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Mega Rs 1000 cr. investment in Kadapa

VIS News Service

One of the leading manufacturer and supplier of quality plywood in the country, Century Plyboards India Ltd. has evinced interest to set up a plant in Badvel of Kadapa district.

Century Plyboards India Ltd CMD **Mr. Sajjan Bhajanka**, Executive Director **Keshav Bhajanka** along with company representative **Mr. Himanshu Shah** recently called on Chief Minister **Mr. YS Jagan Mohan Reddy** to explain the company's plan for Andhra Pradesh.

The team apprised the CM that the company is



planning to invest Rs. 1,000 crore in three phases creating direct employment for 3,000 people and indirect employment for about 6,000 people. As per an official release the construction work shall start immediately wherein the first phase of operations will begin by December 2022. It was also stated that the total construction is expected to be completed in December 2024.

The company already has units in West Bengal, Tamil Nadu, Haryana, Assam, Gujarat, Punjab and Uttarakhand.

GoAP fast tracks Tourism Projects

Floating restaurants, Sea Planes, Tunnel Aquarium on the anvil

VIS News Service

Addressing a review meeting on the ongoing tourism projects in the state, **Mr Rajat Bhargava**, Special Chief Secretary to Government, Youth Services, Archaeology, Tourism and Culture (YATC) Department reiterated that the Government of Andhra Pradesh is committed to utilize all the natural geographical features and develop various themes of tourism namely river tourism, eco-tourism, adventure tourism.

GoAP will utilize all natural geographical features and develop all possible themes of tourism.



Mr Rajat Bhargava
Special CS, YATC

Rushikonda Beach Resort

As per an official release it was mentioned that the work on the Rushikonda beach resort

has already commenced and that it will be completed by next year.

Similarly the proposed extension of Beach Road from Bheemili to

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IN BRIEF

Ispat Suraksha Awards presented

RINL-VSP was bestowed with "Ispat Suraksha Purashkar Awards" for the calendar years 2018 & 2019 (2 years period) and 2019 & 2020 (2 years period) by the Joint Committee on Safety, Health & Environment in the Steel Industry (JCSSI). RINL Director (Operations), **Mr. AK Saxena**, gave away the awards to the winning departments at a function held at Visakhapatnam Steel Plant.



RINL funds to Divyangjan

RINL-VSP CMD (Addl. Charge), **Mr. Deb Kalyan Mohanty**, recently handed over assistive devices to physically challenged persons. RINL contributed Rs.44.03 Lakhs from Corporate Environment Responsibility (CER) Funds for provision of Aids and Assistive Devices to 210 Beneficiaries selected in camps at Visakhapatnam and Vizianagaram Districts for uplifting the physically challenged persons. The camp for Distribution of Assistive Devices was organized through Artificial Limbs Manufacturing Corporation of India (ALIMCO) in Visakhapatnam.

31 SAIL employees bag PM Shram Awards

Thirtyone employees of Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) have won the Prime Minister's Shram Awards for the Performance Year 2018 for their exemplary workmanship, innovativeness and dedication to the duty. Out of the total 69 awardees, 31 awardees are from SAIL. This is the highest number of PM's Shram awards won by the employees of any organization during the year. Six employees of SAIL have won Shram Bhushan, six employees have won Shram Vir/Veerangana and nineteen employees have bagged the Shram Shree/Devi awards.



Tata Structura shortlists finalists of design contest

Tata Structura, the leading structural hollow section brand from Tata Steel recently announced the 12 finalists of the design contest. Tata Structura, had launched the 2nd edition of 'Notions of India' design competition on March 3, 2021 in the presence of **Mr. Ratan Tata**, Chairman Tata Trusts and Chairman Emeritus Tata Sons, and **Mr. N. Chandrasekaran**, Chairman Tata Group. The competition, spanning over five months, witnessed over 5200 registrations and participants from 13 countries.

NCL's highest Coal off take

Northern Coalfields Limited (NCL), the Singrauli based Coal India subsidiary under the Ministry of Coal has dispatched the highest ever coal in a single day. As per the ministry of coal the company's offtake on 27th August 2021 grew to a whopping 3.87 lakh tonnes.

The Company has also sent the highest ever, 38 Coal Rakes of Indian Railway to upcountry coal consumers of Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Gujarat, Delhi, and other states fulfilling the energy requirements of the country in this pandemic time.

NMDC posts over Rs. 3k crs profit in Q1

VIS News Service

National Mineral Development Corpora-

tion (NMDC) posted Profit After Tax (PAT) of Rs. 3,193 crore for the first

quarter ended June 2021, achieved multifold of the Rs. 533 crore posted during the corresponding



up 51% at 9.45 MT. Commenting on this solid performance, NMDC CMD **Mr. Sumit Deb**, said, "Indian steel majors have reported strong results and also announced expansion plans."

Mr. Sumit Deb
Chairman, NMDC

Covid hit quarter of last fiscal. The iron ore production was up 35% at 8.91 million tonnes and sales were

steel majors have reported strong results and also announced expansion plans.

NTPC Simhadri commissions largest Solar Project

VIS News Service

The National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) Ltd, recently commissioned the largest floating solar PV project of 25MW on the reservoir of its Simhadri thermal station in Visakhapatnam. This is also the first solar project to be set up under the Flexibilisation Scheme, notified by the Government of India in 2018.

ing solar project has the potential to generate electricity from more than 1 lakh solar PV modules. As per an official release this would not only help to light around 7,000 households but also ensure at least 46,000 tons of CO2e are

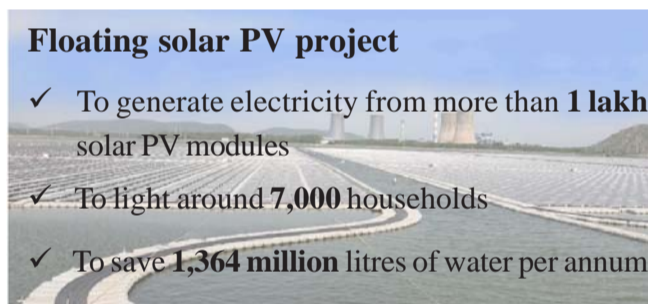
based Simhadri Station is the first power project to implement an open sea intake from the Bay of Bengal which has been functional for more than 20 years.

NTPC is also planning to set up a hydrogen-based micro-grid system on a pilot basis at Simhadri.

With a total installed capacity of 66900 MW, NTPC Group has 71 Power

Floating solar PV project

- ✓ To generate electricity from more than **1 lakh** solar PV modules
- ✓ To light around **7,000** households
- ✓ To save **1,364 million** litres of water per annum



kept at arm's length every year during the lifespan of this project. The project is also expected to save 1,364 million litres of water per annum. This would be adequate to meet the yearly water requirements of 6,700 households.

The 2000MW coal-

stations including 29 Renewable projects. NTPC has set a target to install 60 gigawatts (GW) of renewable energy (RE) capacity by 2032. NTPC is also India's first energy company to declare its energy compact goals as part of the UN High-level Dialogue on Energy (HLDE).

Major Reforms in Mineral sector

VIS News Service

The Ministry of Mines has adopted the scheme for accreditation of private exploration agencies developed by the National Accreditation Board for Education and Training of the Quality Council of India (QCI-NABET).

At present, only Government agencies are involved in exploration and the pace of exploration is limited by their capacity. The present step of the Government is a major regulatory reform in the mineral sector aimed to unleash the economic potential of the sector by bringing more agencies in exploration of minerals, stated a release.

