

# Vizag Port assures Trade of easing Bottlenecks Says hastening key Infra Projects

Aditya Sabharwal

Acknowledging some of the most pertaining bottlenecks faced by trade in this region, Vizag Port Authority informed the trade that a slew of infrastructure projects are in the pipeline and that efforts are being made to carry out their early completion.



*We need to further increase our efficiency and become investor friendly.*

**Mr. Rama Mohan Rao**  
Chairman, Vizag Port

Identifying certain bottlenecks faced at the port VPA's chairman, **Mr Rama Mohana Rao** said 'Evacuation of cargo at the port is an area of concern and we are working on solving this. In the next 1-2 years this will be eased'. Addressing a trade meet in the city the chairman further informed that 4-5

berths are slated for mechanization. 'With the abolishment of TAMP major ports have been given the indepen-

**Dubey** called them the port's business partners and said that 30-35% of bulk cargo is handled by PPP operators. Similarly he said that 30-35% of operating revenue comes from PPP operators. Speaking on the menace of

pollution arising out of the port he said that Rs 100 crores will be spent on creating new cover sheds.

dence and authority to act' said VPA's chairman, **Mr Rama Mohana Rao**.

'Our trade partners in this region work very hard and are dedicated to their cause' said the chairman.

Hailing the role of PPP operators, VPA's deputy chairman **Mr Durgesh K**

**Cargo Evacuation holds key Pg. 10**

Noting that the port has been working in line of becoming a landlord port, **Mr Dubey** highlighted that the

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## Ministry of Coal finalizes Action Plan FY23

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The Ministry of Coal recently finalized an Action Plan Document for the year 2022-23. This is for the second time that an Agenda document for the year has been brought out in the form of a compilation and provided to all senior functionaries who have been apportioned the responsibility of steering these focus areas through the year with regular monitoring and appraisals.

The areas covered step up the major reforms done in the last few years and also give direction for covering and meeting the existing and the emerging chal-

Contd. on Page ..10

## Rlwys woos MSMEs/Startups

**Launches Innovation Policy**

VIS News Service

Taking an important initiative in the field of innovation, the country's National transporter Indian

Electronics & Information Technology, **Mr Ashwini Vaishnaw** said that this policy will bring scale and efficiency in the field of operation, maintenance and infrastructure creation



> Policy to leverage innovative technologies developed by Startups/MSMEs

> Grant up to Rs.1.5 Crore to innovator on equal sharing basis with provision of milestone-wise payment

Railways recently unveiled "StartUps for Railways". Launching the innovation policy the Minister of Railways, Communications and

through participation of very large and untapped startup ecosystem. Expressing his happiness

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## GoAP vies Leather Tech Centres

VIS News Service

In order to develop the leather industry in the state, Social Welfare Minister **Mr. Merugu Nagarjuna** has said that two leather training centres will be set up in the state at a cost of Rs. 11.5 crore. Reviewing the activities of the Andhra



Pradesh State Leather Industries Development Corporation (Andhra Pradesh-LidCap), **Mr . Nagarjuna** said that LIDCAP

has 18 acres at G. Kondur in Krishna district and 27 acres in Prakasam

district's Yadavalli.

It was further informed that the government has allocated Rs.5.75 crore for construction of buildings in each park and Rs 1 crore for training programs.

In addition he said that the government is also taking steps to revive nine leather parks in different districts across the state.As per the minister the government had earlier allotted land for nine leatherparks in districts but in some places the land is being used for other public purposes as none of these activities had been initiated. These parks are located in Srikakulam, Parvathipuram, Eluru, NTR, Kurnool, Palnadu, Prakasam, Anantapur and Sathyasai districts.

Keeping this in mind **Mr. Nagarjuna** has directed the authorities to write letters to the respective district collectors and take necessary action.The minister also urged the private sector to participate by setting up their own units for the manufacture of leather goods.

## At Hannover Messe



The Director of Industries, Govt of Andhra Pradesh, **Dr Gummalla Srijana**, was recently at the Hannover Messe wherein she visited the EEPC India booth and other stalls at the exhibition . Team India is said to have showcased indigenous Technological power and prowess with a team of over 70 companies. **Mr K Ravichandra Reddy**, Chairman, APTPC and **Mr G Srinivasa Rao**, Jt Director, Commissionerate of Industries,Andhra Pradesh also accompanied her. **Dr Srijana** also visited Hamburg port and Airbus plant.

## Rake Shortage deters Trade



As per the directive of the Govt priority is being given to power houses. Thus, rakes are being directed accordingly.

**Mr Anup K Satpathy**,  
DRM, Waltair Division

Aditya Sabharwal

The Railways play a paramount role in the transportation of goods across the country and is considered to be a crucial method of transportation especially for bulk cargo. With the Vizag Port Authority and Ganagavaram port being huge handlers of bulk cargo the availability of rakes (each rake has about 58 wagons) is of supreme importance.

However, keeping in mind India's surging power consumption coal has been in huge demand from power houses for the generation of electricity. The government of India therefore had given a mandate to give priority to transportation of coal to power generation companies.

This in turn has disrupted the supply chain of rakes as with the diversion of rakes to power houses other bulk cargo customers have had to face the brunt of the situation.

One must note that coal is also used for making steel, cement and others and not just power generation. 'It indeed is a very tough time. As per the directive from the government of India we have to give priority to power houses. Thus all rakes are being directed to places where the mines are located. Unfortunately in my division there are no coal mines so rake availabil-

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## SBIAP new CGM Takes over



VIS News Service

**Mr Naveen Chandra Jha** recently took charge as the Chief General Manager of SBI Amaravati Circle (Andhra Pradesh).

**Mr Jha** has been promoted from GM to CGM. SBI's Amaravati Circle is said to have the largest network of branches (1421 branches) in the state of Andhra Pradesh and Yanam. It caters to 2.62 Crore customers and counting. As per SBI the Amaravati Circle recently clocked Rs. 2.5 trillion business mark in the state of Andhra Pradesh including Yanam. Catering to the needs of all segment of people SBI offers customized products with cutting edge technology.



## Srikakulam Stn gets 155 MT Stainless steel



VIS News Service

Contributing to a sustainable and corrosion-free railway infrastructure, Jindal Stainless has supplied 155 metric tonnes of stainless steel for a stainless steel foot-over-bridge (FOB) at Srikakulam Road Railway Station, Waltair Division of the East Coast Railway.

This is the second stainless steel foot-over-bridge of the nation after the launch of Naupada foot-over-bridge in the same Division of East Coast railway in the state of Andhra Pradesh, and is in line with the government's vision of developing a modern coastal infrastructure. The Company supplied its most cost-effective and superior quality stainless steel for structural applications – **Jindal Durasafe**.

The foot over bridge was jointly unveiled by Member of Parliament, Srikakulam Lok Sabha Constituency, **Mr. Ram Mohan Naidu Kinjarapu**; Speaker of Andhra Pradesh

Legislative Assembly, **Mr. Tammineni Sitaram**, and Divisional Railway Manager (DRM), Waltair Division, East Coast Railways, **Mr Anup Kumar Satpathy** along with AVP, Sales Development, Jindal Stainless, **Mr Vanka Shivramakrishna**.

Unveiling the FOB, DRM, Waltair Division, East Coast Railways, **Mr Anup Kumar Satpathy** said, "This is India's second stainless steel FOB with improved corrosion resistance. We congratulate Jindal Stainless for developing and supplying an optimum stainless steel grade that can replace conventional metals and address the grave issue of safety in coastal railway infrastructure. Taking note of this milestone, Director, Jindal Stainless Limited,

**Mr Tarun Khulbe** said, "The Srikakulam FOB is another milestone towards manifesting the government's vision of developing a sustainable and corrosion-free railway infrastructure."

## NCL's coal production up by 23%

The flagship Coal India Northern Coalfields Limited (NCL) has achieved phenomenal growth in Coal Production and Dispatch in the first two months of the current fiscal. Mining coal from 10 highly mechanized mines, NCL has produced 21.82 Million Tonnes of Coal with 22.5% Y-o-Y growth in FY 2022-23. NCL had produced 17.80 MT of Coal in April and May month of last fiscal 2021-22. This performance is assumed significant in the



backdrop of spurt in the energy demand of the country.

