steps of all stakeholders it is becoming a more efficient and better model.

Addressing the two-day 'Maritime Public Private Partnership Conclave 2022', organized by Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port, Kolkata with FICCI as an Industry Partner, Mr Bandopadhyaya said the next 25 years will witness significant changes in the entire sector including cargo and vessels.

Highlighting the importance of PM Gati Shakti Masterplan, he said that the multi-modal connectivity is



aimed at developing infrastructure to reduce logistic costs and boost the economy.

**Mr. Vinit Kumar**, Chairman, Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port, said, we are celebrating the silver jubilee of PPP in the port sector and over Rs 20,000 crore have been invested in it under the PPP model which accounts for around 30 per cent of the total capacity in the port sector. "There is a pipeline of around Rs 28,000 crore in next 7-8 years which is a big boost for the shipping and port sector," he added. Speaking on the vision

MIV 2030, he said that the Landlord model is the model for the future where ports will play the role of a regulator and the services will be provided by the private sector under the PPP mode.

**Mr. Dhruv Kotak**, Chairman, Ports and Shipping, FICCI Committee on Transport Infrastructure and MD, JM Baxi Group said that the National Monetization Pipeline has been a planned and structured manner that has been able to generate major interest globally and India is rightly placed to tap the opportunities.



## VIS Startup Focus

### Your online Course Trainers



Nikhitha Challapilli

With the pandemic causing major disruptions to nearly all facets of life, many had to shift to the virtual world. Education too had to take to its new world i.e. online.

As many students had to move back home during the lockdown, they were left with no access to course material available in their respective colleges. And with exams approaching this became even a bigger problem as students needed their relevant study material.

Considering these limitations, two Andhra University students decided to start an e-learning platform to provide access to key learning material. This is where EduMoon glowed! This e-learning start-up provides professional courses such as C Programming, JAVA, Python, Web & App Development, Autocad, Matlab, Analog Communications, Robotics, trainings like EAMCET along with lectures, workshops, webinars and paid internships to help engineers of diverse streams.

Founded by **Mr. Vikas Kapuganti** and **Mr. Mahidhar Ponnada** from CSE department they strategized formulae for their juniors to learn with ease by creating an Instagram account that contained relevant study information aligned to the AU curriculum.

The start-up claims to have already provided classes to over 10K students and held over 100 guest webinars lectured by industry experts such as ISRO, IIM & IIT, AU alumni, etc.

We started with Computer Science-related content, but have been curating study material for ECE, EEE, Mechanical, and many other engineering branches at an affordable range starting from Rs. 300 to Rs. 5000, informed the founder, Mr. Vikas. With endless guidance and support from AU's Vice Chancellor, **Mr. Prasad Reddy** the start-up has already made great strides from just being a mere start-up to having raised Rs.2 million in funding. Edumoon received Rs 20 lakhs of funding under the Chunaiti 2.0 scheme of Software Technological Park of India under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology.

AU's incubation centre headed by **Mr. Ravi Eshwarapu** is also giving them much-needed mentoring and helping them navigate their way.

**Below is a brief snapshot of the company:**

**Founders:** Vikas Kapuganti and Mahidhar Ponnada  
**Incubated/Started (Year):** 2021 (Incubated)

**Industry:** EdTech

**Number of Team Members:** 10

**Funding Received :** Rs 20 Lakhs

**Claim to Fame:** Featured among top 3000 startups of India, top 72 to receive funding of over Rs 20 lakhs with a 3 Crore Valuation, top 3 in Andhra Pradesh State and top 90 worldwide to be selected in the TiE Global Pitch Competition.

**Market of Operation:** Visakhapatnam

**Revenues:** Rs. 6 Lakhs

**Company's culture :**

Aggressive  Easy Going  Methodical

**PTIM (Person that inspires us):** Elon Musk.

It is the ease with which he multi-tasks and brings everything to glory.

## IIT Kanpur Startup gets Govt Funding

VIS News Service

Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology; Minister of State (Independent Charge) Earth Sciences; MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, **Dr Jitendra Singh** announced

financial support of Rs. 3.29 crores to M/s Kritsnam Technologies, a Start-up Company, incubated at IIT Kanpur to develop smart water management technologies. He said, the technology, initially focused on commercial users, can be a game changer in effectively monitoring & controlling the ground

water exploitation across country in future.

The Minister was apprised that the start-up is developing 'Dhaara Smart Flowmeter' - an integrated



system for online monitoring using two beam ultrasonic flow meters that is designed to track the water distribution in real-time for

applications such as drinking water supply, ground water extraction, industrial water usage and precision irrigation. The device collects data through sensors, stores it in the device, and transmits to the online cloud servers and thereafter the data transmitted to servers is analysed and displayed in the dashboard.

## Strong IP protection good for Economy: USPTO

VIS News Service

Advocating for a robust IP regime in the state, the DPIIT-IPR Chair Centre for Intellectual Property Rights Andhra University recently organized a joint workshop in partnership with United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) and Purdue University USA.