This will increase the pace of exploration, create new employment opportunities in the sector and bring more explored blocks for auction. The scheme will also help in encouraging new entrepreneurs in the field of exploration and bringing latest technology and expertise to the sector, stated a release.

JSPL 1QFY22 production up 20% YoY

VIS News Service

During 1QFY22, JSPL Standalone reported steel production (incl. pig

company's effort in improving sales compared to previous year (1.61mt, +3% YoY). Share of exports increased to 34% in

costs. Strong operating profit and declining finance costs have resulted in JSPL standalone posting a quarterly profit of INR 2,661 Cr. Pellet production in

PRODUCT(Million Tonnes)	Q1 FY 22	Q4 FY 21
Steel*	2.01	2.07
Pellets	2.16	2.03

iron) of 2.01 million tonnes (Up 20% YoY), a record first quarter production. While the domestic demand was severely impacted by the second wave of COVID-19, lucrative export markets aided

1QFY22 compared to 27% in the prior quarter. Higher sales volumes and uptick in the steel prices resulted in revenues rising by 65% YoY to INR 10,385 Cr. EBITDA also surged to INR 4,524 Cr, partially offset by higher

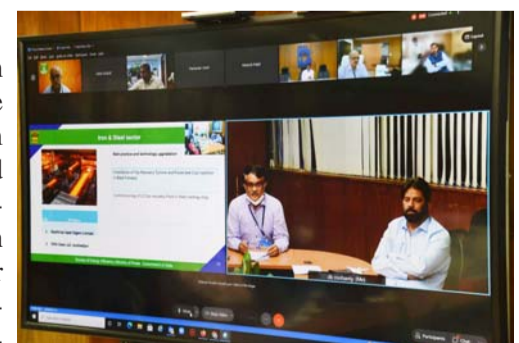
1QFY22 increased to 2.16 million tonne (up 6% QoQ). External sales of pellets also increased to 0.40 million tonnes (up 39% QoQ) due to higher production of pellets as steel production was broadly stable QoQ

RINL-bags highest ES certificates

VIS News Service

Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited, the corporate entity of Visakhapatnam Steel Plant has secured the highest number of Energy Saving Certificates in the Iron and Steel Sector in India, it said. It complied with the PAT (Perform, Achieve and Trade) second cycle energy targets set by Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE) & Union Ministry of Power.

RNIL CMD-Addl. Charge, **Mr. DK**



the presence of director (Operations), **Mr. A.K. Saxena**.

Mr. Mohanty congratulated the RINL col-

Mohanty, said RINL received **1,29,907** Energy Saving Certificates (EScerts) from **Mr. Alok Kumar**, Secretary, MOP, GOI virtually in

lective for this stupendous achievement in Iron & Steel Sector and directed them to take further measures to reduce energy consumption.

AP sends over 700 tonnes of onions thru Kisan rail

VIS News Service

The South Central Railway which has been actively taking forward the



“Kisan Rail” initiative recently sent the first kisan rail from Tadepalligudem station of Andhra Pradesh to Malda Town in West Bengal carrying 246 tonnes of onions. As per an official release from SCR the

Business Development Unit (BDU) team of Vijayawada Division have conducted successful meetings with the farmers and traders in the surrounding areas who desired to transport Onions from Tadepalligudem station.

Similarly for the first time from Betamcherla station located in Kurnool District 456 tonnes of Onions were sent in 19 LHB Parcel Vans to Changsari station near Guwahati in Assam.

It was informed that 50% tariff concession is being provided by the Union Ministry of Food processing Industries under the scheme “Operation Greens - TOP to Total”.

Transportation of Agricultural products through Kisan Rails has proved to be safe, economical and cost effective besides providing a smooth and hassle-free transportation with least enroute damage to their products.

As per the release these trains have been more convenient for farmers, traders and cargo operators, since they can offer the loading in relatively small quantities.

Mr. Gajanan Mallya, General Manager, South Central Railway complimented Officials and staff and instructed the officials to extend the Kisan Rail Concept to more stations across the zone.

Port of Call



VIS News Service

Senior members of the AP Chambers recently called upon Mr. Kayala Venkata Reddy, Chairman of AP Maritime Board and congratulated him on his new assignment.

The members requested Mr. Kayala Venkata Reddy for further development of the Port sector, the hinterland besides offshore areas

connected to the Port and also urged him to take up the issue of Railway Rakes allotment with Railway Board and tapping the maritime potential of the State.

Seen in the picture above are members of the AP Chambers, President-Elect Mr. Pydah Krishna Prasad, Visakhapatnam Zonal Chairman Mr. Sudhir Mulagada and Vice-Chairman Mr. KRB Prakash.

FIEO partners Myforexeye

In line with the Government of India's 'Digital India Initiative', Federation of Indian Export organisations (FIEO) recently signed an MoU with tech-based forex solutions company 'Myforexeye', to provide innovative digital mobile app-based forex trading solutions to support Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise (MSME) exporters in India. As part of this, FIEO members will have access to expertise and exclusive know-how in the area of Forex Risk Management, Forex Trading etc.

VOC Port unloads 57,090 tonnes of coal in 24 hours

VIS News Service

The VOC Port recently created a new record by unloading 57,090 Tonnes of Coal in 24 hours at Berth 9 from the vessel, 'M.V. Star Laura', surpassing the earlier record of 56,687 tonnes of coal.

The earlier record was also created at Berth 9, as the coal was unloaded from

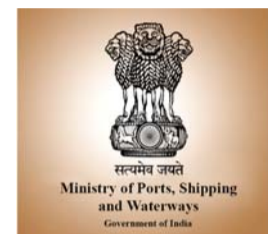
the vessel 'M.V. Ocean Dream on October 27, 2020.

The Port also handled the highest quantum of 1,82,867 tonnes of cargo handled in a single day this year. The Marshall Islands flagged Panamax class vessel 'M.V. Star Laura', with the floating draft of 14.20 metres arrived from the Port of Maura Berau, Indonesia with 77,675 tonnes

Port Connectivity in NE

VIS News Service

Stating that the Union government is working hard to make Northeast a growth engine of the country, Union Minister of Ports, Shipping & Waterways Mr Sarbananda Sonowal said that now focus is given to the waterway connectivity in the



region as a result Mongla and Chittagong ports are now accessible to us.

He urged the stakeholders from across the North-eastern zone to take advantage of the conclave and priorities which products from this region can be exported to foreign countries.

Union Minister of State for Ports, Shipping & Waterways Mr Shantanu Thakur said that shipping ministry is taking initiatives to develop and use water resources and waterways for the economic development of the northeast zone.

IN BRIEF

Training for women at JNPT

As part of its corporate social responsibility, Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust (JNPT), one of the premier container handling Ports, commenced a vocational training program for women in collaboration with Jan Shikshan Sansthan (JSS). The vocational training program was inaugurated by its Chairman Mr. Sanjay Sethi. JNPT, under its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Fund, had approved a grant of Rs 50 Lakh to conduct Skill Development Trainings for 1000 Beneficiaries in the Raigad district. The three-month-long vocational training program will focus on skill development and equipping women with occupational skills. The courses chosen encompass skills like Beauty Culture and Health Care, Helpers for Nursing Homes, Sanitary Pad making, Vegetable and Fish Drying, Warli Painting, Aggarbatti Packing, etc.

