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Vizag port gears up for world Class Infra under Gati Shakti

Roads, Railways & Customs come together to iron out bottlenecks



To realize the USD 5 trillion economy figure we need an integrated approach. This is where Gati Shakti will play an important role.

Mr. Rama Mohana Rao,
VPA Chairman

bottlenecks and create world class infrastructure at Vizag port.

‘To realize the USD 5 trillion economy figure we need an integrated approach. Similarly our infrastructure and logistics costs need to substantially

Gati Shakti comes in’ said VPA’s Chairman.

Highlighting some of the key projects that VPA has taken up to bolster infrastructure the chairman informed that the existing two-lane road from East Breakwater to Convent



Bolstering VPA’s Infra

- ▶ New Truck Parking terminal @ Rs 58 Cr.
• Parking space for 600 Trucks
- ▶ Cruise terminal @ Rs 97 Cr.
- ▶ Covered sheds spread over 20 acres @ Rs 210 Cr.

come down. And to achieve this we need to stop working in silos and become more swift and competent. This is where

Junction will be made into a 4 lane. This he said is being undertaken at a cost of Rs 68 crores.

Contd. on Page ...6

Over Rs 500 crs IT investments on the anvil: FM



2021-24 have been well received by investors.

There are 10 investment proposals under the IT sector at the advanced stage of grounding for the generation of 20,000 jobs

with an investment of over Rs. 500 crore over 2 to 5 years’ said Andhra

Industry Allocated Rs. 2,755.17 Crs. (FY 23)

Pradesh’s finance minister **Mr. Buggana Ranjendra Nath**

Contd. on Page ...6

VIS News Service

Identifying PM’s Gati Shakti - National Master Plan for Multi-modal Connectivity as an essential plan to enhance coordination among various departments, negate

working in silos and increase competitiveness, VPA’s (Visakhapatnam Port Authority) chairman **Mr. Rama Mohana Rao** said that the port has already undertaken a slew of projects that would ease



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Chairman CII Odisha State Council



VIS News Service

Chairman-cum-Managing Director, National Aluminium Company Ltd. **Mr. Sridhar Patra**, has been elected as Chairman, CII Odisha State Council 2022-23. His name was announced at the first meeting of the reconstituted Odisha State Council held in Bhubaneswar recently.

CEO and Managing Director, Essar Minmet Ltd **Mr. Sashi Sekhar Mohanty**, has been elected as the Vice-Chairman, CII Odisha State Council for the year 2022-23.

RINL wins Greentech Award

VIS News Service

RINL-VSP has won Greentech Corporate Governance Award 2022. RINL-VSP, Director (Finance) **Mr. VV Venugopal Rao**, received the award from **Mr. Farooq Khan**, IPS (Retd.), Advisor to Governor, J&K at the award function held recently at SKICC, Srinagar (J&K).

RINL Records zero accident period

VIS News Service

RINL-Visakhapatnam Steel Plant recently observed the 51st National Safety Day. The theme of 51st National Safety Day is "Nurture young minds - Develop safety culture".

RINL-VSP CMD **Mr. Atul Bhatt**, the Chief

to maintain the same tempo to achieve zero accident targets." He also emphasized to follow technical discipline and focus on safety considering the new hazards of modern equipment.

Guest of Honour, **Mr. DCS Varma**, Director of

Achieves 22 million accident free man hours

Guest, in his address said that, "I am proud to say that we have achieved 22 million accident free man hours during the last 3 months. This shows the commitment of employees after taking the pledge. I request all the employees

Factories, Govt of Andhra Pradesh applauded RINL for achievements on the safety front and emphasized accidents can be prevented only when safety is adopted as a value and nurturing safety into the younger minds.

RINL's coke oven achieves milestone

VIS News Service

The Coke Oven and Coal Chemical Plant (CO &CCP) department of RINL - VSP recently achieved a milestone of 3 Million Oven Pushings. As per an official release from the RINL this 3 million figure was achieved since its inception.

CO &CCP is considered to be the vital unit in an integrated Steel Plant. It not only produces Coke, the

important input for Blast Furnaces but also produces many useful by products



like Benzene, Toluene, Anthracene, Benzol, tar and Naphthalene etc including Coke oven Gas, which is used critically as fuel for various utility purposes throughout the Plant said the release.

HZL's women Power

VIS News Service

Hindustan Zinc Limited is dedicated to the Women Empowerment Principles developed and distributed by the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women), in collaboration with the United Nations Global Compact.

The company acknowledges the significance of bringing the perspectives of women to the table and has implemented several policies and practices for that purpose.

As per an official release from the company women make up about 15% of the executive personnel in the company. Women's employment and research opportunities have risen and broadened since the government lifted the ban



on women entering mines, allowing women engineers and geologists to work in the underground mines.