Delivering his keynote address at the Developing IP Strategies for Universities workshop **Mr Dinesh Sharma** Senior Intellectual Property Policy Advisor for India U S Patent and Trademark Office Embassy of the United States of America, New Delhi shared global best practices of IP policy and highlighted how the IP and Technology Transfer landscape has transformed in US Universities after the implementation of Bayh-Dole Act in 1980. He said that strong intellectual property protection and enforcement are essential to promoting investment, economic

growth, as well as technological advances in a country. He also stressed on the importance to have a clear consistent and predictable policy framework



for overall promotion of innovation in the universities. Mr Dinesh stated that according to OECD study 1% improvement in patent protection increases Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) by 2.8%, 1% improvement in trademark protection increases FDI by 3.8% and 1% improvement in copyright protection increases FDI by 6.8%. Guest of honor **Dr DHR Sarma**, Director of IP Protection Process and

## Hydrogen StartUp secures Rs 3.29 Cr funding

VIS News Service

Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology; Minister of State (Independent Charge) Earth

Sciences, **Dr Jitendra Singh** recently announced financial aid of Rs 3.29 crore to a Hydrogen StartUp from Maharashtra for

indigenous development of Hydrogen Sensing & Analysis Technology.

Dr Jitendra Singh said, the Hydrogen Startup funding is in tune with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of National Hydrogen Mission (NHM) launched on India's 75th Independence Day, last year from ramparts of the Red Fort. He said, the

NHM aims to aid the government in meeting its climate targets and making India a green hydrogen hub. This will help in meeting the target of production of 5 million



tonnes of Green hydrogen by 2030 and the related development of renewable energy capacity, the Minister added. The patented hydrogen gas sensor and analyser is based on a core sensor; which has been conceptualised, developed, manufactured and serviced entirely in India.

## AIM Calls for Applications for Incubation Centres

VIS News Service

Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), NITI Aayog recently launched Call for Applications for its two leading programs **Atal Incubation Centre (AIC)** and **Atal Community Innovation Centre (ACIC)**. The call for applications is a step to expand the current ecosystem of incubators and to provide them with



access to global benchmarks and best practices.

Both the programs envision creating and supporting the innovation ecosystem in the country by establishing world-class institutions which shall help budding entrepreneurs of the country.

While launching the call for applications, CEO NITI Aayog **Mr. Parameswaran Iyer** said "Innovation is an unparalleled driving force for development and the drive for innovation has to be coupled with social entrepreneurship".

AIC applicants can apply here <https://aimapp2.aim.gov.in/aic2022/>

ACIC applicants can apply here <https://acic.aim.gov.in/acic-application/>

## StartUp gets Rs 1.15 crore loan for manufacturing compostable plastic

VIS News Service

Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology; Minister of State (Independent Charge) Earth Sciences; MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, **Dr Jitendra Singh** approved StartUp loan of Rs 1.15 crores to



M/s TGP Bioplastics for commercialising "compostable" plastic and thus also mitigate the usage of Single Use Plastics (SUP). An MoU was signed between Technology Development Board, a statutory body under

Department of Science & Technology and M/s TGP Bioplastics Private Limited, Satara, Maharashtra for manufacturing &

commercialization of compostable plastic. Dr Jitendra was apprised that the StartUp has come up with an alternative solution of Single Use Plastic (SUP) with the prototype of a compostable plastic material which breaks down as a compost in soil without affecting the environment. This unique project has received seed funding under NIDHI Prayas(DST), Niti Aayog and UNIDO for the prototype development.



# AP unveils a new Chapter in Skilling

**CM hands out Microsoft upskilling certificates to students**

VIS News Service

In order to address the urgent need of upskilling students & for students to become job ready, the government of Andhra Pradesh had undertaken a unique collaboration be-

Pradesh, the CM said 'This is a very proud moment for the state's education sector itself. This is the first of its kind initiative in the country to train over 1.6 lakh students in a single state'. He congratulated all

chief minister and his education team for embarking on this initiative, 'The government of Andhra Pradesh has taken a pioneering step in skilling making it one the largest skilling programs anywhere in the world' Mr Bal said.



This is a very proud moment for the state's education sector. This is the 1st of its kind initiative in the country.

- Mr Jagan Mohan Reddy, Chief Minister of AP

tween the GoAP and Microsoft for skilling the students of AP. The CM Mr Jagan Mohan Reddy recently handed out certificates to students who completed their respective courses.

Entailing a gargantuan task of skilling over 1.62 lakh students, GoAP's education and skills partnership with Microsoft is said to be one of the most innovative collaborations between a state government and technology giant Microsoft. Terming this as a new chapter in Skill development in the state of Andhra

the certified students who have now become Qualified Microsoft technical associates.