DRM felicitates weightlifter

Senior weightlifter, working as railway employee in Commercial Department of Waltair Division Ms. Matsa Santoshi won Silver Medal in the recently held Senior National Weight Lifting Championship at Patiala, Punjab. Divisional Railway Manager & President E.Co.RSA Mr. Anup Kumar Satpathy felicitated Ms. Matsa Santoshi on her achievement. Speaking on the occasion DRM said that Santoshi will bring more laurels to the Railways and the country in future and the railwaymen will be proud of her achievement. Sports Officer Mr. Pradeep Yadav and Asst. Sports Officers; Mr. Haranath Mopuri, Mr. B. Avinash were present at the felicitation function.



NCL vaccinates entire workforce against Covid-19

Northern Coalfields Ltd (NCL), a Coal India Ltd subsidiary has become the first PSU in the country, which has got all its employees and their family members vaccinated against Covid-19. The company has a strength of around 50,000 people. “During the unprecedented crisis of Covid, our coal warriors worked 24X7 and ensured uninterrupted coal supply to the nation. We left no stone unturned to get them vaccinated.” NCL CMD Mr. Prabhat Kumar Sinha said. The company identified various target groups and conducted special drives along with door-to-door campaigns to achieve this goal.

'FTAs to remove tariff disadvantage'

VIS News Service

Apparel Export Promotion Council (AEPC) Chairman Dr A Sakthivel thanked Minister of Commerce & Industry, Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution and Textiles Mr. Piyush Goyal for announcing that there is a “very positive momentum” in terms of FTAs the UK, EU, Australia, Canada, UAE, Israel and the GCC countries.

“We are excited to hear that discussions on FTAs with many countries are progressing fast. We have been requesting the government to fast track the trade deals. FTAs will remove tariff disadvantages faced by Indian apparels in many markets. Early Harvest Agreements with the UK and Australia can help triple Indian apparel exports to these markets in the next three years,” Dr Sakthivel said.

Milk Train from AP crosses 10 crores litres mark

VIS News Service

Transportation of Milk through “Doodh Duronto” special trains from Renigunta of Andhra Pradesh to the National Capital recently crossed the ten crore litres mark.

As per an official release from the railways these special trains are operated by South Central Railway on an uninterrupted basis from 26th March, 2020 till date



wherein 2502 Milk tankers were transported through 443 trips.

It was amid the lockdown that the South Central Railway had

started this unique concept of operating “Doodh Duronto” special trains by

exclusively attaching Milk tankers.

The Zone has been operating these trains on par with Mail express trains by covering the distance of 2300 Kms from

Renigunta to H. Nizamuddin station within a reasonable time of 30 hours said the release.

Doodh Duronto specials are run normally with 6 Milk tankers, each milk tanker having a capacity of 40,000 liters i.e., totalling to 2.40 lakh liters of milk in a train.

So far, 2,502 milk tankers have been operated in 443 trips of these special trains transporting more than 10 crore liters of milk.

Vijaya Nirmala new chairperson of VMRDA



VIS News Service

YSRC leader **Ms. Akramani Vijaya Nirmala** recently took charge as the new Chairperson of Visakhapatnam Metropolitan Region Development Authority (VMRDA).

Ms. Vijaya Nirmala signed her appointment letter in the presence of Tourism Minister **Mr. Muttamsetti Srinivasa Rao** and VMRDA Commissioner **Mr. K. Venkata Ramana Reddy**. After taking charge she promised to improve the functioning of the VMRDA.

In another programme, **Mr. K.K. Raju** took oath as chairman of New and Renewable Energy Development Corporation of AP (NREDCAP).

APPCB Chairman urges Industry for best Practices

VIS News Service

Delivering the keynote address at CII AP's virtual Conference on environment, health and safety, **Mr AK Parida IAS., (Retd.)**, Chairman., Andhra Pradesh Pollution Control Board emphasised on the measures required for mitigating climate change. He called upon all stakeholders to promote environment friendly measures in the coming ten years.

Speaking about the measures initiated by Andhra Pradesh Pollution Control Board he said that Government of Andhra Pradesh is planning for clean air initiative in 13 municipalities in the state by involving all stakeholders including major cities Vijayawada and Visakhapatnam.

The proposed initiative will be supported by local

city Government and Corporate Social Responsibility funds from industry said **Mr Parida**.

Green Ratings

Talking on the importance of green zones **Mr Ravindra Sannareddy**,



Managing Director - Sri City P Limited highlighted various aspects of developing green industrial zone. He mentioned that sustainable use of water with reuse and recycle would help to meet the objectives of sustainable development. Green ratings for various products and services would have great demand in coming days, he felt.

Giving the welcome ad-

dress, **Mr Neeraj Sarada**, Vice Chairman, CII Andhra Pradesh & Deputy Managing Director, Sarada Metals & Alloys Ltd focused on circular economy for higher efficiency.

Mr Pradeep Dhobale, Chairman-Green Entrepreneurship Council, CII-Green Business Centre in his address felt that technology played a vital role in developing various green products. In

his presentation he briefed about CII Cleantech initiative.

Mr D V S Narayana Raju, Convenor, CII Andhra Pradesh CSR & Environment Panel & Executive Director, Deccan Fine Chemicals India Pvt Ltd said the subject of safety has emerged as top most priority for all stakeholders in present times, he felt.

Expedite land survey: Kallam

VIS News Service

Principal Adviser to Chief Minister **Mr. Ajeya Kallam** has directed the officials to expedite comprehensive land survey in the State.

Mr. Ajeya Kallam, chairman of the state-level steering and implementation committee for the comprehensive land survey, said that the Chief Minister **Mr. Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy** is

closely monitoring its progress.

Speaking at a review meeting, he said the high level committee was ready to give all clearances to speed up the process.

RoDTEP Scheme: Is it worth the wait?

Sweta Giridar

The long-anticipated guidelines for Remission of Duties and Taxes for Export Products (RoDTEP scheme) were announced on August 17th, 2021 which will be in effect since January 1st, 2021 is replacing the MEIS scheme along with rates for products covering 8555 tariff codes. While the rates range from 0.5% to 4% for various products it is substantially lower than the rate of incentive available under the MEIS scheme for the various product categories.

The scheme aims to refund duties/taxes/levies at central, state and local level borne on exported goods which is otherwise not refundable under any other law. The rebate will be computed in the as a percentage of FOB value of the exported products (similar to MEIS scheme) with a value cap per unit of the exported product



wherever required.

The scheme is also said to operate within a budgetary framework which will be fixed year on year by the ministry of finance. The mechanism of issuance of rebate would be implemented through end-to-end digitization of issuance of rebate amount in the form of transferable duty credit/electronic scrip which will be maintained in the credit ledger in the ICEGATE portal.

Much to the dismay of the industry, many sectors such as pharma, steel, fertilizer and

chemical industries were excluded from getting the benefits of RoDTEP which is said to impact their competitiveness in the export market. Another set of exclusions from RoDTEP scheme is that companies claiming benefits under other export benefit schemes such as Advance Authorisation, SEZ, EOU and MOOWR scheme are restricted from claiming the benefit. Exclusion of these schemes from the RoDTEP notification may cause a big setback, as such restriction was not there under the MEIS scheme.

However, it has been stated that RoDTEP rates and exclusion of some of these schemes would be decided based on the recommendations of the RoDTEP committee. Hence, there is still hope for schemes such as EOU, SEZ and Advance

Authorisation to be included under the scheme. However, seeing the MOOWR scheme a part of the restricted list is surprising considering that the centre has widely publicised the scheme which may reduce its attractiveness.