Similarly, in the first two months of the current financial year, NCL has dispatched a total of 22.79 MT of coal to all its coal consumers including powerhouses, which is about 19.2% higher than the coal dispatched during the same period of last financial year. During the same period in the last fiscal, the company had dispatched 19.11 MT of coal to all its consumers.

## Coal Production up 34% in May 2022

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India's coal production increased by 33.88% to 71.30 Million Ton (MT) from 53.25 MT during May, 2022 as compared to May 2021.



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Inaugurating a mass plantation drive as part of the World environment day celebrations, **Mr. AK Saxena**, Director (Operations), RINL, Visakhapatnam Steel Plant said that RINL's measures towards conservation of Environment are exemplary.

It was informed that RINL is establishing a process unit for "Production of 1,50,000 TPA of briquettes and 4,00,000 TPA of Micro pellets". This will be the first Public Sector Steel Plant in Indian Industry that is implementing this project and it is scheduled to produce full stream by Jan, 2023 stated a release

from RINL. With the commissioning of the proposed Briquettes and Micro pellets Unit likely by Jan, 2023, RINL stands to gain substantially economically and environmentally. Mr. Saxena lauded the efforts of RINL collective for their sincere efforts towards conservation of Environment.

The Environment Dept. of RINL-VSP also organized a Road Show with banners & Placards on Environment & The Theme for this year is "Only One Earth".

Mr Saxena planted a sapling at the Briquetting Plant and Micropellet Plant inside the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant premises.

## Coal Ministry acts tough on non-operating Coal Blocks

Issues show cause notices to non-adhering cos

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The Ministry of Coal has allocated coal blocks for captive end use and sale of coal / commercial mining. As per the ministry of coal 85.32 Million Tonnes of coal was produced in FY-2021-22 from the 47 operational coal blocks.

As against the scheduled production of 203.67 Million Tonnes for the FY 2022-23, it is expected that a total of 58 coal blocks would become operational with an expected production of around 138.28 Million Tonnes.

Show Cause Notices are being issued from time to time to the companies which are not adhering to the timelines prescribed in their agreements for timely operationalisation of coal blocks or for non-achievement of targeted coal production, the release stated.

A Scrutiny Committee has been constituted by the Ministry to consider the show cause notices and replies received from allocattees on case to case basis and recommend penalty in cases the delays

are attributable to the allocattees.

The Scrutiny Committee, in its 17<sup>th</sup> meeting held recently reviewed cases of 24 coal mines – and recommended proportionate appropriation of Performance Security in

Subsequent to the meeting of the Scrutiny Committee, further show cause notices were issued to 16 companies for 22 coal blocks.

In addition to the regular follow up, review meetings are also being held by

Some of the cos given show cause notice:

- ▶ Hindalco Industries Ltd
- ▶ NTPC Ltd
- ▶ JSW Steel Ltd
- ▶ Vedanta Ltd
- ▶ Birla Corp. Ltd



four cases i.e Tenughat Vidyut Nigam Limited (Rajbar E&D), Topworth Urja & Metals Ltd. (Marki Mangli-I), Ultratech Cements Ltd (Bicharpur) and National Thermal Power Corporation Limited (Talaipalli) due to delay on the part of a l l o c a t e e s . Recommendations of the Scrutiny Committee have been accepted by the Government and appropriation orders are being issued.

Ministry of coal with the blocks allocated and the respective State / Central agencies like MoEF&CC, State Mining Depts. State Revenue Depts.

## NMDC Records Growth in Production



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India's mining major National Mineral Development Corporation (NMDC) continued its growth trajectory, by producing 3.2 Million Tonnes (MnT) and selling 2.65 MnT in the second month of FY23. Iron ore production in May 2022 was 14.3% higher than the 2.8 Million Tonnes (MnT) produced in May 2021. NMDC's cumulative production up to May 2022 stood at 6.35 (Million Tonnes) MnT, a 7.4% growth from the cumulative production of 5.91 (Million Tonnes) MnT up to May 2021.

Congratulating his team on this performance, NMDC CMD **Mr. Sumit Deb**, said, "Our consistent growth in production has not only made NMDC the fastest growing Iron Ore mining Company in India but also the most consistent supplier to the domestic steel sector.

## SAIL at DPE expo

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Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL), participated in an exhibition organized by Department of Public Enterprises (DPE) to commemorate the 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav'

(AKAM) in Gujarat. The exhibition was inaugurated by **Mr. Bhupendrabhai Patel**, Chief Minister of Gujarat along with Finance Minister **Ms. Nirmala Sitharaman**, & SAIL Chairman **Ms. Mondal**.



# VOC Port does a 1<sup>st</sup>

**Berths first ever capesize vessel carrying Limestone**

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The first Cape Size vessel, 'MV Cape Breeze' with Length of 292 Metres, Breadth of 45.05 Metres and DWT of



1,80,000 Tonnes, was recently berthed at the VOC Port.

As per the port the capesize vessel was loaded with 92,300 Tonnes of LimeStone, consigned from Port of Salalah, Oman, with arrival draft of 11.4 Metres was berthed at Berth-9, stated a release.

The entire import of LimeStone and Gypsum were meant for M/s. Eastern Bulk Trading & Shipping Private Limited. The Stevedore for the above vessel is Sea Port Logistics Pvt. Ltd. and the Steamer Agent is Seaport Shipping Pvt. Ltd.

On January 22, 2015, a Capesize vessel MV. 'LAKE D' carrying 1,77,068 Tonnes of Iron ore with a draught of 18.34m had called on at the Port to offload 6,000 tonnes of Iron ore at Anchorage using a floating crane.

VOC Port Chairman **Mr. T.K. Ramachandran, IAS**, stated that "The benefit of economies of scale by handling large vessels will hugely benefit the trade by bringing down the freight costs and making the EXIM trade competitive globally. I would like to recognize the hard work and commitment of Ship Agents, Stevedores, Harbour Mobile Crane & Conveyor Operator, Officers and Staff of Traffic & Marine Departments of the V.O. Chidambaranar Port and compliment them on the achievement of this significant milestone.

# Essar Gas crosses the 0.8 mmscmd mark of gas prod

Essar Oil and Gas Exploration and Production Ltd (EOGEPL), India's pioneering unconventional hydrocarbon (Coal Bed Methane) player, recently announced crossing 0.8 mmscmd of gas production. It further stated that it is successfully marching towards the benchmark of 1.0 mmscmd post commissioning of the Urja Ganga Pipeline. As per an official release from the company, EOGEPL was the first to cross the much anticipated threshold of 1.0 mmscmd of gas production a few years back, demonstrating the initial potential of the Raniganj East Block. **Mr.Pankaj Kalra** CEO and Director EOGEPL said "EOGEPL has always led the path and is strategically focused on the development of Unconventional Hydrocarbons in India. Our next milestone remains 1.0 mmscmd.

# Over Rs.3,000 crs to be spent for deepening of Paradip Port

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In order to transform Paradip port into a world-class modern port which will have capability to handle capesize vessels a major decision was taken on aggrandizing the infrastructure at the port.

The project involves deepening and optimization of inner harbour facilities including development of western dock on build, operate and transfer (BOT) basis under Public-Private Partnership (PPP) mode at Paradip Port. As per the ministry of ports, shipping and waterways the estimated cost of the project is Rs.3,004.63 crore. This includes development of the new Western Dock on BOT basis and capital dredging by the selected concessionaire at a cost of ,Rs.2040 crore and Rs.352.13 crore respectively; and Paradip Port's investment will be to the tune of Rs. 612.50 crore towards providing

Common Supporting Project Infrastructure. Union Minister for Ports, Shipping and Waterways **Mr. Sarbananda Sonowal** said the success of the project is a milestone towards

The project will facilitate de-congestion of the port, reduce sea freight making coal imports cheaper, and boost the industrial economy in the hinterland of the port leading to creation of job



*This project is a milestone towards PPT becoming a Mega Port in line with Prime Minister's vision of development of Eastern States.*

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

Paradip Port becoming a Mega Port. He said this is in line with the Prime Minister's vision of development of Eastern States.