'These certification courses normally would have cost Rs 30,000 each. By this calculation we would have had to spend Rs 465 crores. However we negotiated with Microsoft and they have been equally liberal wherein we have had to pay just Rs 32 crores' said the CM.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr Navtez Bal, Executive Director, Public sector for Microsoft lauded the

programs and certification in cloud, AI, data science etc. Mr Bal also read out a special message from Microsoft's CEO Mr Satya Nadella. AU's Vice chancellor, Mr Prasada Reddy also heaped praises on the CM and said 'Whatever is there in the new education policy was already envisioned a year earlier by our chief minister'.

Ms Saba Karim, India Head, Academics and Govt. Vertical at LinkedIn along with a host of other dignitaries were also present.

## WB Exec. lauds RBK concept

Andhra Pradesh Rythu Bharosa Kendras (RBKs) are being appreciated globally, and recently an executive of the World Bank who was visiting Penamaluru in Vijayawada district lauded the concept of RBKs. Around 10,778 RBKs are serving the farmers of AP as a one-stop solution for procuring quality seeds/fertilisers & selling their agriculture produce which has revolutionized the way the agriculture sector is functioning in the State. A brainchild of Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy the RBK initiative by the AP Govt. has won international recognition and were also nominated for UNO Award.

## For a cleaner AP



VIS News Service

The chief Minister witnessed one of the largest beach cleaning programmes in the World wherein about 22,000 people participated across 40 areas clearing about 76 tons of plastic waste. On the occasion the state Govt. signed an agreement with Parlay for the Oceans. The MoU is said to help in recycling plastic waste in the state. A recycling and up-cycling hub is also being worked upon wherein investments to the tune of Rs. 16,000 crores are expected to come in Andhra Pradesh over the next six years. This shall create about 20,000 jobs for locals across the State said an official release from the government. The CM also announced a ban on the use of plastic flexies in the state. In order to make AP plastic-free by 2027, the State government is taking all measures and has invited two companies as partners.

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# INSV Tarini's Ocean Sailing Expedition To Mauritius

VIS News Service

Commanding Officer, INS Mandovi flagged off a sailing expedition from Goa to Port Louis, Mauritius at early hours of August 20,

2022. The expedition is being undertaken by a crew of six (incl three women officers), onboard INSV Tarini. Covering a distance of almost 2500nm (apprx 45000 km) one way, the

crew, over a period of 20-



21 days is expected to face

extreme weather and rough sea conditions of monsoons.

In addition to sailing in these conditions the crew will also be undertaking boat upkeep, machinery

routines and preparing their meals. The passage would be nonstop once they leave the Indian shores.

The crew for the sea sorties are selected from volunteers with adequate sea

sailing experience.

The crew members include Cdr Vikas Sheoran, Lt Cdr Payal Gupta, Lt Cdr Kaushal Pednekar, Lt Cdr Dilna K and Lt Cdr Roopa A.

## Edu Minister hails Sri City Infra

VIS News Service

Union Minister of State for Education, Government of India, recently visited Sri City wherein he



was welcomed by Mr. Satish Kamat, President (Operations), Sri City. Touring the integrated business city Dr. Subhas Sarkar was impressed with Sri City's infrastructure, and industry-friendly environment. He appreciated the administration for establishing world-class facilities and was glad to note

that the Integrated Business City offers holistic solutions for multiple investment options. He expressed happiness at the presence of two reputed higher educational institutions equipped with excellent infrastructure in the industrial hub.

"The honourable minister's observations and feedback are very encouraging, and will be a great source of inspiration." said Sri City's founder managing director, Mr Ravindra Sannareddy said in a message.

## From staff of 10 to 585, NSTL celebrates 53<sup>rd</sup> Birthday

VIS News Service

Naval Science & Technological Laboratory (NSTL) recently celebrated its 53<sup>rd</sup> Lab Raising Day (LRDC) aka foundation day.

Established on 20 Aug 1969 with 10 staff members, NSTL has grown multifold with 585 personnel including 174 Scientists and has made significant contributions to defence R&D and is recognized as one of the premier labs of Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO) engaged in the development of underwater weapons and systems. Participating as chief guest



Vice Admiral Biswajit Dasgupta, AVSM, YSM, VSM Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief (FOC-in-C), Eastern Naval Command (ENC) wished India to become fully independent from foreign sources/manufacturers in the coming 25 years. 'Then only we can say that India achieved Swavalamban (self-reliance). This re-

sults Swabhimam (self-respect)' said the FOC-in-C. Dr. Manu Korulla, Scientist-G & Chairman Works Committee presented the annual report of the Works Committee and in particular mentioned the social service activities which were carried out. Outstanding Scientist & Director NSTL Dr. Y Sreenivas Rao, in his ad-

dress, explained the genesis of NSTL and how it evolved to the present state-of-the-art premiere naval research laboratory. He also briefed on the status of ongoing projects and stressed progress on the innovative technologies to meet futuristic requirements. Dr. Samir V Kamat, Distinguished Scientist who assumed charge as Chairman DRDO & Secretary Dept. of Defence R&D addressed NSTL fraternity through a video message. On this occasion, Lab Technology Awards were also presented by the Chief Guest.