With low rates of rebate, exclusion of key industries along with many other exporter categories such as EOU and SEZ considered as ineligible, many exporters are at a huge disadvantage. The industry at large is with the hope that the scheme will be reviewed based on the feedback received to include many of the ineligible categories. It is important for businesses to review the rates prescribed vis-à-vis their costs to see if it covers all the non-refundable taxes and if not, representations should be filed with the ministry at the earliest.

(The writer is Manager, BDO.)

IN BRIEF

ENC to host MILAN, Fleet review next year

At the 75th Independence Day celebrations **Vice Admiral Ajendra Bahadur Singh**, AVSM, VSM, Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief, said that ENC would be hosting two major events at Visakhapatnam – the Presidential Fleet Review and MILAN 2022 in early 2022. He urged everyone to prepare earnestly for these mega-events. He also mentioned that the State Government is extending full support to the ENC for these prestigious events.



I-Day at Coromandel

Coromandel International Limited, Visakhapatnam celebrated 75th Independence Day at its Vizag plant. **Mr. M. Gunasundaram**, Unit Head & Head Mfg. hoisted the National Flag. Rewards and recognition were given to various departments such as Muragappa Five Lights awards, Bravery awards, TQM awards, Employee volunteerism, Community outreach and distributed prizes for sports events on the occasion. HoDs and senior officials were present on the occasion.

I-Day at Aaykar Bhavan

On the occasion of 75th Independence Day, **Dr SVSS Prasad**, IRS, Chief Commissioner of Income Tax, Visakhapatnam hoisted the national flag at Aaykar Bhavan, Visakhapatnam and released pigeons and balloons into sky to mark the Azadi Ka Amrutmahotsav celebrations.



Mr SS Parida, IRS Pr. Commissioner of Income Tax along with other senior officers and officials participated in the program.

New Chairperson of SUDA

Ms. Ashalatha Gupta was recently sworn in as the chairperson of the Srikakulam Urban Development Authority. At the swearing-in ceremony held recently in Srikakulam, Deputy Chief Minister **Mr. Dharmana Krishna Das** urged everyone to work collectively.

PR Agency bags award

VIS News Service

Konnections IMAG, an Integrated Marketing Communication Consultancy has received special Recognition for excellent Media Planning and Management at CREDAI Property Show 2021.



Speaking on this, **Mukta Kumar**, Director Communications, Konnections IMAG said, it's an absolute delight to receive the Recognition for excellent Media Planning and Management for CREDAI Property show during these challenging

COVID-19 times. This award is a great honour, and it was possible only because of the hard work and support of the entire Konnections IMAG team.

It is a great opportunity for us as it strengthens our faith in honest, trustworthy, and ethical communication services. This award is a testament to our ongoing growth & success and the differentiators which we create for our clients.

CONCOR connects Chennai to JNPT



VIS News Service

State-Owned Container Corporation of India Ltd recently flagged off inaugural Container Train ex ICD Tondiarpet Chennai to Nhava Sheva.

Chief General Manager, CONCOR, Chennai, **Mr. G.R. Seshagiri Rao** said that CONCOR had taken note of the ongoing scarcity for empty containers for exportation, Non-availability of slots in liner vessels and had come forward to allocate its own containers

to the exporters for countries such as Bangladesh, Nepal, Iran, Russia and gulf countries.

The new service would be a weekly train initially and will be scaled up to bi-weekly shortly as there is a great demand for the same, Mr. Seshagiri Rao added.

CONCOR has deployed high speed rakes in Chennai - JNPT Circuit the transit of which is likely to be 03 days covering a distance of 1400 kms approximately.

AU signs MoU with Samsung

VIS News Service

Andhra University College of Engineering (AUCE) recently signed an MoU with Samsung.

Speaking at the virtual programme AU Vice Chancellor **Prof P.V.G.D Reddy** and principal **Mr. P. Srinivasa Rao** said



“As part of the MoU, Samsung Research and Development Centre will work with the teachers, researchers and students of AUCE to pave way for research collaboration and to study the future challenges in start-up culture as well as futuristic technological advancements.

AP Tourism reviews ongoing Projects

Contd. from Page 1

Bhogapuram is being taken up by the Infrastructure and Investments Department.

It is mentioned that the tourism Department will develop World Class Tourism Resorts and Adventure Sports Activities all along the newly proposed Beach Corridor.

Sea plane terminals at Bheemili Beach and Bhogapuram Beach, Eco-Tourism project at beach adjoining the forest land, Resorts, Floating Restaurant, Eco Camps, International Convention Center with Accommodation Block and a Golf Course will be developed under this Beach Corridor Tourism Project.

The release further mentioned that the Conversion of MV Maa Cargo Vessel

into a Floating Restaurant will be done at a project cost of Rs 10.5 crs.

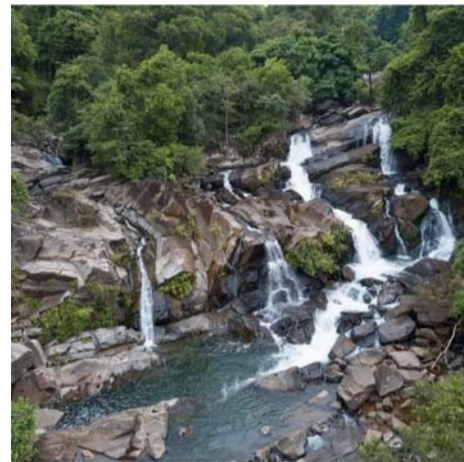
The project components include, Banquette Halls,

under Tourism Policy 2020 – 2025.

Eco Tourism

As a part of development of Eco-tourism in the

forest areas, High-end Tourism Resorts are proposed for development at the following locations and the works are in progress. a) Maredumilli in East Godavari District. b) Lambasingi in Visakhapatnam District c) Jagathipalli in Srikakulam District



Floating Restaurant at Vijayawada

A floating restaurant is proposed to operate in Krishna River between Berm Park and Bhavani Island. Stell Barge is already fabricated and Restaurant is to be developed on the barge said the release.

Multi Cuisine Restaurant and other Amenities.

Tunnel Aquarium at Thotlakonda Beach

This project will be developed with an estimated investment of Rs. 163 Crores through PPP mode

Promote Khadi Collector tells employees



VIS News Service

Srikakulam District Collector **Mr. Srikanth Reddy** has appealed to all government employees to make it a tradition to wear khadi and handloom garments every Monday. In a statement he said that although khadi is nationally and internationally renowned, the economic status of Ponduru khadi and handloom workers was not up to the mark. He said the government provides financial assistance of Rs 24,000 per annum to workers with looms under the Nethanna Nestam scheme. Though the central and state governments were giving hand-outs under various schemes, public co-operation was needed to improve the living standards of handloom workers in the district, he added.

HSL's CMD urges MSMEs to explore opportunities at yard

VIS News Service

The Chairman and Managing Director of Hindustan shipyard limited has called upon MSMEs to come and explore work at the yard.

Addressing the CII session on HSL's vendor development **Cmde Hemant Khatri, IN (Retd.)** highlighted the imminent need for

when dealing with the yard.

He further informed that the yard is looking towards a cumulative business of more than Rs 15000 crs over the next 7-8 years and therefore many opportunities for MSMEs to participate in.

‘We will be spending Rs 700 crores in the next 3-4 years on upgrading



A vendor at HSL is not just a supplier but our business partner.