According to a latest study it stated that 401 women employees are in executive and non-executive positions at Hindustan Zinc, accounting for 10.78% of full-time employees, with 9.46% representation in top management positions, 11.2% in Operations and Maintenance, and 33.7% in Enabling functions. Women in mining who work in Asset Integrity, Mine O&M, and Mill O&M constitute 9.4% of

the workforce, while women in smelting who work in operations such as Smelter Asset Integrity, Smelter Operation, Lab, etc constitute 14.5% of the workforce. At the same time, women constitute 35% of the active security workforce and women in the quality function which overlooks and ensures quality checks & systems in processes stands at 46%. These figures are anticipated to grow as the company initiates novel and innovative programs and initiatives to encourage and nurture women professionals, said the release.

Coal Gasification - Clean Alternative of Coal Sector

GoI targets 100 MT Domestic Coal Gasification By 2030

VIS News Service

The government of India is stressing on the imminent need for coal gasification plants.

Inaugurating a recent webinar on Energy for Sustainable Growth the Prime Minister said "Four gasification projects will help in framing up technical and financial viability of coal gasification." Coal

Gasification was one of the six topics which was deliberated in six concurrent sessions. This is the ninth webinar in the



series of post-budget webinars addressed by the Prime Minister.

Dr. Anil Kumar Jain, Secretary, Coal stressed on suitable business model, so that not only public sector but also private sector takes

role in setting-up of coal gasification plant. **Dr. VK Saraswat**, member NITI Aayog stressed on setting up demonstration plants to

were Availability of Coal for Gasification Projects, Development of Indigenous Gasification technology on commercial



Four gasification projects will help in framing up technical and financial viability of coal gasification.

Mr. Narendra Modi
Prime Minister

scale up indigenous technology and introduction of PLI scheme for setting up Coal Gasification Plants.

He suggested rationalisation of pricing of coal for gasification on the parameters such as taxations, State Cess, transportation and handling charges and acceleration on the projects planned by the Coal India Limited and subsidiaries preferably through EPC approach for production of chemicals & fuels.

In the second session **Mr. VK Tiwari**, Additional Secretary, Coal highlighted six key takeaways which

scale, Development of indigenous technology for production of methanol from syngas, Suitable policy provision for Marketing of indigenous product derived from Coal Gasification, Financial assistance to Gasification projects at Initial stage and taking up of all business models for setting up of projects.

Additional Secretary (Coal) concluded by stating that by all these steps, coal gasification target of 100 MT of domestic coal by year 2030 will be achieved creating to a new path of sustainable coal utilization.

26 Bids Received for Coal Mines Auction

VIS News Service

The process of 4th Tranche of Auction of coal mines for sale of coal was launched by the Nominated Authority, Ministry of Coal on Dec. 16, 2021. The last date of submission of Technical Bid was Feb. 28, 2022. As part

of the auction process, Technical Bids comprising of online and offline bid documents were opened on (March 02, 2022) in the presence of the bidders.

A total of 26 bids have been received (both online and offline) against 11 coal mines.

Tata EzyFit launched

VIS News Service

Tata Steel Tubes Division has expanded its branded products and retail solutions by launching 'Tata EzyFit', a brand of innovative tubes for door and window frames. Since steel is 100% recyclable, these tubes are sustainable. This is yet another initiative by the Company towards saving trees.

NMDC sets record in production & sales in Feb.

VIS News Service

National Mineral Development Corporation Ltd. (NMDC), Country's largest iron ore producer, a CPSE under Ministry of Steel reported production of 4.31 MT and sale of 3.97 MT of iron ore for the month of February 2022. This reflects a growth of 11.7% in production and 22.2% in sales over the CPLY, the highest production and sales numbers for any February in the history of the mining major.

Cumulative production and sales

for the first eleven months of FY22, up to February 2022, stood at 37.18 MT and 36.57 MT respectively registering a growth of 26% in production and 25.5% in sales over the same period last year. These also represent the best ever 11 months of physical performance for NMDC.

Congratulating the NMDC team for yet another

impressive performance, NMDC CMD **Mr. Sumit Deb** said, "With an overwhelming performance this month, NMDC remains an iron and steel powerhouse and this success is attributed to all the stakeholders of the company. This strong performance underwrites our commitment to stay on the growth path.

(in Million Tonnes)

	2021	2022	Up by %
Production in February	3.86	4.31	11.7%
Sales in February	3.25	3.97	22.2%
Production upto February (11 months)	29.52	37.18	26%
Sales upto February (11 months)	29.15	36.57	25.5%

JNPT sets all-time record High

Handles 5.15 million TEUs

VIS News Service

India's premier container port, Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust (JNPT), has accomplished an all-time high record handling of 5.15 million TEUs in the financial year of 2021-22, compared to the previous 5.13 million TEUs in FY 2018-19.