The minister said the project will enhance the Port's ability to handle Cape Size vessels, will contribute to Port's capacity addition of 25 MMTPA and will result in improvement in the Port efficiency, better cargo handling, increased trade and also lead to socio-economic growth including employment generation.

opportunities. The port, after the project, can easily handle very large ships for which 18 metre draft is required resulting in reduction in logistics cost.

PPA was commissioned in 1966 as a mono commodity port for export of iron ore. In the last 54 years, the Port has transformed itself to handle a variety of EXIM cargo which include iron ore, chrome ore, aluminium ingots, coal, POL etc.

## IN BRIEF

### Chennai Port sets record in Barytes

Chennai Port recently created a new record by loading 45,200 Tonnes of Barytes (in 24 hours) on a single day in the vessel M.V. GHOUSTA. This surpassed the earlier record of 38,079 Tonnes of Barytes at JD 4 in the vessel M.V.R.B. EDEN on December 12, 2021. **Mr. Sunil Paliwal, I.A.S**, Chairman, Chennai Port Authority, has appreciated the synergy exhibited by the Vessel Agent - M/s. Everwin Shipping Agencies, Stevedoring Agent - M/s. Sri Sivashanmuga Transport – Exporter - M/s Diana International and M/s. Trimex Industries (P) Ltd., and the Port officials for the above achievement.

### Water ATM at CFH

A Water ATM (Water Kiosk) constructed at Cochin Fisheries Harbour (CFH) was inaugurated by **Mr. Rajesh Gopalakrishnan**, CGM, Cochin Shipyard Ltd. The coin-operated Water ATM, the first of its kind in Kochi area, was constructed at a cost of ₹ 7.20 lakh. The project is intended for the supply of filtered/ treated water at a very nominal rate of ₹ 1 per Litre to the fishermen working at CFH. The project was implemented in financial support of ₹ 6.50 lakh of CSR fund from M/s Cochin Shipyard Ltd. **Mr. V. Thuraipandian**, Chief Mechanical Engineer, **Ms. Premakumari**, Secy, **Mr. Paritosh Bala**, Chief Engineer, **Mr. S. K. Sahu**, FA&CAO, **Mr. K.I. Muthukoya**, CMO (i/c), Cochin Port Authority, **Mr. Sambath Kumar**, AGM CSL, **Ms. Sangeetha N.R**, State Co-ordinator, Netfish-MPEDA, officials of CPA, MPEDA and representatives of stakeholders were present.



### JM Baxi bags Award



Cochin Port Authority recently awarded J. M. Baxi & Co. for excellence in business performance (2021-22) in cargo/ship handling. The award was presented to **Sajith Kumar** -J. M. Baxi & Co. by **Dr. M Beena-IAS** Chairperson, Cochin Ship Agents Association (CSAA). **Mr. Md Yousuf**- Customs Commissioner, IRS, **Cmdre Yadav**-Indian Navy and **Capt. Joseph Alapatt** -Dy Conservator, CSAA

### 51<sup>st</sup> Session for exports Promotion held

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The Standing Committee for Promotion of Exports (Shipping) recently held its 51<sup>st</sup> Session in New Delhi. Chaired by the Special Secretary of the Logistics Division, DPIIT, it witnessed proactive participation from industry associations and organisations such as INSA, FFFAI, CFSAI AMTOI, IPA, FICCI, CBIC, and FIEO. The forum also saw representation of senior officials from CBIC, DGFT, MoPSW and representatives from all major ports of India who were present together on a

single platform to address concerns of industry associations. Acknowledging the importance of the shipping community towards realising India's EXIM targets and the promotion of Make In India, the Chairperson highlighted the need for a 'whole of government' approach to address the new-age concerns of trade in the country. Furthermore, the role of technology in order to mediate, facilitate, and overcome procedural delays in shipping was also highlighted by the government.

# MoPSW to hire Young Professionals

VIS News Service

The Ministry of Ports, Shipping and

thinking and dynamic young professionals in various divisions of the Ministry.

professionals. The professionals will have the opportunity to learn about the functioning of the

development, digital transformation and the environment, among others, in order to meet Ministry's needs. The scheme will foster active involvement of young people in decision-making. More than 25 young professionals will be hired under this scheme. Professionals will be required to have qualification in B.E/ B.Tech, B. Planning and/ or MBA or equivalent degree in relevant subject.

- More than 25 young professionals will be hired under this scheme
- Initial period of engagement shall be 2 years which can be extended to additional 2 years on the basis of performance
- Scheme to foster active involvement of young people in decision-making

Waterways has formulated a scheme to engage talented, forward-

This scheme focuses on active on-the-ground learning for young

data analysis, project management, start-up, innovation, skill



## IN BRIEF

## HPCL VR launches planting program

In connection with the World Environment Day, HPCL Visakha Refinery (in-charge) Executive Director **Mr.V.S. Ratan Raj** launched an innovative program of planting seedlings of 11 species that provide continuous oxygen in the HPCL employee housing complex at the AU outgate. The ED said, NASA has launched a program to plant 1400 seedlings of 11 species that provide continuous oxygen and HPCL has launched this innovative program as part of the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav. On this occasion V. Ratan Raj said that HPCL is constantly working to reduce carbon emissions in the industry. The event was co-organized by members of the Green Team set up with students by the Department of Botany.



## ECOR bags 2 shields at Rlys awards function

The 67<sup>th</sup> National Railways Award Function-2022 was recently organised at Railway Auditorium, Bhubaneswar, under the auspices of East Coast Railway. Union Minister of Railways, Communications & Electronics and Information Technology **Mr. Ashwini Vaishnav**, who was the Chief Guest felicitated the outstanding Railway Employees and Zonal Railways, Production Units and PSUS for their dedication in service & efficiency. East Coast Railway bagged Two (2) Shields in Electrical Engineering and Accounts & Finance Management. The Minister also presented various shields to other railways as well.



## Session on the "DISHA SOS" app at IIM-V

An awareness session on the importance of the "DISHA SOS" app was recently conducted at the Indian Institute of Management Visakhapatnam (IIMV) permanent campus, Gambheeram. Anandapuram Police Station, Sub Inspector, **Mr. P. Narasimha Murthy**, and his team conducted the session. Speaking on the importance of such initiatives **R Sayikrishna Raju**, Head (Projects), IIMV said, "This session was very beneficial as we got an overview of the DISHA SOS app. The app provides an easy interface to help people in distress and can give intimation to the nearest police station to get the immediate help." IIMV staff and construction staff from NBCC, Arcop Associates Pvt Ltd, Shapoorji Pallonji & Company Private Limited (SPCPL) attended the session.

## CU students exhibit their success stories

Centurion University recently coordinated a Intra Campus competition for startups wherein students of its five campuses got a chance to present their success stories. Of the 40 students that participated two



students presentations were considered the best and were awarded 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> prize. The two students namely **Ms. Manasa Gurana** and **Mr. Akshay Raju** from AP Campus presented their success story of their start-up and how they are learning to generate revenue. Their presentation was considered the best for 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize and the judge who evaluated the start-ups found that they could generate 23% of the profit from the revenue they have earned within 2 months. Faculty Guide **Dr Madhsumita Choudhury** and **Prof. Dr G.S.N. Raju**, Vice-Chancellor also congratulated the students and wished them all success in their future endeavours.

## Digital Library opened at AU Mathematics Dept.

VIS News Service

AU Vice Chancellor **Prof P.V.G.D. Prasada Reddy** recently inaugurated the newly set up Digital Library and Computer Lab in the Department of Mathematics, Andhra University College of Science. It is a privilege to launch these in the hands of the students. He said that new technologies are being promoted to suit the needs of the students. We strive to make every student a partner and provide better knowledge.

Rector **Prof K. Samata**, Registrar **Prof V. Krishnamohan**, Principals **Prof. K. Srinivasa Rao, V. Vijayalakshmi, T. Shobhashree**, EC Members **Prof. A. Krishnamanjari Pawar**, Head of Mathematics Department **G.Nanaji Rao, P.D. N Srinivas, Anuradha Kameshwari**, Retired Professors **G Chakradhara Rao, KPR Shastri, KKM Sharma, GV Rabindranath Babu** and others participated.