Cmde Hemant Khatri, IN Retd., C&MD, HSL

The session saw a detailed presentation by the senior management of HSL comprising of **Mr. S V Rambabu**, Director – Finance & Commercial, Hindustan Shipyard Ltd, **Mr. D V Subba Rao**, General Manager - Commercial, Hindustan Shipyard Ltd, Lt Cdr Devina Sanyal (Retd), Manager - Vendor Development, Hindustan Shipyard Ltd. showcased the various opportunities present at the yard.

Some of the opportunities highlighted included design of ship building, steel fabrication & erection, piping works, electrical works etc.

Similarly some of the items required by the yard for ship building and ship repairs included steel and castings, safety items, DG sets, boilers etc.(See box)

Raju, Convenor, CII Andhra Pradesh Defence & Aerospace Panel and Managing Director, Geo Marine Dynamics India Pvt Ltd emphasised that companies to reimagine

Items Required

- ✓ Steel and castings
- ✓ Machinery like DG Sets, Boilers, etc.
- ✓ Pipes, Valves and Fittings
- ✓ Cables, Electrical & Electronics

indigenization and said that local vendors have the potential to make India Atmanirbhar bharat.

‘The Ministry is pushing all of us on achieving high levels of indigenization’ said Cmde Khatri.

Stating HSL's strength to be its contractors and suppliers he pointed out that the yard is not just looking at L1 but quality too needs to be the best

our infrastructure at HSL to cater to this business demand’ said the C&MD.

He also spoke on ramping up manpower at the yard. ‘We have enough jobs on offer but not enough people’ cited the C&MD.

Terming the shipyard as the new HSL Cmde Hemant Khatri said that the most popular slogan at HSL is customer first.

Outsourcing by HSL

- Design of ship building
- Steel fabrication and erection
- Piping works
- Electrical works
- Annual maintenance works
- Civil and infrastructure works
- Manpower outsourcing

It was informed that currently there are 300 active MSME suppliers at the yard.

Mr. J Srinivasa

their business model and that MSMEs need to innovate and create new products and services more rapidly and

New GCC chairperson



VIS News Service

Ms. Swati Rani recently assumed charge as Chairperson of the AP Girijan Cooperative Corporation (GCC) in the presence of Deputy Chief Minister & Minister for Tribal Welfare **Ms. P. Pushpa Srivani** in Visakhapatnam.

The Girijan Co-operative Corporation is public sector undertaking of the Govt. of A.P. It protects the environment through regeneration of species of minor forest produce and ensures pure & natural products to the consumer.

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Monobus launched in Vizag

VIS News Service

SV Motors Visakhapatnam, dealer of Force Motors has recently launched 4 seated Monobus.

The bus was unveiled by DTC **Mr G.C. Raja Ratnam**, along with S.V. Motors **Mr. P. Naveen Kumar** Force Motors territory sales manager and other officials were present.

Mr. Naveen Kumar tributes to phenomenal mileage, best-in-class, safety and car like ride quality.

Mr. Naveen Kumar

said that the wide and comfortable seats ensure comfortable ride. This lightweight monocoque body con-



Joshi as MSME PC chief of A.P.

VIS News Service

Mr. Arvind Joshi has been nominated as Chairman of MSME promotion Council of Andhra Pradesh for a period of three years, as per a letter given by Chairman MSME PC, **Mr. Hari Narayan Rajbhar**.



The MSME Promotion

Council is a nonprofit organization incorporated as a Section 8 company by the Ministry of Corporate Affairs. The Council works in close association with the Ministry to assist the MSME units in their efforts.

The Council is Supported by Ministry of MSME, Govt. of India.

Income Tax Dept. felicitates Devi Fisheries MD

VIS News Service

As part of the 75th Anniversary of India's independence being celebrated under the theme of "AzadikaAmritMahotsav" an activity called 'Azadika Jan Utsav' was recently conducted by the Income Tax Department, Visakhapatnam. This activity was done to felicitate one eminent tax payer, one AayakarParivarmember and two eminent individuals from other walks of life.

Under the eminent tax payer category Devi Fisheries, Managing Director **Mr Yaralagadda Surya Rao** was felicitated.

Similarly under other cat-



egories **Mr Lucas Peter, IRS, Mr Dilip Patro and Mr BhupatiRaju Anmishvarma** were also felicitated.

The function was presided over by **Mr S.S.Parida, IRS, Pr. Commissioner of Income Tax (ReFAC), Visakhapatnam**.

Mr AtulPranay, IRS Principal Chief Commissioner of Income Tax, Andhra Pradesh &Telangana, Hyderabad and **Dr.S.V.S.S.Prasad, IRS, Chief Commissioner of Income Tax(ReFAC), Visakhapatnam** also participated in the meeting virtually and addressed the gathering.

Special CS Rajat Bhargava urges Tax officers to garner more revenue

VIS News Service

Kkeeping in mind the bleak situation of the state finances the state government has given its tax officers additional targets. In a recently held revenue review meeting, the Special Chief Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, **Dr. Rajat Bhargava** informed the Officers about the Additional targets given under each tax head i.e. GST,



Chief Commissioner of State Tax, **Mr Peeyush Kumar, IAS**

cr, an additional estimate of Rs.1500 cr is added.

was informed that while the budget estimates for GST and VAT are Rs.55,535

Chief Secretary observed that while the revenues under GST and VAT recorded a growth of 79.77%, those under Profession tax recorded 63.23% growth till July'2021 of the FY 2021-22.

The Special Chief Secretary, while appreciating the efforts of the Commercial Taxes Department in recording good growth till July'2021 of the current financial year, exhorted all the Officers of the department to put in more efforts to achieve the budgeted revenue estimates including additional revenues.

The Special Chief Secretary observed that the Commercial Taxes Department collected an amount of Rs.186 cr through special efforts till July'2021 of the current financial year and directed to continue the

efforts with more focussed for increasing the revenues.

Steps to Increase Revenue:

- Enhance percentage of return filing by tax payers
- Emphasis on arresting tax evasion/avoidance

The Special Chief Secretary listed out 1) increasing the percentage of return filing by the tax payers and 2)

With regard to return filing, the Special Chief Secretary directed that monthly return filing by the tax payers should be more

Achievements :

- Commercial Taxes Department collected Rs.186 cr through special efforts till July'2021
- GST and VAT recorded a growth of 79.77% till July 21-22

arresting tax evasion/avoidance as the two important areas in which efforts should be

than 95% to mop up all the taxes admitted to be payable by them.

To arrest evasion/avoidance

- ➔ CT department in coordination with CGST Officers to conduct verifications, collect and collate data from all sources including returns, way bills, TDS data & information from other Government departments
- ➔ Random surprise checks of transport vehicles transporting goods to give clues about tax evading registered and unregistered persons
- ➔ To also focus on collection of Old Arrears and getting the court cases disposed to free the locked up revenues in those cases

VAT and Profession Tax, in addition to the budget estimates for FY 2021-22.

The meeting which was attended by the

along with Senior Officers of the Commercial Taxes Department and the Joint Commissioners of State Tax of all the 13 Divisions it

Likewise an additional target of Rs.200 cr is added to the budget estimate of Rs.400 cr under Profession tax head. The Special

Japanese Govt. delegation hails Sri City

Explores additional investments

VIS News Service

The integrated business city located in the southern region of Andhra Pradesh, Sri City has been a favourite with investors and foreign delegations for setting up their units there.

This time round it was the turn of the Japanese to get wowed.

Recently a high-level Japanese Government delegation comprising of **Mr. Shingo Miyamoto**, Minister, Head of Economic Division, the Embassy of Japan, New Delhi, **Mr. Hosaka**, Second Secretary, Embassy of Japan, and **Mr. Odagawa Hajime**, Consul, Consulate General of Japan in Chennai, visited Sri City.