This is the highest ever traffic handled in any financial year since the inception of the port as it depicts JNPT's growth in the trade, maritime, and port sectors stated an official release from JNPT.

Commending the robust growth and achievement of the port, **Mr Sanjay Sethi**, IAS, Chairman, JNPT, said, "JNPT's spectacular performance in the financial year 2021-22 has taken the port's business to new heights irrespective of the pandemic.

The record handling which we have achieved is because of the collective efforts of every employee. I congratulate all our stakeholders, as JNPT is performing exceptionally well even in the post-pandemic era by implementing a host of measures to make the business sustainable, efficient, economical and convenient. JNPT will continue to ensure timely and safe movement of

EXIM trade with modern infrastructure, and novel technologies."

Earlier, in January 2022, Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust (JNPT) continued its steady surge in cargo handling in CY 2021 with total container traffic of 5.63 million TEUs (5,631,949 TEUs) as against 4.47 million TEUs (4,474,878 TEUs) in CY 2020, growth of 25.86% over last calendar year stated the release.

'Only the Fittest will survive'



VIS News Service

VPA's Chairman **Mr. Rama Mohana Rao** didn't mince any words while speaking on the topic of competition. Answering to a question on the growing competition from neighbouring private ports the Chairman made it clear that is imperative in today's world for one to be extremely efficient and effective.

'Competition is a way of life and we need to deal with it. Protectionism isn't the answer. However what we need to do is to strengthen ourselves and become much more agile and efficient. Only the effective and efficient will survive' said Mr. Rama Mohana Rao.

VCT does a Gati Shakti, completes Terminal Extension

VIS News Service

In line with the Prime Minister's Gati Shakti mission of providing faster completion of projects and better coordination among various stakeholders, VCT recently completed its container terminal expansion.

Built with an investment of over Rs 600 crores the current terminal berth has been extended by another 395 metres thereby having a total quay length of 845 metres

Gantry Cranes (e-RTGCs) are installed for yard operations. The e-RTGCs are more efficient with minimal maintenance requirement and is more environment friendly and reducing carbon footprint. The yard capacity also has been doubled with additional



containers complemented with efficiency of the cranes enabling faster turnaround time of vessels that would further give room for new services to call VCT.

Visakhapatnam is the hub of reefer exports and to meet the ever-growing demand of reefer containers the number of plug points facility at the terminal have been increased by 300 where the overall reefer points would add up to 650 plugs.

With the deep draft, VCT has the capability for handling large size container vessels. Visakhapatnam Port has already successfully carried out simulation for berthing vessels of 390 metres LOA.

AP's Premier container terminal now ready to handle 1.3 million TEUs

coupled with a draft of 16.5 metres.

With this VCT's total handling capacity has shot up to 1.3 million TEUs annually.

The new Container Terminal is equipped with 3 Super Post Panamax Quay Cranes for handling larger vessels. In addition to this 9 electrically operated Rubber Tyred

back up area ready for stacking containers.

With the 845-metre quay length being ready for operations, Visakh Container Terminal can enable vessels berthing on arrival and cater to the requirement of additional vessel calls, volumes. The additional equipment deployed will be the key for quicker evacuation of

ECGC revises Russia country rating

VIS News Service

Export Credit Guarantee Corporation (ECGC) has revised its country rating on Russia from B1 open cover TO B2 RCC 1.

ECGC has carried out a review of the country risk rating of Russia as per its extant underwriting policy.

Accordingly, with effect from 25 Feb 2022, the cover category of Russia has been modified from Open Cover to Restricted Cover Category - I (RCC-I) for which revolving limits (normally valid for a year) are approved specifically on a case-to-case basis.

'Open cover countries have a lesser exporter risk than compared to restricted cover countries' informed **Mr. Bipul Mishra**, Branch Manager, ECGC Visakhapatnam speaking to *Vizag Industrial Scan*.

He further clarified that premiums for shipments will however remain same but shipments will be covered on case to case basis. In addition prior approval will need to be taken from ECGC for shipments to Russia informed Mr. Mishra.

This change has been made to ensure that ECGC is able

to assess and monitor the risks covered under its export credit insurance policies and to place appropriate risk mitigation measures. The above measure will also enable the exporters / banks in India in assessing the export payment realization prospects from buyers and/or banks in Russia.

Shipments effected to Russia can be covered under whole-turnover policies of ECGC (SCR, SEC, ETP).

ECGC continues to monitor the situation and further review of the underwriting policy will be undertaken based on future developments.