## AP Govt. to set up 6 Nagaravanams At over Rs.18 crores

VIS News Service

The State government has decided to set up Nagaravanams in all the Urban Local Bodies spread over 220 acres. At a recently held review meeting with forest officials Environment and



Forest Minister **Mr. Peddiredy Ramachandra Reddy** said there are 23 cities and seven temple eco-parks in the State now.

He said that Six Nagaravanams will be developed in Palamaner, Kurnool, Puttaparthi, Proddatur, Chittoor and Madanapalle at an estimated cost of Rs.18.2 crore. Adding that there are more than 120 Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) in the State, he said the Forest

Department was given a target of setting up at least one Nagaravanam in each Urban Local Body.

The government has allocated `14.94 crore in the budget for 2022-23 for developing Nagaravanams and funds to be released by

the Centre will also be utilised for the purpose, he stated. There is a possibility of setting up these Nagaravanams within five kilometers of

the local bodies. The Minister further informed that the state has been asked to take steps to increase revenue through eco-tourism and protect the environment.

He said there are currently 30 eco-tourism (wildlife) projects in the state and this year the target should be to develop Pulicat, Nelapattu, Korangi and Papikondalu eco-tourism projects. He also suggested focusing on setting up jungle resorts in the Araku region.

## New Energy Secretary



VIS News Service

Senior IAS officer **Mr. S.K. Vijayanand**, recently took over as Special Chief Secretary (Energy Department), relieving **Mr. B. Sridhar** from the full additional charge. Taking charge the 1992 batch IAS officer Mr. Vijayanand said that steps will be taken to ensure 24 hours quality power supply.

Mr. Sreedhar, who is MD of AP-Genco at present, has been given the full additional charge as the MD of AP Transco. It was informed that the Genco & the APPDCL had initiated import of 31 Lakh Tonns of Coal to meet the requirement of Thermal Power Plants.

## CSs play a key role in taking a Company Big: Rijiju

VIS News Service

Acknowledging the contribution of the Institute of Company Secretaries of India, the Minister of Law & Justice, **Mr Kiren Rijiju** said "Though the Company Secretaries always remain



in the background, they are the ones who make companies grow big, strengthen the economy and are the foundation of Atmanirbhar Bharat". The minister was speaking at a Special Programme organised under Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav on the theme "Atmanirbhar Bharat: Vishwaguru Bharat - Creating professionals as torch bearers of Good

Governance" in New Delhi recently.

Mr Rijiju further appreciated the efforts of the Institute in bringing the far-flung areas of North-East into the mainstream by going an extra mile and waiving fee for the

students of North-Eastern States of India. The guest of honour on the occasion, **Mr Rajesh Verma**, IAS, Secretary, Ministry of Corporate Affairs, lauded the contribution of the Institute in all endeavours of the Ministry towards reviving the economy and easing it for doing business and said "Company Secretaries are the catalyst in promoting and upholding Good

Governance in the country and their role remains vital in ensuring that the Corporate Sector delivers outstanding sustainable performance year after year". **CS Devendra V. Deshpande**, President, The ICSI, said that the Institute is aspiring to become a thinktank of Good Governance Practices and explore newer areas of service in the future. He also mentioned the introduction of ICSI BRSR Awards for all companies who have taken up Business Responsibility and Sustainability Reporting. The programme had in-depth deliberation on the theme with two aptly curated technical sessions:

· India@75: Expanding Role of Governance Professionals

· Bharat - A Vishwaguru in promoting Good Governance

**CS Ashish Mohan**, Secretary, The ICSI and other Council Members were also present on the occasion.

## GMRIT students shine in placements

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The students of GMRIT Institute of Technology (GMRIT) once again excelled in their campus placements.

As per an official the students bagged high-paying jobs in reputed Multi-National Companies (MNC) with 180% offers of varying salary packages. GMRIT has recorded 1100+ placement offers this year, with a 60% increase in offers compared with the preceding years. It has been in the forefront with 95% remarkable placements said the release. Infosys, Cognizant, ValueLabs, TCS, Wipro, Accenture, Paytm and L&T were top recruiters. Speaking on this achievement, **Dr. C.L.V.R.S.V. Prasad**, Principal, GMRIT, said: "GMRIT aims to make its students future-ready by facilitating them to learn the latest skills and technology as per international market trends.



# DCI reports highest revenue in 12 years

**Fixes Rs.1000 cr. target for FY23**

VIS News Service

**D**redging Corporation of India reported a turnaround performance for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022 earning turnover of Rs.802 Cr, which as per the company is the highest achieved in last 12 years. Commenting on the achievement **Prof Dr G.Y.V Victor**, MD & CEO said the turnaround

minus (Rs.34.38 Cr) for the previous year. The performance could be achieved in spite of seven of the dredgers being in dry-dock for a considerable period of time during the year. The performance would have been much better but for the abnormal increase in fuel prices in recent times **Mr. Victor** said and added that all the projects



*This was possible through strict cost control measures & close monitoring of the contracts.*

**Prof Dr G.Y.V Victor, MD&CEO**

performance was possible through strict cost control measures & close monitoring of the contracts. The Company is committed to maintain this upward trend and show a much improved performance for current year 2022-23 also, he said. The Company reported a profit after tax for 2021-22 of Rs.5.16 Cr. as compared to the loss of ( ` 172.41 Cr) in the last year. The Earning per Share (EPS) of Rs1.84 as compared to minus ( ` 60.05) for the previous year. The EBITA for the year ended was also the all-time high in recent times at ` 117.62 Cr as against

could be completed in the year in time. **DCI fixes Rs.1000 cr. Target for FY 2022-23** **Prof Dr G.Y.V Victor**, informed the Union Minister of Ports Shipping & Waterways **Mr. Sarbananda Sonowal** that for FY 21-22 DCI has achieved a Turnover of INR 802 CR which is the highest turnover achieved during the last 12 years. He further informed that DCIL has set a target to achieve a turnover of 1000 plus CR for the FY 2022-23. **Mr. Sonowal** was also informed of the award of contracts under Sagarmala Project to deepen Mangrol Fishing Harbour in Gujarat.

# Essar Ports Vizag Terminal eyes 10% growth in FY23

VIS News Service

**O**perating India's largest Ore Handling Complex in Visakhapatnam Port, Essar Ports Vizag Terminal Limited (EVTL) recently recorded 1.3 MMT of cargo handling for April' 22.

As per Essar ports if this run rate is maintained the port shall see in excess of 14 MMT of cargo handled in FY 22-23 thereby suggesting a growth of 10% on an annualized basis.

For FY 21-22, EVTL had handled a cargo of 12.7 MMT. The surge in traffic marks the uptick in Indian Steel Sector which has been a major contributor to India's manufacturing output. EVTL handled 193 vessels and 1511 rakes in FY 21-22. It also achieved a monthly record of handling 171 rakes in March 2022. In April' 22,



M/s EVTL created another milestone by successfully loading a record 1,65,000 Metric Tonnes (MT) of Iron ore Fines on M.V. STAR ELINI Vessel – the largest ever parcel loaded and to

call at Visakhapatnam Port

**Mr. Rajiv Agarwal**, Operating Partner (Infrastructure), Essar and Managing Director, Essar Ports, said, "The performance of Vizag Terminal is a testimony of our commitment to offer world class assets and services with technology at the core. Our facilities are conceptualized to give a

sustainable advantage to our customers and trade. Our investments are a reflection of Essar's ESG philosophy and an approach that places people before profits."

EVTL, the 24 MMTPA iron-ore export terminal at Visakhapatnam, is the largest iron ore handling complex in India. The terminal is strategically located in close proximity to Iron-ore mines located in Chhattisgarh, southern Odisha and Jharkhand. Essar ports has four operational terminals in India across Hazira and Salaya (in Gujarat) on the west coast, and one each in Visakhapatnam and Paradip on the east coast. Current operational port terminal capacity in India is 110 MTPA.