The visiting dignitaries were welcomed by **Mr.**



Ramesh Subramaniam, President, Sri City Foundation wherein the team was given a detailed presentation on the unique features of the integrated business city, its world-class infrastructure and brisk pace of development and specific advantages of setting business in Sri City, including the financial incentives offered by state government.

Terming Sri City a 'wonderful place', **Mr.**

Shingo Miyamoto stated that they all were allured with the world-class infrastructure, business friendly ambiance and the potential business opportunities at Sri City.

Commenting on the visit of the Japanese officials, Sri City's Founder Managing Director, **Mr. Ravindra Sannareddy** said, "As of now, 15% of our customers are from Japan with an aggregate

investment of 1.3 billion US dollars, and thus Sri City emerged as the sec-

ond largest 'investment destination' for Japanese companies in India. We are confident their visit will pave way for some more investments from the small, medium and large scale companies of Japan."

The delegation had ar-

campus and visited the production units of Isuzu Motors India and Toray.

Mr. Sakamoto, Chairman, Isuzu Motors India (IMI), **Mr. Iwami, MD,** **IMOP,**

Japanese Cos flock to Sri City

- ✓ Sri City has emerged as the **second largest 'investment destination' for Japanese companies in India**
- ✓ **15% of Sri City customers are from Japan**
- ✓ **Aggregating a cumulative investment of 1.3 billion US dollars**

rived in Sri City as part of their visit to Southern India for assessing investment opportunities. The team went around the

Mr. Yamaguchi, MD, Toray, and **Mr. Hirano, MD,** PIOLAX also took part in the meeting with the visiting dignitaries.

Kant gives a Thumbs Up to AMTZ



NITI Aayog CEO Mr. Amitabh Kant recently was in Vizag wherein he paid a visit to AMTZ (Andhra Med Tech Zone). Delighted to be at the facility he said the zone has top class infrastructure with a brilliant ecosystem of innovation, entrepreneurship & creativity. He further appreciated and hailed the Excellent Biomaterial testing lab, 3D design & prototyping, Gamma irradiation lab & Xray/CT Scan tube mfg. at the zone.

Krishna Chaitanya is SAPNET Chairman

VIS News Service

Mr. Bachina Krishna Chaitanya recently assumed charge as the Chairman of Society for Andhra Pradesh Network (SAPNET). While congratulating **Mr. Krishna Chaitanya** Government Advisor **Mr. Sajjala Ramakrishna Reddy** said SAPNET would strive to provide better services to the people through Mana TV.

Ministers **Mr. Balineni Srinivasa Reddy**, **Mr. Audimulapu Suresh** and others attended the swearing-in.

Sisodia new Secy. to Governor

VIS News Service

The State government recently transferred Governor's Secretary, **Mr. Mukesh Kumar Meena**,

and replaced him with senior IAS officer **Mr. R P Sisodia**. **Mr. Meena** who had been at Raj Bhavan for the past two-and-a half years, was

posted as food processing secretary in the Industries Department. **Mr. Sisodia** a 1991 batch IAS officer is currently commissioner of enquiries.

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New Taxi Track at Airport

VIS News Service

A new taxi track N5 was recently commissioned at Visakhapatnam airport by **MP MVV Satyanarayana**, and Vice Admiral **Ajendra Bahadur Singh AVSM**, VSM, Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief Eastern Naval Command.



Construction of N5 taxi track in addition to existing N3 and N4 taxi tracks will provide an additional access to the runway and enable

handling of greater number of commercial aircraft particularly during peak hours. **Visakhapatnam Airport** is poised to witness numerous infrastructure projects including the construction of a Parallel Taxi Track and Runway Resurfacing.

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NRDC Vizag bags Best TISC Award

VIS News Service

Recognizing the untiring efforts and services of the National Research Development Corporation (NRDC) - Technology In-

merce and Industry, Consumer Affairs & Food & Public Distribution and Textile.

'It is truly an honour to receive this coveted award and be branded as the best innovation centre in the country. I hope our efforts and collective objective continues to create an impact on society in IP protection, inno-

has collaborated with various stakeholders to identify and protect their potential innovations/inventions which could be channelized into IPRs and value added for commercialization. 'NRDC-TISC, Visakhapatnam has collaborated and signed as many as more than 40 MoA/MoU's various Universities/PSUs/R&D Institutes/Government Entities and other renowned organizations and provided IPR facilitations, consultancy and technology transfer services' said Dr Sahu.



novation Support Centre (TISC) at Visakhapatnam it was recently awarded as the "Best TISC" (Technology and Innovation Support Centre) for National Intellectual Property Awards 2020 from Intellectual Property Office, India under the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Government of India.

The award ceremony was organized in the presence of Mr Piyush Goyal, Minister of Com-

mercial and Industry, Consumer Affairs & Food & Public Distribution and Textile. 'It is truly an honour to receive this coveted award and be branded as the best innovation centre in the country. I hope our efforts and collective objective continues to create an impact on society in IP protection, inno-

Established in February 2018 NRDC-TISC office in Visakhapatnam has been working diligently towards its roles and objectives and

✓Facilitated and filed more than 220 patents
 ✓Registered more than 85 Trademarks, 10 copyrights, 25 Industrial designs

He further informed that NRDC Vizag has transferred and commercialized more than 35 innovative technologies and around 12 are in pipeline to various industries, MSMEs and start-ups.

CM assures best education in Govt. Schools

VIS News Service

The Chief Minister Mr. Y.S. Jaganmohan Reddy recently launched the second phase Mana Badi and Naadu-Nedu programme to renovate 16,000 government schools by spending Rs. 4,500 crore in Andhra Pradesh.

The programme is aimed at providing education of international standards and corporate education in gov-



ernment schools of the State.

Mr. Reddy also

launched the distribution of Jagananna Vidhya Kanuka-2, spending a whopping Rs. 26 crore to provide the education kits to the 4.73 crore students of government and aided schools in the academic year 2021-22.

Mr. Jagan said, in the first phase, 15,000 government schools have been renovated by spending Rs.3,600 crore.

IDeAL lab opened at IIM-V

VIS News Service

An Interdisciplinary Decision Science and Analytics Lab (IDeAL) has been inaugurated at Indian Institute of Management Visakhapatnam (IIM-V) by Bangalore In-charge Director Mr. V. Nagadevara.

dressing socio-economic issues of inter disciplinary nature being faced by aspirational districts like Visakhapatnam.

IDeAl head Dr. ShivShanker Singh Patel



Speaking on the occasion IIM-V Director Prof. Chandrasekhar said IDeAL will play a vital role in bringing industry, government and academia together for ad-

explained how the lab deploys mathematical optimisation and data science for modelling and analysis. It would work at the intersection of mathematics, statistics, operations research, economics, computer and social sciences to spawn solutions that address real-life challenges, he added.

DRDO official visits AU

VIS News Service

Group Captain Arindam Lahiri, from DRDO Centre for Airborne Systems, Bengaluru visited Andhra University and called on Vice Chancellor Prof P.V.G.D Prasada Reddy.

During the meet, he discussed about the possibilities of Joint Research Programme involving Indian Airforce, DRDO and Andhra University. He also visited Centre for Defence Studies of Andhra University and thanked Vice Chancellor Mr. Prasada Reddy for setting up this unique centre intended to develop Defence Studies.