New Training Simulator at Krishnapatnam

To help train in Cargo Handling

VIS News Service

A Cargo Handling Equipment Training Simulator facility was recently inaugurated at the Adani Skill Development Centre (ASDC), Krishnapatnam. With this the Krishnapatnam centre now has three types of ARI simulators - wagon loader, mobile crane and earth moving equipment simulators.

As per an official release from the company these simulators are advanced training tools to effectively train and evaluate operators on safe loading, lifting, digging and dumping techniques. Its design is based on the

actual equipment and recreates realistic operations of the equipment. Operators using cranes or loaders, especially at ports, when trained on these simulators, gain skills they require to operate such heavy equipment safely and efficiently.

The ASDC has procured the equipment to provide training to the workforce at the Adani Krishnapatnam Port Ltd (AKPL). These trainings will prepare the operators

in such a way that accidents and loss of property and life will be averted to a great extent said the release.

The wagon loader equipment simulator is used



to load coal, cement, and fertilizer, and it will assist operators in loading materials in a systematic and loss-free manner. At present, 200 operators are working in the Engineering and Training Services (ETS) department. The mobile

crane equipment simulator has nine types of design and is most useful in container terminals and the ETS department. This is the backbone of port operations. There are nearly 350 operators working in these two departments and this training will immensely benefit them in operations like loading and discharge of containers. The earth moving equipment simulator involves seven types of operations and is useful for the operators. "This cutting-edge technology will train and prepare our operators working at the ports to carry out their work smoothly and efficiently," said **Mr. Jatin Trivedi**, Chief Operating Officer, Adani Skill Development Centre.

PPT bags "Port of the Year" Award

VIS News Service

Paradip Port Trust (PPT) was adjudged Port of the Year in Non-containerised Cargo category in the Eastern Star Awards 2022 held in Kolkata recently. The 7th edition of East Coast Maritime Forum 2022 concurrent with Eastern Star Awards was held by Exim India Shipping Times. **Mr.**

A.K. Bose, Dy. Chairman, PPT along with **Mr. Srirama Mishra**, DTM received the award from **Ms. H.K.Joshi**, CMD, Shipping Corporation of India Ltd.

Congratulating team PPT, **Mr. P.L. Haranadh**,



Chairman, PPT has said that the award reflects PPT's continuous efforts towards setting new benchmarks in operational excellence across the Port Industry.

VOC Port renamed

VIS News Service

The Major Ports of the Nation which were governed by the Major Port Trusts Act, 1963, hitherto have been brought under the Major Ports Authorities Act, 2021 w.e.f. November 3, 2021. The Major Port Trust Act, 1963 has been repealed. As per the notification published in the Gazette of India, dated January 31, 2022, V.O.Chidambaranar

Port Trust has been renamed as V.O.Chidambaranar Port Authority.

Accordingly, the V.O.Chidambaranar Port Trust shall, henceforth, will function in the name of V.O.Chidambaranar Port Authority and shall be governed under the Major Port Authorities Act, 2021, stated a release by V. O. Chidambaranar Port Authority.

Neeraj Sarda takes over as CII AP Chairman

VIS News Service

Mr. Neeraj Sarda, Deputy Managing Director, Sarda Metals & Alloys Ltd recently took over as the Chairman of CII



Andhra Pradesh chapter for the year 2022-23.

Sarda Metals & Alloys Ltd, Vizag a subsidiary of Raipur headquartered, Sarda Energy & Minerals Ltd., is a publicly listed

company with interests in mining, power generation (thermal, hydro and solar), steel, ferro alloys etc.

Mr. Sarda has also been the Past Chairman of CII, Vizag Zone (2015-16) wherein he contributed by being part of various committees on the Confederation of Indian industry. He is also associated with Round Table India.

Similarly **Dr. Lakshmi Prasad**, Managing Director, Sujay Biotech Pvt Ltd was elected as Vice Chairman of CII Andhra Pradesh for the year 2022-23. He is Technical Director of Sri Biotech Lanka Pvt. Ltd., Sri Lanka.

CII AP-ISB study cites 3 main hurdles in growth of AP's MSMEs

Says Banks not lending as per RBI guidelines to support MSMEs

Aditya Sabharwal

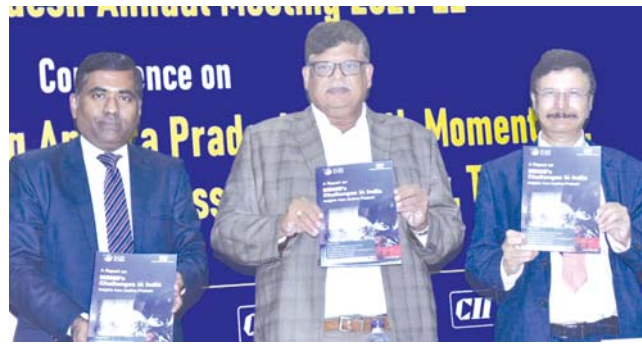
In a study carried out jointly by the CII Andhra Pradesh chapter and ISB it identified 3 main challenges that MSMEs in the state of Andhra Pradesh have been facing.