# NMDC's New CVO



VIS News Service

**Mr. B Vishwanath**, MIRSS from the 1996 batch has assumed charge as Chief Vigilance Officer (CVO), NMDC. An officer of the Indian Railways Store Services (IRSS), he has worked with RCIL, Irrigation Department of the State Government of erstwhile Andhra Pradesh. Mr. Vishwanath comes with vast experience in Corporate Coordination, Maintenance of Probity and Integrity, System Integration, Supply Chain Management, HR Management, Capital Budgeting, Project Monitoring and Implementation. He is well versed with Forward and Reverse Auction, e-procurements and sales and Post Contract Management.

# Rs.18 lakh for Central Tribal Varsity

VIS News Service

**T**he National Council for Technical Education, New Delhi, has sanctioned Rs.18 lakh to CTU, Andhra Pradesh for research on Indian science.

**Prof. Tejaswi Kattimani**, Vice-Chancellor, CTU said that in-depth study of the methods used by tribals for healing will be done and plans have been drawn up to carry out these research activities over a period of two years.

**Prof. Kattimani** said the results will be used to thoroughly study and research and report on the health

benefits of various herbal medicines, ayurvedic medicines and medicines used by tribals.

# Plantation drive by GPL

VIS News Service

**G**angavaram Port, conducted environment awareness programs on the occasion of World Environment Day & World Ocean Day, for its employees and neighbouring communities. The focus of the campaign was to spread awareness in the area regarding the reduction of plastic usage and sensitize the people about air, water & soil conservation. Gangavaram Port conducted beach cleaning activities near Yarada Hills, near the port. Tree plantation activities were undertaken in various areas to increase the green cover around the port. Gangavaram Port also conducted a 'Green Rally.

# Keel Laid for Three 25T bollard pull tugs

**I**n consonance with "AatmaNirbhar Bharat" initiatives of the Government of India., a contract for construction of three 25Ton Bollard Pull Tugs was concluded with M/s Shoft Shipyard Pvt Ltd on 12 Nov 21 at a cost of Rs 84.75 Crores. The Keel for all three 25T Bollard Pull Tugs (Yard 305 - Mahabali, Yard 306 - Baljeet & Yard 307 - Bajrang) was laid by **Cmdr Sunil Kaushik**, Warship Production Superintendent (Mumbai) on 10 Jun 22 at M/s Shoft Shipyard Pvt Ltd, Bharuch, Gujarat. With all major and auxiliary



equipment/ systems sourced from indigenous manufacturers, these tugs are proud flag bearers of "Make in India, Make for the World" initiatives of Ministry of Defence stated a release from the Indian navy. These Tugs are being built with a service life of 30 years. The tugs will be capable of assisting naval ships and submarines in berthing, un-berthing, and maneuvering in confined waters. The tugs will also provide afloat firefighting assistance to ships alongside & at anchorage and will have capability for limited Search and Rescue Operations.

## Innovative Technologies Available for Commercialisation to MSMEs, Start-ups & Industries

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## NRDC- SKU ink MoA for tech transfer

VIS News Service

National Research Development Corporation recently signed a MoA with Sri Krishnadevaraya University, Ananthapur at NRDC, in Visakhapatnam. The MoA was exchanged between NRDC CMD **Commodore Amit**

port in the region. He discussed with **Dr. P. P. Lalkrishan**, CEO & MD, M/s Ramky (now Visakha Pharma Hub); **Mr G V R Naidu**, Asst Director, MSME-DI, Govt of India; **Prof. S. K. Pani**, Professor of Entrepreneurship, IIM Vizag; **Mr A K Balaji**,



**Rastogi** (Retd), and AIC CEO, **Dr Shivakiran**, - Sri Krishnadevaraya University in the presence of the NRDC Officials and dignitaries from industries and government.

The basic objective of the collaboration is leveraging universities R&D in to next level through IP and scale up for further to industries and start-ups. It will also provide synergies of NRDC in expert services to SKU in IP management, innovation management, technology transfer and commercialization. On this occasion, Commodore Amit Rastogi (Retd), CMD, NRDC interacted with leaders of various industries for innovation sup-

President of Visakha MSME Industries Associations; **Mr Ravi Iswarapu**, CEO, A Hub; **Ms. Hima Bindu**, MD, M/s Novel Patent Services, Vizag. CMD, NRDC also visited Andhra Pradesh MedTech Zone and had a successful meeting with **Dr Jitendra Sharma**, CEO & MS, AMTZ, Visakhapatnam. The meeting and discussion is to connect everyone in the ecosystem for leveraging innovation and technologies for society. The programme was coordinated by **Dr Bijaya Kumar Sahu**, Regional incharge of NRDC to promote various innovative technologies transfer opportunities to MSMEs and Industries in the region.

## IT Dept's New initiatives aimed at benefitting Taxpayers: Asit Kumar

VIS News Service

Commemorating the 75<sup>th</sup> year of Independence (Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav), the Income-tax Department recently conducted TAX PAYERS' OUTREACH PROGRAMME at Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited (RINL), Visakhapatnam.

Held under the aegis of the Pr. Commissioner of Income-tax - 1, Visakhapatnam the programme was chaired by **Mr Asit Kumar Mohapatra**, IRS, Pr. Commissioner of Income-tax - 1, Visakhapatnam.

Addressing the gathering Mr Asit Kumar Mohapatra, highlighted the recent developments taken place in the Income-tax Department with regard to easing of tax compliance starting from e-filing, digitalization process undergone in the Department, gathering of financial information which reflects in pre-filled returns, collection of data through annual information system, filing of appeals, etc., all at the convenience of taxpayers



Tax revenue of about **Rs.14 lakh crores** was collected by the Department in FY 22 which is about 50% of the total revenue of the Govt. of India.

**Mr Asit Kumar Mohapatra**,  
IRS, Pr. Commissioner of Income-tax -1

without visiting any income-tax office. The Pr. CIT further informed that, during the last financial year, tax revenue of about Rs.14 lakh crores was collected by the Department, which contributes about 50% of the total revenue of the Govt. of India.

**Mr Rajiv Kumar Singh**, IRS, Commissioner of Income-tax (Appeals), Visakhapatnam, in his address, spoke on the procedure to be followed in filing income-tax appeal in the light of changed scenario of introduction of Faceless Appeal Scheme in the Income-tax Department, and put forth some possible errors of general nature connected to filing of

appeal and how to take precautions to avoid such errors.

**Mr PV Suryanarayana**, Asst. General Manager (Finance), RINL, appreciated the efforts taken by the Income-tax Department for simplifying the procedure in e-filing, courtesy extended by the Departmental Officers in resolving the issues, implementation of schemes in reducing litigation process with special reference to *Vivad Se Viswas* Scheme. He highlighted that, RINL and its employees are committed to tax compliance and that RINL is deducting tax at source of about Rs.250 crores annually. **Mr AK Saxena**, Director (Operations), RINL, in his address, stated that it is a good opportunity for the employees of RINL to in-

teract with the tax officials. Similarly **Mr VV Venugopal**, Director (Finance), RINL, in his address, has reiterated that RINL is committed to tax compliance and is ensuring that all its employees would file income-tax returns regularly.

In a knowledge sharing session **Mr T.V. Vamsidhar**, IRS, JCIT (OSD), Circle-3(1), Visakhapatnam, informed the gathering about the latest amendments to Income-tax Act while **Mr Karthik Manickam M.**, IRS, JCIT, Range-1, Visakhapatnam, spoke on the services available to the tax payer, like Integrated e-filing and Centralised Processing Centre.

The programme was targeted to reach various stakeholders of RINL i.e., employees / contractors / sub-contractors / service providers / material suppliers, etc., and to create awareness about tax compliance, taxpayer services, recent developments in the Income-tax Department, flagship schemes taken up by the Department, etc. The speakers also clarified the doubts raised by the participants of the programme on matters related to Income-tax.

## Rjy. airport unveils outlet to help SHGs display products

Becomes 1<sup>st</sup> airport in AP to display under AVSAR scheme

VIS News Service

Helping skilled artisans get a chance to display their products at airports, the government of India had recently launched the 'Airport as Venue for Skilled Artisans of the Region' (AVSAR) scheme.