SKU's IGNITE programme

VIS News Service

AIC-SKU supported by Atal Innovation Mission, inculcates entrepreneurial spirit in the com-

visited DRW Women's College Gudur and explained the further steps i.e; to understand the constraints for the student women entrepreneurs and



munity ecosystem and groom start-ups and emerging businesses through its IGNITE 1.0.

So far about 64 students have been nurtured through its IGNITE 1.0 programme from various colleges and of that 12 students have been shortlisted for the next level stated a release from SKU.

As a follow up of the IGNITE 1.0 programme Dr. Shivkiran, CEO of AIC-SKU and Dr. Chandramouli technical head of AIC-SKU recently

provide them necessary solutions.

Principal of DRW College Dr. Yashoda and faculty of management studies Mr. Srinivas were also present.

The main agenda of the programme includes: To Build Robust Policy for the students to develop prototypes and convert it as Startups, 100 days Plan for developing Prototype or Proof of Concept and to Understand the Constraints for the Student Women Entrepreneurs and to provide them necessary solutions.

AMC bags ISO 9001 : 2015 Certification

VIS News Service

Andhra Medical College, Visakhapatnam has been bestowed with ISO 9001 :2015 certification.

The organization represented by Mr. A. Sivayya presented the certificate to principal of AMC Dr. P.V. Sudhakar, in the pres-



ence of the District Collector Dr. A. Mallikarjuna, IAS. The Collector congratulated the Principal and the faculty for achieving the high standards.

Andhra Medical College, is the only medical college in both the Telugu speaking states to be bestowed with ISO 9001 :2015 certification.

GITAM inks MoU for research in Bio sciences

VIS News Service

GITAM Deemed to be University has recently signed a MoU with leading global contract research and manufacturing services company TCG Life Sciences to take up joint research in the area of chemical and biological sciences. GITAM Pro Vice-Chancellor Prof. Jyayasankar Variyar, TCGLS Human Resources Head Anirban Mitra exchanged the MoU documents in the presence of GITAM Pharmacy Dean Prof.S.Ganaphathi, External Affairs Director Arka Bhattacharya.



While addressing the gathering GITAM Pro Vice-Chancellor Prof. Jyayasankar Variyar said that GITAM and TCGLS shall work to-

gether to promote closer interaction between scientists of TCGLS and faculty of the GITAM through various measures such as organizing joint seminars & workshops.

While briefing about the MoU the TCGLS HR Head Mr. Anirban Mitra informed that his company engaged in contract research services in the area of drug discovery and development as well as involved in basic

research. He briefed that TCGLS Company presently has a strong talent pool of qualified and trained scientists drawn from the best domestic and international institutes and industry.

TCGLS Human Resources Associate Director Ipsita Chakraborty, Analytical Validation In charge Sandip Kumar Dey and others participated in the program.

VIS Startup Focus Cementing Innovation



Vinita Chaudhary

Climate change is a reality that all industries have to imminently address in order to ensure a healthy & sustainable environment.

One such startup that is doing its bit by bringing innovation in the construction industry is GreenJams.

This Vizag based startup is not just working towards a climate-positive lifestyle but also creating an impact. Founded in 2017 by **Mr. Tarun Jami**, the startup manufactures three innovative building material products.

'Forty five percent of global carbon emissions come from the built environment' said Mr Jami. It is therefore this space that GreenJams is trying to address with its innovative products.

GreenJams three innovative products i.e. Agrocete, made of crop residues and industrial by-products is a carbon-negative block; low-carbon Bindr is used for mortar and plastering and Hempbloc made of stocks of cannabis plant and lime based binder is used for making walls.

'These products lead to a carbon-negative environment, increase energy efficiency, providing strength & durability to buildings and are cost-effective' informed Mr Jami.

Their manufacturing unit located in Roorkee, Uttarakhand currently has a manufacturing capacity of 600 blocks a day.

Most of the GreenJams current projects are in Mumbai & North India wherein they are working with various developers on a number of pilot projects to help them better understand the uniqueness of their product.

It is through their personal contacts and media attention that has gotten them good coverage & visibility. GreenJams is an award-winning CleanTech social enterprise de-carbonising the built environment.

'Building materials have to be manufactured and consumed locally', informed Mr. Jami, hence, the startup works on a franchise model wherein they licence their technology to people interested in setting up manufacturing plants.

The startup is thus looking for partners who are passionately interested in adding value to the construction industry and manufacturing their innovative products PAN India.

Below is a brief snapshot of the company and founder:

Founder Name: Mr. Tarun Jami

Co-Founder : Varun Jami and Er. JLN Murty

Team: 10 members

Incubated/Started (Year and City): Vizag, 2017

Industry / Space : Construction

Funding Received : Bootstrapped / Grants

Looking for: Projects / Funding / Partners

Market of Operation: India

Revenues: < 10 lakhs

Claim to Fame: Forbes 30 under 30 Asia 2019 | MassChallenge Switzerland / Nidhi Prayas Program | Ministry of Agriculture RKVY Raftaar

Company's culture:

Aggressive Easy Going Methodical

PTIM (Person that inspires me): **Mr. William McDonough**, American architect, designer and author. It is his attitude of not giving in to propaganda or trends that inspires Tarun.

GoI calls for Innovators in School

VIS News Service

In order to foster innovation at school level the Department of Science & Technology (DST), Government of India has a scheme titled 'Innovation in Science Pursuit for Inspired Research' (INSPIRE).

The INSPIRE Awards - MANAK (Million Minds Augmenting National Aspirations and Knowledge), being executed by DST with National Innovation Foundation - India (NIF) aims to motivate students in the age group of 10-15 years studying in classes 6 to 10.

The objective of the scheme is to target one million original ideas/innovations rooted in science and societal applications to foster a culture of creativity and innovative thinking among school children.

Under this scheme, schools can nominate 5 best original ideas/innovations of students through this website till 15th October, 2021.

The schools should register themselves on E-MIAS portal. Shortlisting of top 1,00,000 (one lakh) ideas, with potential to address societal needs through Science & Technology by NIF.

It is stated that a disbursement of INSPIRE Award of INR 10,000 will be made into the bank accounts of short-listed students through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) scheme.

Defence Minister launches India Startup Challenge 5.0

VIS News Service

Defence Minister **Mr. Rajnath Singh** recently launched Defence India Startup Challenge (DISC) 5.0 under Innovations for Defence Excellence - Defence Innovation Organisation (iDEX-DIO) through video conferencing. Thirty five Problem Statements - 13 from the Services and 22 from Defence Public Sec-



military advantage in the foreseeable future, are the highest in any edition, so far said the release.

The Raksha Mantri said,

ness, Drone SWARMS and Data Capturing.

iDEX is playing a crucial role by providing a platform wherein the Government, Services, think tanks, industry, startups and innovators can work together to help the defence & aerospace sec-

35 Problem Statements identified

tor Undertakings (DPSUs) - were unveiled under DISC 5.0.

As per an official release from the ministry these are in areas such as situational awareness, Augmented Reality, Artificial Intelligence, Aircraft-trainer, Non-lethal devices, 5G network, Under-water domain aware-

The Problem State-

Solutions required in

- Augmented Reality, Artificial Intelligence, Aircraft-trainer, Non-lethal devices, 5G network

ments, designed to ensure tors reach full potential.

MeitY-NASSCOM awards 12 Women Startups

VIS News Service

The MeitY-NASSCOM Women Start-up Entrepreneurs Awards were awarded in partnership with UN Women at a special event held virtually to celebrate 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav'.