Identifying MSMEs to be an integral part of the nation's economy contributing roughly about 30% to the country's GDP the study calls for urgent support to MSMEs.

'The objective of the study was to collect primary data to identify challenges and intervention strategies' said **Dr. Chandan Chowdhury**, Senior associate dean and practice professor at the Indian School of Business.

Speaking to *Vizag Industrial Scan* Dr. Chowdhury said that the project covers a range of issues and examines their digital footprints while flagging barriers they face while accessing the global market.

The study surveyed 126 MSMEs in the state, of which 83 responses (41 from services and 42 from manufacturing sector) were considered for analysis.



Many Banks have not been disbursing loans to MSMEs up to Rs 10 lakhs as mandated by the RBI.

Dr. Chandan Chowdhury, Senior associate dean and practice professor, ISB

He further informed that the team studied the current state of MSMEs in Andhra Pradesh by analysing the following aspects of the working of MSMEs:

- Challenges faced by MSMEs before COVID-19
- Impact of COVID-19 on MSMEs
- Government support to MSMEs
- Innovation strategies adopted by MSMEs
- Current status of digital footprint in MSMEs
- Digital literacy and productivity

- Trends in the deployment of technology
- Support needed by MSMEs to scale up

AP's MSMEs Top 3 challenges

- Lack of access to finance
- Inability to scale up
- Lack of skilled workforce

Based on the inputs from the MSMEs, the report has listed 18 significant findings.

The three main challenges for MSMEs in the services and the manufacturing sector are 'lack of access

to finance', inability to scale up' and 'lack of skilled workforce.'

'MSMEs have suffered from their inability to scale up, with limited market access and low productivity' said Dr Chowdhury.

'What we found out at the ground level was very revealing. Most of the banks have not been proactively lending to MSMEs as mandated by RBI i.e. collateral free.' highlighted Dr. Chowdhury.

The study calls for the government to ensure that banks implement RBI guidelines to support MSMEs with collateral-free loans.

The report also made separate recommendations to the Government and the MSMEs.

Challenges in Maritime Trade Ecosystem

Kuntal Roy

In recent times, approximately 95% of the country's trade by volume and 68% by value in India is moved through maritime transport by using 12 major and more than 200 minor ports, which undoubtedly plays a pivotal role in the process of economic development of the country. Therefore, development of operational and infrastructural ecosystem of maritime transport needs to be prioritised.

The Government of India initiated several reforms, infrastructural up-gradations, digitization and automation measures which have been at the core of transformation of India's maritime trade ecosystem, through various interventions such as automation at gates, DPD/DPE, introduction of RFID container tracking system, Port Community System (PCS), etc. As a result, India has witnessed an unprecedented rise in ease of doing business



rankings, especially in the 'trading across borders' parameter.

Despite various measures, ground evidences suggest that there are still some challenges that need to be bridged such as manual documentation, congestion, paucity of infrastructure, awareness and

acceptability of new initiatives among the users, etc.

It is critical to continue with the reform process at Indian ports to move towards an enhanced port ecosystem. The bottlenecks prevalent in the port sector require further interventions from the government in the form of infrastructural development, standardization of processes at ports, enhancement of capacity building measures and sound interconnectivity among the ports. Moreover, it is also important to look into the port specific challenges as well, since different ports are facing

different types of challenges, and a lesson should be drawn from those who are performing better compared to others to bring a convergence in ports' activities. Concerted effort by all the stakeholders will be instrumental towards improving India's trading ecosystem and achieving the desired targets of ease of doing business.

(The Writer is Senior Research Associate Bureau of Research on Industry and Economic Fundamentals (BRIEF), New Delhi Views expresses are personal.)

Following are the major challenges faced by the Indian ports:

- " Manual Document Processing - continuation of usage of hard copies for some of the processes, underutilisation of available electronic platforms such as PCS 1x
- " Congestion at the port - deteriorated approach roads, choking at the terminal gates, restrictions in cargo traffic movement in city based ports
- " Paucity of proper infrastructure - RFID is functional with limited features, shortage of scanners, paucity of cranes, limited number of floating cranes at tidal ports
- " Low draft - vessels are unable to carry full capacity load, leading to lower trade volumes and higher effective freight rates

Pfizer & GITAM Joint Graduate Program in Chemistry

VIS News Service

World's premier biopharmaceutical company Pfizer (Pfizer Healthcare India Private Ltd) in association with GITAM Deemed to be University recently launched a Under Graduate Program in Chemistry (B.Sc. Chemistry Pfizer Program).