Following this scheme Rajahmundry Airport inaugurated an outlet wherein self help groups can showcase and sell their handmade products. 'Rajahmundry airport has become the first Airport in Andhra Pradesh to give space under this scheme' said its Airport director **Mr Manoj Kumar Nayak**,

speaking to *Vizag Industrial Scan*.

Stating that this will give wings to the Rural women artisans of the area Mr Nayak informed that Self help group, SAILAKSHMI SHG, Katheru has been provided space for 15 days at AAI's Rajahmundry

Airport terminal. As per the scheme the space will be allotted to the self-help groups, turn on turn basis, for a duration of 15 days.

Elaborating further on the scheme Mr Nayak said that this is in line with the vision of PM of encouraging the talent of women, artisans and craftsmen and provide them with the right opportunities, AAI, Rajahmundry airport has

taken an initiative to allocate space to Self Help Groups (SHGs) at airport for selling/showcasing the self-made products.

Now SHGs operated by locals will have the opportunity to showcase and market their homemade local products like Puffed Rice, Packaged Papad, Pickles, Bamboo based Ladies Bag /Bottle/Lamp Sets, local artefacts, traditional craft, natural dyes, embroidery and indigenous weaves with contemporary design to the air travellers. Applications from self-help groups are to be received on AAI portal (Rajahmundry) for allotment at airport for SHGS. Interested SHG's can apply through AAI portal - <https://www.aai.aero/en/node/add/shg-user-detail>.

## Gangavaram Port berths largest displacement vessel

VIS News Service

Gangavaram Port the deepest port in the country recently achieved another milestone by berthing the largest displacement vessel at the port. The vessel MV MARAN FIDELITY with Displacement of 2,21,083 MTs & Cargo Parcel of 1,85,000 MTs was brought in on behalf of Customer M/S Adani Enterprises Limited was berthed safely by the port staff and management.

As per GPL, the highest displacement handled till date was 2,05,429 MTs and GPL team surpassed it effortlessly. The call of MV MARAN FIDELITY not only endorses the capabilities of the port to handle large vessels, but also reiterates the role of GPL in boosting trade across the Indian

subcontinent.

GPL continues to attract large size ships consolidating its position as the most preferred gateway of Indian cargoes. The port



offers state-of-the-art infrastructure facilities with deep depth & multi-purpose cargo berths which are equipped to facilitate fast movement of cargos. The port provides efficient cargo handling services for a variety of bulk and break-bulk cargo groups to the customers "We are incredibly proud of our team's accomplishments and their

focus on achieving newer targets. Gangavaram Port has tremendous capability and has the state-of-the-art infrastructure to handle large cargo parcels &

vessels. The port and its related facilities & material handling system are amongst the most advanced in Asia meeting the highest standards in terms of safety. We are confident that with our continued focus and growth and development, GPL will set newer heights in area of cargo management" Spokesperson Gangavaram Port said.



# Adani's KPL sees uptick in Bulk Cargo

**Dry Bulk up 18% in FY22**

VIS News Service

Adani Krishnapatnam Port Limited (AKPL), a 100 % subsidiary of APSEZ (Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone), saw an uptick in both its bulk and break bulk cargo for the fiscal year ending FY 22. Touted to be the largest private port on the East Coast of India, AKPL is an all-weather deep-water Port capable of handling Cape-Size Vessels.

A multi-port/terminal operator, AKPL overall handled a total cargo of 40.12 MT in FY22 as against 38.18 MT handled in FY 20-21 which is 1.94 million tonnes more handled in FY (20-21). As per AKPL the top Agri commodities handled by them in FY (21-22) were Rice at 0.406 MT and Maize at 0.224 MT.

It further informed that the top 5 destinations that the port caters to Internationally in Exports are China, Middle East, Africa and for Imports it is South Africa, Australia, and Indonesia. 'The port is a major economic gateway that caters to the southern hinterland of India with multimodal connectivity. The State-of-

Art Infrastructure with Bulk Cargo being Handled by Mechanized Handling Systems at Dedicated Storage Areas provides clean and



contamination-free handling facilities for Bulk & Break-Bulk Cargo. The port also has covered, open storage areas and special demarcated concrete storage yards with enormous capacity' AKPL said in a statement to Vizag Industrial Scan.

**Container Volumes Fall**  
The port however saw its

**Top agri commodities:**

**Rice & Maize**

container volumes plummet as few lines pulled out of Krishnapatnam Port. 'Due to the pandemic, there has been a change in the global shipping scenario which has led to shipping lines realigning their ser-

vices. Further, the huge congestions at many of the international ports have led to shipping lines realigning their port rotations for scheduled recovery. AKPL had few lines pulling out of Krishnapatnam Port which has led to a decline in volumes' said AKPL in the statement.

AKPL is confident of container volumes to bounce back. 'We are very sure that once things come back to normal, we will have the lines calling again at Krishnapatnam port and the volumes will start increasing. Our teams are continuously working towards business restoration' said AKPL in a statement.

# Vizag based INS Satpura visits Manila

VIS News Service

Towards enhancing military cooperation with the navies of friendly foreign countries, Indian Naval Ship Satpura on a deployment to the South China Sea (SCS) and West Pacific, visited Manila. As per an official release the visit was aimed at strengthening mutual working relationships and interoperability between the Indian Navy and the Philippines Navy. During the visit, the Commanding Officer, Captain Saket Khanna called on Commodore Roy Vincent Trinidad, Deputy Commander of the Philippines Fleet. The IN ship was visited by officers and sailors of the Philippines Navy, who were briefed about the indigenous design and construction of the modern stealth frigate. Personnel from both navies also participated in friendly football and basketball matches. INS Satpura is an indigenously designed and built 6000 tonnes guided missile stealth frigate equipped to seek and destroy adversaries in air, surface and undersea. The ship is a part of the Eastern Fleet based at Visakhapatnam.

## IN BRIEF

### Indian Navy Conducts Training for Marine Police

As a part of the coastal security initiatives of the Indian Navy, Eastern Naval Command undertook a Coastal Security Training Capsule for 15 Marine Police from 12 coastal districts of Andhra Pradesh. The event which was conducted from May 30 to June 3 culminated with the distribution of Certificates of Participation and interaction by NOIC (APD).



The Training Capsule was conducted at Sagar Prahari Bal (Vizag) under the aegis of Naval Officer Incharge (NOIC), Andhra Pradesh in two phases. The Dry-shod training for 02 days included classroom instructions on Seamanship, Navigation, Communication, Damage Control & Fire Fighting. The Wet-shod practical training onboard Fast Interceptor Craft for 03 days included Harbour Familiarisation, Coastal Navigation & Patrol, Reporting of Contacts & Challenging Procedures.

### SC judge, CJ of AP HC visit VPA

Justice Mr. Uday Umesh Lalit, Judge, Supreme Court, Justice Mr. Prashant Kumar Mishra, Chief Justice of A.P



High Court, along with Visakhapatnam District Judges recently visited Visakhapatnam Port Authority.

Mr. K. Rama Mohana Rao, I A S , Chairman, Visakhapatnam Port Authority, received the Supreme Court Judge and his team. Chairman briefed the Port operations, infrastructure and facilities available for handling various cargoes in the Inner and Outer Harbours. The Judge appreciated the Port Authority for their Progress.

### CREDAI distributes cotton bags

In connection with World Environment Day, CREDAI Visakhapatnam team participated in the "Awareness Programme on the Ban of Plastic Use" organized by GVMC on the Beach Road, in Visakhapatnam. Minister for Industries, Infrastructure, Investment



and IT Mr. Gudivada Amarnadh, attended as Chief Guest and distributed cotton bags to the general public. Police Commissioner, Collector, GVMC Mayor & Commissioner participated. CREDAI Visakhapatnam Chairman, Mr. Bayana Srinivasa Rao, Vice Presidents, Mr. V. Dharmender and Mr. Ch. Govinda Raju, and others participated.

### Centurion varsity students on industrial tour

The BBA students of Centurion University recently participated in an Industrial visit to Parlakhemundi in Odisha. As per a Centurion University press release the students got a chance to learn the setting up cost of starting small units. The Students first started by visiting an Organic



research farm which contains many small units inside suitable for small farmers. The business which can be scalable is poultry and a few students showed interest when they came to know that the operating cost would be around 50k to 60k to get 100 eggs a day with meat. Next, the students visited the vermi compost unit.