As per an official release a total of 159 applications were received from tech start-up women entrepreneurs. An eminent jury comprising of leaders from MeitY,

UN Women, industry and academia selected 12 women entrepreneurs as winners, while 2 were

special mention.

Each winner and Jury Choice Awardee was rewarded Rs. 2 Lakh. 33 women have also been selected for MeitY-NASSCOM Tech Women Entrepreneur Accelerator Program to give them access to networks, connects, learning, and resources that are needed to build scalable, profitable, and global businesses.



declared as the Jury Choice Awardees, and one was felicitated as a

MeitY launches Samridh



VIS News Service

The Minister for Electronics and Information Technology **Mr. Ashwini Vaishnaw** recently launched "Start-up Accelerators of MeitY for Product Innovation, Development and growth (SAMRIDH)" programme.

The scheme aims to support accelerators to empower IT startups creating social impact. Speaking at the launch of SAMRIDH Scheme, Mr. Vaishnaw, said that the initiative will not only provide the funding support to the startups but will also help in bringing skill sets together which will help

them to become successful.

Also speaking at the launch event, **Mr. Ajay Prakash Sawhney**, Secretary, MeitY, said that SAMRIDH scheme will pick up startups that are ready for acceleration stage and will provide them with funding support, mentorship and a lot of other support

programme will focus on accelerating 300 start-ups by providing customer connect, investor connect, and international immersion in next three years. Also, an investment of up to Rs. 40 lakh to the start-up based on current valuation and growth stage of the Start-Up will be provided through selected accelerators. It will

- To Pick 300 Startups ready for Acceleration stage
- Investments of upto Rs 40 lakhs

that is required by startups at this stage.

The SAMRIDH

also facilitate equal matching investment by the accelerator/investor.

Brandix wows Amitabh Kant

Hails Brandix's Infra as Excellent



VIS News Service

Arguably India's top bureaucrat, **Mr. Amitabh Kant (IAS)** CEO of NITI Aayog was recently in the port city of Vizag wherein he visited Brandix India Apparel City located at Atchutapuram.

Touring the park he termed it as a great success story and an example for other textile parks to follow.

Taking to twitter on his visit to Brandix Mr Kant tweeted the facility to have 'Excellent infrastructure'.

Appreciating Brandix's world class infrastructure he said the park has facilitated textile and apparel exports in India.

Mr Kant also got a chance to observe the

state-of-the-art water treatment and effluent treatment plants inside the park and appreciated the processes being followed in complying with the international standards.

Overwhelmed at the organised assembly line production processes and the design and quality of the finished products he appreciated Brandix management for creating sound job opportunities for rural youth and especially women.

He was happy to know that employees come from around 600 villages to work at BIAC and make some of the finest apparel for international brands like Uniqlo, CK, Victoria Secret in the world.

CEO Niti Aayog was pleased to learn that Brandix is not only the largest textile park in the country, but also the largest employer of a women workforce of

over 21,000 at a single location.

He enquired about all the units located in Brandix Park and recommended the management to further expand and develop integrated value chain in all segments, including spinning, weaving, apparel, and technical textiles and garmenting.

He also suggested to the senior management of Brandix to develop its own brands and create a place for it in the textile and apparel sector in the international market.

Mr. Amitabh Kant had visited the park on an invitation from **Mr. Ashroff Omar** group CEO Brandix.

Coast Guard Ship 'Vigraha' to be at Vizag

VIS News Service

Raksha Mantri Mr Rajnath Singh recently dedicated the indigenously built Coast Guard Ship 'Vigraha' to the nation,

At a ceremony in Chennai the RM called it one of the important steps towards "Atma Nirbhar Bharat" and informed that the newly commissioned vessel is indigenous from its design conception to development.

He also highlighted that

men.

The vessel is armed with a 40/60 Bofors gun and fitted with two 12.7 mm Stabilised Remote Control Gun (SRCG) with Fire Control System.

The ship, on joining the Coast Guard Eastern fleet, will be deployed extensively for EEZ



safeguard the maritime interests of India. The Indian Coast Guard with this ship joining the fleet, will have 157 Ships and 66 Aircraft in its inventory.

The event was attended by an esteemed list of dignitaries including additional Director General **VS Pathania**, Coast Guard Commander (Eastern seaboard).



To be deployed for EEZ surveillance and safeguard India's maritime interest

for the first time in the history of Indian defence, contracts for not one or two, but seven vessels have been signed with a private sector company. And more importantly, within seven years of signing this agreement in 2015, not only launch but also the commissioning of all these seven vessels has been completed today

The 98 meters OPV has been designed and built indigenously by M/s Larsen & Toubro Ship Building Ltd. and is fitted with advanced technology Radars, Navigation and Communication Equipment, sensors and Machinery capable of operating in tropical sea conditions.

As per an official release the Ship will be based at Visakhapatnam and operate on India's Eastern Seaboard under the Operational and Administrative Control of the Commander, Coast Guard Region (East). ICGS Vigraha is commanded by Commandant PN Anoop has a complement of 11 Officers and 110

surveillance and other duties as enshrined in the Coast Guard Charter, to

APSCHE Chairman at AU



VIS News Service

Andhra Pradesh State Council for Higher Education Chairman **Prof. Hemachandra Reddy** recently visited the Andhra University and inspected the development works of Genetic, food, pharma and science labs.

Vice Chancellor **Prof.**

P.V.G.D. Prasada Reddy, AU Registrar **Prof. Krishna Mohan** and other members accompanied him. The V-C explained about the ongoing works in the University.

Later Prof. Prasada Reddy and AU Registrar Krishna Mohan felicitated Prof. Hemachandra Reddy.

HSL Bags Award

Hindustan Shipyard Ltd (HSL) has been bestowed with 'National Awards for Excellence in PSU' in the category of 'HR (Excellence)'



from World HRD Congress in recognition to best HR practices.

HSL has taken many HR initiatives to improve motivation and overall wellbeing of the employees.

Tourism Minister felicitates Covid warriors



VIS News Service

Tourism Minister **Mt m s e t t i Srinivasa Rao** recently presented ABC Group Way Foundation awards on the occasion of World Humanity Day to those who rendered the best services amid the Covid pan-

demic. These include police, medical, sports, cultural, legal, and human rights representatives.

The event was attended by **Dr Shikhamani**, former Director, Joint AP Police Academy (APPA), Ms. Surekha Seelam, Chairman, ABC Group, and others.

Handloom expo at rly. station

VIS News Service

With the motto to promote the sale of handloom and khadi in the country, temporary exhibition of Handloom and Khadi stalls were set up at Visakhapatnam and various other railway stations. The railways in coordination with Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) and National and State Handloom Development Corporations had set up the stalls.

Waltair DRM **Mr. Anup Kumar Satpathy** inaugurated the Exhibition.

HPCL PR team in Top 30



HPCL has become the only Oil & Gas PSU and one of the only two PSUs to feature in the esteemed list of top 30 Corporate Communication Teams 2021 announced by Reputation Today. An independent jury from the Asia Pacific Association of Communication Directors (APACD) evaluated the nominations.

HPCL's PRCC team featured in the coveted list due to its exemplary work in the field of internal & external communications.

Vaccination drive

VIS News Service

A mega vaccination drive was recently conducted at Visakhapatnam railway station wherein more than 200 people got the jab. Both Covishield and Covaxin doses were made available at the centre said a release from waltair division.

DRM **Mr. Anup Kumar Sathpathy** appreciated the team efforts of Visakhapatnam station staff for successful organisation of mega drive.