While addressing the students Pfizer Healthcare India Private Ltd, Visakhapatnam site head **Mr. Vikram Shukla** informed that the PAT (Pfizer Autonomous

Teams) program is the first of its kind in the history of Pfizer and the program was designed with the help of GITAM faculty to develop qualified professionals to support the pharmaceutical industry. He further added that Pfizer is planning to increase the women workforce through PAT program to enhance their knowledge, skills and employability in pharma operations.

GITAM Pro Vice-Chancellor **Prof. Jayasankar Variyar** said that the collaborations between industries and academic institutes play a vital role in developing a strong and skilled workforce. He informed that GITAM Deemed to be University is planning to invest around Rs.15 crore to



upgrade the infrastructure facilities along with academic reforms.

GITAM Registrar **Prof. D.Gunasekharan** said that collaboration between universities and industries will become increasingly important in the future particularly for authentic learning experiences that are developed and supported by industry.

NRDC licenses key Oceanic Technology

VIS News Service

NRDC recently signed and exchanged a technology licensing agreement for an innovative and indigenous technology "Met-Ocean buoy System Type-1". This technology developed by National Institute of Ocean Technology has been licensed to M/s Norinco Private Limited, Mumbai.

"There is a growing demand of marine

biotechnology for entrepreneurship keeping in mind that the Govt has taken lead policy formulation in Blue

Visakhapatnam in an official press release.

Commodore Amit Rastogi (Retd) CMD, NRDC, Dr. G A Ramadass, Director-NIOT, and Mr. Prabhakaran (Head of Operation), M/s Norinco Private Limited signed and exchanged the Technology Transfer License Agreements for commercializing the know-how of the technology.

Economy. These Oceanic technologies have great demand in the changing paradigm of innovation ecosystem" said **Dr. B K Sahu, Regional Manager, NRDC-IPFC & TISC**



New ADRM (Op)



VIS News Service

Mr. Manoj Kumar Sahoo, a 1996 batch officer of Indian Railway Services Electrical (IRSEE) assumed the charge as Additional Divisional Railway Manager (Operations) of Waltair Division of East Coast Railway. The outgoing ADRM **Dr. C. Surya Lakshmi** has been posted at East Coast Railway, Head Quarters, stated a release.

Mr. Sahoo has experience of over 24 years in Railways and has served in various positions over South East Central Railway, South Eastern Railway and East Coast Railway in Open lines and Rail Vikas Nigam Limited (RVNL) at Visakhapatnam. Prior to his posting as ADRM, Waltair he was General Manager of RVNL, Visakhapatnam.

He has also attended the Advance Management Programme in Singapore & Malaysia and done Management Programme at IIM Ahmedabad.

HSL CMD lays emphasis on safety

VIS News Service

Hindustan Shipyard Limited celebrated 51st National Safety Day recently. While addressing the employees on this occasion, the C&MD, **Mr. Hemant Khatri** emphasized the importance of Safety, Health and Environment in day to day life. Mr. Khatri said that Safety emanates from empathy & concern for all personal working with us. He said that it requires 'Eye for Detail' & 'Ability to think what can go wrong' & prevent it. Good Safety culture requires years of efforts & focused attention. The C&MD administered safety pledge and awarded

certificates and prizes to the winners of various competitions, which were organized as part of safety



awareness program. He further stressed on various aspects of safety measures and advised all officers & safety teams to create zero accident free atmosphere in HSL. The C&MD exhorted them to adopt zero tolerance for any unsafe practice so as to prevent even minor injuries to any personal working in HSL.

Waltair Div. surpasses target in passenger segment

VIS News Service

Carrying on its efforts to achieve and exceed targets despite the pandemic, Waltair Division stated that it has ferried 10.61 Million passengers safely as of February 22 fetching it Rs 358.01 Crores. This as per the division surpasses the targets of 10.16 million and Rs 349.71 crores 1 month before the closure of the financial year. This is a growth of 4.43% in number of passengers and 2.37% in passenger revenue in comparison to the set targets for the whole financial year.

Speaking on the occasion **DRM Mr. Anup Satpathy**

said that the Division mobilized its full contingent of manpower, conducted Ticket checking drives and planned its moves meticulously by re-introducing trains and



stoppages as per public demand in the post-Covid months to reach the set targets despite cancellation/ diversion of

National Safety Day @ Sri City

VIS News Service

Sri City community recently celebrated the 51st National Safety Day. The event was the culmination of week-long safety campaign in which, besides the employees and industrial staff, a good number of students from the neighbouring schools took part.