# '20 lakh houses sanctioned to AP'

VIS News Service

Union Minister of Petroleum, Natural Gas, Housing and Urban Affairs, Mr. Hardeep Singh Puri said that Andhra Pradesh State stood first in the country in terms of implementation of the Pradhan



Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY). He lauded the State for its efforts in providing housing to the poor. He said that 20 lakh houses have been sanctioned to AP under housing for all scheme. If needed, more housing units will be sanctioned to Andhra Pradesh," the Minister said.

After interacting with the beneficiaries of PMAY and the PM Ujjwala Yojana in

Visakhapatnam recently, the Union Minister said that the Centre has decided to build houses for one crore families across the country out of which 22 lakh crore

houses have been sanctioned so far.

As part of the event, the Union minister handed over the keys to a batch of PMAY beneficiaries of the state and distributed sanction letters to the fresh beneficiaries. AP Housing Minister Mr. Jogi Ramesh said that the Chief Minister was constructing more than 17,000 Jagannanna colonies across the state. Vizag YSRCP MP Mr. MVV Satyanarayana, CS, State Housing Dept Mr. Ajay Jain and others present.

# RINL accords union status to AITUC

VIS News Service

RINL CMD, Mr. Atul Bhatt, recently presented a letter conferring Recognized union status to Visakha Steel Workers Union (AITUC).

Congratulating the AITUC on emerging as the majority union, Mr. Atul Bhatt said that "RINL



has achieved the best ever performance in the last financial year in spite of several obstacles with the collective support of all unions, dedicated and committed workforce ably supported by the VSP management". Presenting the letter of conferring Recognized union status to Visakha Steel Workers union he urged the new recognized union to extend best support to achieve Historic performance at the plant. Production, productivity and above all welfare of

RINL's stakeholders are of utmost importance to the RINL Management, said Mr. Bhatt. "There will be a structured meeting with unions every month and I am looking forward to a historic performance by RINL with the unstinted support, participative management of the AITUC and other allied unions", Mr. Atul Bhatt said.

Also addressing the gathering Mr. A K Saxena, Director (Operations), RINL urged the new recognized union in achieving max wealth generation by RINL. The letter was presented to Mr. D Adinarayana, General Secretary, AITUC, Mr. KSN Rao, President, AITUC in the presence of Mr. G. Obulesu, AP State General Secretary, AITUC and other leaders.



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# Six-laning from Chittoor to Mallavaram to be ready by Sept'22

VIS News Service

The Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Mr Nitin

said the project for Six-laning of NH-140 from Chittoor to Mallavaram in Andhra Pradesh is progress-

ligious place Kanipakam. He said the project length starts at Kukulapalli and ends at Mallavaram, consists of 2 bypasses at Kasipentla and Kanipakam, 14 grade separators, 6 Major Bridges and ~15 minor bridges.

The minister said the project length is operational from May 2021 & Balance Works are expected to be completed by 30 Sep 2022. He said after the completion of the project, the region would witness dynamic transformation with enhanced connectivity that would further boost economic activities & religious tourism.



Gadkari has said that Team MoRTH is working 24x7 on a mission to make NewIndia, the 'Infrastructure Hub of The World'. In a series of tweets he

ing at a rapid pace under Bharatmala Pariyojana. The Minister said this NH section connects important towns in Chittoor District i.e. Chittoor and Tirupati via re-

## Ministry of Coal finalizes Action Plan FY23

Contd. on Page ..1

Challenges of the Coal Sector and aligns itself well with the emerging technologies and diversification thrust of the Coal Sector.

The Action Plan covers the entire gamut of areas for steering the Coal Sector into new technologies while focussing on the core com-

petence of increasing production targets. Coking Coal Mission had been launched by the Ministry for enhancement of coking coal



production from 45 Million Ton in 2020-21 to 140 Million Ton by 2029-30 which includes 105 MT from CIL. The Action Plan for 2022-23 is available on <https://coal.nic.in/sites/default/files/2022-05/31-05-2022a-wn.pdf>

## VPA holds trade meet

Contd. on Page ..1

terminal which is slated for completion in 1 years time being built at a cost of Rs 96 crores. Speaking on behalf of the

railways Waltair Division's



**PPP operators are our valued business partners. 30-35% of our bulk cargo is handled by them. They play a very important role in our overall growth.**

**Mr Durgesh Kumar Dubey, Deputy Chairman, VPA**

projects worth over Rs 3700 crores across 23 projects.

Some of the major projects under sagarmala completed at VPA include con-

DRM Mr Anup Kumar Satapathy said that both the railways and port are integral to evacuation of cargo and noted that regular meetings are being held wherein



### Cargo Congestion

**Due to increasing traffic in Vizag, cargo and container movement is becoming very difficult. We thus call for immediate action on the proposed connectivity road from Sheela nagar to pendurty Highway as this is the need of the hour. We request VPA management to take this up on top priority.**

**Mr Rajesh Grandhi, MD, Integral Logistics**

terminal extension, upgradation of the existing facility for iron ore handling. There is also a cruise

issues of the trade are being addressed to. 'Ports and Railways are inseparable' said the DRM.

## Waltair Div introduces 10<sup>th</sup> train with LHB

VIS News Service

Providing a more comfortable journey to passengers, the Waltair division of the east coast railways recently converted its 10<sup>th</sup> train to a LHB rake.

The modern Linke Hofmann Busch (LHB) rakes were introduced in several trains by East Coast Railway, Waltair Division and it is informed that 9 pairs of trains have been converted to LHB coaches.

'Railways always tries to provide more comfort to the travelling passengers and the public should also be equally responsible for its maintenance' said the DRM, Mr Anup Satpathy.

The maiden run of the new LHB rake of 12861 Visakhapatnam-Kacheguda express was flagged off by retired railway employees from commercial & Mechanical (C&W) in august presence of DRM, ADRM (infra) Mr Manoj Kumar Sahoo, Sr. Div. ME Mr Sambid Mahapatra, Sr DSO Mr Praveen Bhati, CDO and other branch officers.

## VPA to spend over Rs.200 Cr on capital works



VIS News Service

Addressing stakeholders at the recently held trade meet, Visakhapatnam Port Authority's chairman Mr

**K. Ramamohana Rao, IAS,**

said that the port is spending a significant amount on capital works. He informed that the port has spent an amount of Rs.237 Cr as capital expenditure, which is highest among the major ports. 'This Financial Year the port has planned to spend about Rs. 208 Cr on the capital works for infrastructure development' said the chairman. And with the completion of these projects, the port capacity will be 146 MTPA from the present 127 MTPA. The Chairman informed that during the first two months of the current Financial Year, VPA handled 14.2 MT cargo which is 6% more compared to last year same pe-

riod and expressed hope that VPA can cross the highest ever cargo handling of 72.72 MT in the current Financial Year.

During his speech the chairman also highlighted the various measures for improving the environmental management at the port and the plan to reduce its Carbon FootPrint to 'Zero' in the coming years. This Financial Year VPA planted 30,000 trees in the port area.

VPA has developed a master plan for improving the drainage system and upgrading the stockyards with an investment of about Rs. 60 Cr. Under Bharatmala, VPA & NHAI is developing road projects worth Rs. 1054 Cr to decongest the roads and improve the last mile connectivity. The Trade meet was attended by nearly 130 people.

## Rlwys launches Innovation Policy

Contd. on Page ..1

on launch of this initiative the Minister said that through this platform start ups will get a good opportunity to connect with Railways. Out of over 100 problem statements received from different divisions, field offices/zones of Railways, 11 problem statements like rail fracture, headway reduction etc. have been taken up for phase 1 of this program. These will be presented before the start ups to find innovative solutions.

Railway Minister requested the startups to use this opportunity and ensured them of support from Indian Railways in form of 50 percent capital grant, assured market, scale and ecosystem

In the month of May, field units were asked to provide Problem Areas. In response to it, around 160 problem statements have been received till date. To start with, 11 problems statements have been identified to deal via new Innovation Policy and uploaded on the portal.