In a function held at the Trade Centre, **Mr. Satish Kamat, President (Operations), Sri City** said that the main objective of



the national safety Day celebration is to spread awareness on Safety, Health and Environment among all managers, employees, workers, contractors, and general public. He appealed all the people to be attentive and strictly follow safety at all level.

Highlighting that safety is one of the most important issues which are often ignored the most, **Mr. Ravindra Sannareddy, Founder Managing Director, Sri City** in a message said, "On this National Safety Day, let's pledge to promote the importance of ensuring safety on road, workplaces and other public spaces for all stakeholders. Let's foster a safe culture together for a safer tomorrow.



Assistance to Re-Energize Capital Investments by SMEs (ARISE)

Objective:

- Financial assistance shall be provided to brownfield / existing entities for undertaking expansion / modernization / capital expenditure in the same line of business.

Key Features:

- Attractive RoI
- 100% financing for loans upto ₹3 crore, based on FD upto 25% (interest bearing)
- Quicker sanction
- Facility of TL/FCTL available

Eligibility:

- Minimum two years of operation and audited accounts [for at least two full years]
- Cash profits in last audited financial results
- Standard Norm apply (CIBIL/CMR, due diligence etc.)

Target Group:

- MSMEs engaged in high growth and priority sectors (including sunrise sectors)

Loan Amount:

- TL upto ₹700 Lakh, subject to maximum of 80% of the project cost

Validity of Scheme :

- Upto March 31, 2022 for sanctions

Interest Rate and Repayment:

- Interest Rate- 5.50% to 6.80% pa for first year with reset applicable thereafter (as per internal rating)
- Repayment - Generally upto 7 years
- Moratorium-Upto 2 years

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IN BRIEF

GITAM inks MoU with Aurobindo Pharma

GITAM has recently inked an MoU with Aurobindo Pharma Ltd recently. GITAM Academic Pro Vice-Chancellor **Prof. Jayasankar Variyar** exchanged the MoU document with Aurobindo Pharma Senior Vice President (HR). **Mr. UNB Raju**. As a part of MoU the university is organizing a six month training

program for 27 senior level executives of Aurobindo Pharma on various contemporary subjects like bridging the generation gap in the workplace, creative thinking, conflict management, decision making, experiencing change etc. GITAM Institute of Management MDP coordinator **Dr. Smitha Girija, Dr. Sudhakar, Aurobindo Pharma Visakhapatnam Unit Head Shakthi** and others participated in the event.

Speaker inaugurates Jala Bhavan

The Jala Bhavan in Srikakulam was inaugurated recently by state Legislative Assembly Speaker **Mr. Tammineni Sitaram** along with State Fisheries Minister **Dr. Sidiri Appalaraju**. As per a release Jala Bhavan was constructed at a cost of Rs. 1.89 crore and was constructed for the office of the District Water Management Authority. Speaker MLC **Palavalasa Vikrant, Joint Collector K Srinivasu** and Asara Joint Collector **R.S. Sriramulu Naidu, Duma PD H. Kurmarao** staff and others participated.

Meet on Calamity & Catastrophe in English Litt.

AU Vice-Chancellor **Prof PVGD Prasada Reddy**, said that a two-day International Conference on Calamity and Catastrophe in World Literature in English will be conducted in Andhra University on March 28 and 29. Releasing the brochure recently he said that the Conference will focus on themes such as war waging and war ravaged countries, COVID 19 and its impact, conflict in gender relations, urbanisation and modernisation. **Prof P Rajendra Karmakar**, Principal College of Arts and Commerce and Conference Director said that internationally known academic experts are participating in the Conference.



'No MSME incentives will be kept pending'

VIS News Service

Reiterating the state government's support to MSMEs **Mr. Karikal R Valaven**, special chief secretary-Industries, and Commerce, GoAP has said that no incentives of MSMEs will be kept pending.

The special chief secretary highlighted the re-start package for MSMEs that the state government has provided to a plethora of MSMEs across the state to help them deal with the COVID-19 pandemic.

Mr. Valaven was addressing the CII AP annual Meeting, wherein he stated that the government of Andhra Pradesh has always strived to support MSMEs despite the state's bleak financial situation.

Talking on the Conference's theme on Accelerating Andhra



Pradesh Growth Momentum digital the special chief secretary said that technology has invaded every sphere of human life and that GoAP is leaving no stone unturned to use technology to take the governments welfare schemes at the doorsteps of the people.

Mr Valaven also stressed on the need for MSMEs to adopt 4.0 technologies in their respective businesses.

Speaking on the virtual mode, **Mr. Rakesh Bharti Mittal**, Past President, CII and Vice Chairman Bharti Enterprises, said Digitisation is the bedrock of Indian industry during and post-pandemic by learning new lessons for onward progress.