## Rake Shortage deters Trade

Contd. on Page ..1

ity is currently a problem here' said Mr Anup Kumar Satpathy speaking exclusively to Vizag Industrial Scan.

Unavailability of rakes has indeed become a cause of concern for trade as many of them have no choice but to wait thereby increasing their costs and delivery time. 'Our waiting period for empty rakes has gone upto 10 days from the 2-4 days earlier. There is easily a 25% shortage of rakes just for us' said an industry insider.

Mr Sathpathy however hoped for the situation to ease with the monsoon season being round the corner and thereby easing power demand leading to freeing of rakes.

Concurred Vizag Seaport Pvt Limited's, CEO and wholtime director, Mr Ragam Kishore and said 'This is a seasonal demand supply gap which always happens around this time of the year and will ease as and when monsoons kick in'.

Mr Kishore though advocated for the railways to

ramp up their rolling stock inventories so that shortages like these can be avoided in the future.

'It is due to the limitation of availability of rolling stocks with the railways that these situations arise and if necessary steps are taken to increase inventories rake shortages could become a thing of the past' opined Mr Kishore who is also

increase of 5.7%.

Freight earnings on the other hand saw a marginal dip of .7% as it registered Rs. 1294.75 crores in April and May 2022 compared to Rs. 1303.85 crores in the same period last year. Mr Satpathy said that there has been a substantial drop in volumes of both iron ore and finished steel loading. 'Loading of these



**Railways need to augment their rolling stock capacities so situations like these can be avoided in the future.**

**Mr Ragam Kishore, CEO, VSPL Chairman, CII, Vizag Zone**

the chairman of CII, Visakhapatnam zone.

### Waltair Division Freight Loading

Albeit Waltair division witnessed an overall increase in total freight traffic for the months of April and May 2022 compared to the corresponding period last year its freight earnings declined. The division registered freight volumes of 11.30MT for April and May 2022 compared to 10.69 MT in the same period last year, an

two commodities are easily down 40-50%' said the DRM. Citing higher iron ore prices to be the reason behind fall in volumes Mr Satpathy however hopes for a price correction soon in iron ore.

'With an expected correction in NMDC's prices for iron ore we forecast iron ore and steel loading to increase in the coming months' said the Waltair division's DRM.



# PSBs organise loan mela

Disburse over Rs.1000 Crs. in Loans



VIS News Service

As part of Azadi Ka Amrut Mahotsav bankers organised a loan distribution ceremony for the poor and the needy. District Collector Mr. Mallikarjuna Rao while

presenting the cheques to the beneficiaries urged them to develop a habit of repaying the loans on a timely and efficient manner.

Loans worth Rs.1097.26 crore were given to all the

beneficiaries in the district as part of the program. As per a release the banks sanctioned Retail loans of Rs 395.08 crore, agricultural loans worth Rs 588.96 crores and business loans of Rs 113.21 crore.

The event was attended by **Mr. Manmaya Pandab DGM, SBI; Mr. KSSDV Prasad FGM, UBI; Mr.K. Nataraj DGM, UBI; Mr. M. Subhakar DGM, BOI; Mr. CHV Ramana Rao, ZM, Indian Bank; Mr. S. Srinivasa Rao DDM, NABARD; Mr. DVSS Verma CEO, DCCB; Mr. JLN Murthy LDM.**

# Guntur gets waste to Energy plant



Chief Minister **Mr. Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy** recently inaugurated the Jindal 'Waste to Energy' plant at Kondaveedu. Jindal Power Plant which has been constructed at a cost of Rs.345 crore is designed to operate for generation of 15 megawatts of power per hour. The plant has the capacity to use 1,600 tons of waste per day. It was informed the garbage will be collected from nine cities. Currently 1,200 tons of garbage per day is being received at the plant.

# India launches Natl Air Sports Policy

Aims to become the Global Capital for Air Sports

VIS News Service

The Minister of Civil Aviation **Mr Jyotiraditya M. Scindia** recently launched National Air Sports Policy 2022 (NASP 2022). NASP 2022 lays out the vision of making India as one of the top sports nations by 2030, by providing a safe, affordable, accessible, enjoyable and sustainable air sports ecosystem in India.



We want to create an environment of adventure, thrill and sports in the country. Speaking on the future of Air Sports in India, he said "From a small market size of around 5,000 odd air sports practitioners creating around `80-100 crore of an annual revenue in India, I feel we can target over `8,000 - 10,000 crore annual revenue and generate over 1,00,000 direct jobs.

Air sports, as the name suggests, encompasses various sports activities involving the medium of air. These include sports like air-racing, aerobatics, aero modelling, hang gliding, paragliding, para motoring and skydiving etc. India has the potential to be among the leading nations in the world of air sports keeping in mind its large geographical expanse, diverse topography, and fair-weather conditions. Drafted based on the inputs received from policy makers, air sports practitioners and public at large NASP looks to ensure establishment of good quality of infrastructure, equipment, instructors and services.

**Mr Jyotiraditya M. Scindia**, Union Minister of Civil Aviation said, "It is time for India to take its rightful place and become global capital of air sports.

# Handloom stall at VSKP

VIS News Service

In order to promote the handicrafts, handloom, Village & cottage industries, Waltair Division recently set up another handloom stall at Visakhapatnam railway station on platform No. 8 at Visakhapatnam railway station for the rail-users having a shopping spree. This is the first such facility in East Coast Railway said an official release from the railways. Speaking on the occasion Divisional Railway Manager **Mr. Anup Satpathy** informed that this facility has been developed under non-fare revenue and generates Rs 5.11 lakh revenue to the

Division per annum. The contract is for ONE year & can be extended to 2 more years. Sri Sai Enterprises bagged the



tender for setting up the Handloom Bhandar. Apart from sarees, tops, dress materials, kurtas, bed sheets, Towels one can shop for men's wear.

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# India hands over 12 High Speed Boats to Vietnam

VIS News Service

Raksha Mantri **Mr. Rajnath Singh** handed over 12 High Speed Guard Boats to Vietnam during his recent visit to Hong Ha Shipyard in Hai Phong. The boats have been constructed under the Government of India's \$US 100 million Defence Line of Credit to Vietnam. The initial five boats were built in the Larsen & Toubro (L&T) Shipyard in India and the other seven in Hong Ha Shipyard. Senior civil and military



officials of India and Vietnam were present during the handing over ceremony. In his address, the Raksha Mantri described the project as a glowing example of 'Make in India, Make for the World' as envisioned by PM **Mr Narendra Modi**. He said, the successful completion of the project, despite the challenges due to Covid-19 pandemic, is testimonial to the commitment and professional excellence of the Indian defence manufacturing sector as also of Hong Ha Shipyard.

# Vizag & Prakasam ranked in DSDP Awards

VIS News Service

The 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of 'Awards for Excellence in District Skill Development Planning' (DSDP) was recently organised in New Delhi where top 30 districts were awarded for their innovative best practices in skill development in the region. District Collectors, District Magistrates and other representatives from across 30 States attended the award ceremony and shared their ideas & experiences and presented the skill development work done at the grassroot level in their districts. Thirty districts were selected, and

awards were given under the following three categories:  
Category I: 8 Awards for Excellence in District Skill Development Planning  
Category II: 3 Certificate of Excellence in District Skill Development Planning  
Category III: 9 Letters of Appreciation for District Skill Development Planning Rajkot in Gujarat, Cachar in Assam and Satara in Maharashtra respectively were ranked top three among all participating districts while the district of Visakhapatnam and Prakasam came in at 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> position.

# Tribal dance fete

As part of Azadi Ka Amrut Mahotsav a Tribal Dance Festival was recently organised at Andhra University in collaboration with Tribal Culture Research and Training Institute Andhra Pradesh and Union Ministry of Tribal Affairs. **Port Chairman Mr. Ram Mohan Rao** and Tribal Welfare Secretary **Mr. Kantilal Dande** who were present on the occasion said more such events should be organised. Twenty three types of dances from 14 states were presented at the three-day festival. Cash awards were given to four best performers. They were bagged by MP Karnataka, by Odisha and Mizoram.





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