Bringing 340 government services through the adoption of much-needed digitization helped the Indian economy to consistently grow. Also, the government has been able to reach 6 crore people through digitization in rural India as a part of educational reforms he said.

Speaking on the MSMEs growth and sustainability,

Mr Amitabh Kant, Chief Executive Officer, NITI Aayog in virtual mode, said from a data-rich country to data intelligent country, India has come a long way in creating a mature ecosystem with emerging green technology, Artificial Intelligence, BlockChain, and cloud computing. All this has created a profound impact on the delivery of services by the government. Stating further, he said infrastructure has often been the back on which countries have transformed themselves. At 9.2 percent, India is among the fastest-growing large economies, and with the Gati Sakti scheme, we are able to bring a paradigm shift in the global supply chain.

Police Number 1



The police department of the state of Andhra Pradesh did the state proud by winning 23 out of 56 Skoch awards for the year 2021. These included one gold, eight silver and 15 Order of Merit awards for Excellence in the use of technology in policing, effective use of digital transformation and offering better services to citizens.

The state ranked first in providing these top notch security services which was followed by Telangana at number 2 and Gujarat at number 3. CM **Mr. Jagan Mohan Reddy** congratulated DGP **Mr. Rajendranath Reddy** and the entire AP police team for this achievement. 'I wholeheartedly commend the AP Police Department for its commitment to modern technology, ensuring that we are there for the protection of the victims... and setting an example for the entire country' he said. Ministers **Mr. Kurusala Kannababu**, **Mr. Velampally Srinivasa Rao**, **Mr. PAnil Kumar** several MLAs, MLCs and other public representatives congratulated the Chief Minister Mr. Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy and expressed happiness over AP's first place in the Skoch Awards in various categories.

Over Rs 500 crs IT investments on the anvil: FM

Contd. from Page 1

presenting the state budget for the year 2022-23.

He further informed that there are 15 investment proposals under the

infrastructure with an investment potential of more than Rs. 8,000 crore and employment potential for more than 25,000 noted the FM.

FM's Industry Highlights

Allocates Rs. 2,755.17 crore for Industrial & Infra development in 2022-23

15 investment proposals under the ESDM to generate 25,000 jobs with an investment of over Rs. 4,000 crore over next 3 years

11 Large & Mega Projects were established with an investment of Rs. 2,048 crore providing employment to 3,989 people (As of 31 January 2022).

55 Large and Mega projects are under various stages of implementation with an investment of Rs. 44,097 crore and committed employment of 93,116 (As of 31 Jan. 2022).

Electronic System Design and Manufacturing sector at the initial stage of implementation for the generation of 25,000 jobs with

'Already several companies have shown interest and have come forward to set up their manufacturing facilities with a cumulative investment of more than Rs.

YSR Navodayam

178,919 MSME accounts worth more than Rs.7,976 crore Restructured.

Rs. 671 crore Incentives released covering SC, BC, general MSMEs and textile industries (2020-21).

an investment of over Rs. 4,000 crore over next 3 years.

Highlighting the YSR EMC at Kopparthi the FM said that this was the first to be

660 crore and employment generation of more than 9,000 personnel', said the state's finance minister.

For the next fiscal Mr. Buggana proposed an

Tourism allocated Rs. 290.31 crore for Youth Advancement, Tourism & Culture Department in 2022-23

approved by Government of India under the EMC 2.0 scheme. Spread over an extent of 500 acres the EMC offers best in class

allocation of Rs. 2,755.17 crore for industrial and infrastructure development in 2022-23.

Vizag port, Trade to work in tandem under GoI Gati Shakti

Contd. from Page 1

In addition the Port has taken up the work of "Providing Electronic interlocking for operation of Points and Signals through object controller of North,

1st phase. Second phase of 38 TKM of Electrification Port Railway Lines has been awarded by M/s IPRCL. With Electrification the trains can directly place into the sidings by Electric

of 20 acres at an estimated cost of 210 Crores with the financial assistance of Sagarmala Development Company Limited.

This project has been contemplated to maintain environmental hygiene while handling dusty

Truck Parking Terminal in an extent of 20 acres at a cost of Rs.52.32 Crores near Exim Park area. This facility will provide space for 600 Trucks. This project has been contemplated to provide shelter for cargo carrying trucks and to avoid parking of cargo vehicles

No shortage of Rakes



Waltair division is exploring all aspects of GATI SHAKTI to augment the terminal's cargo handling capacity in consultation with its customers and other stakeholders said the DRM.

Addressing the media as part of the Gati Shakti program **Mr. Anup Kumar Satpathy, IRTS**, Divisional Railway Manager-Waltair made it amply clear that there was no shortage of rakes in the region. Emphasising that the railways has been working very closely with the port in supplying rakes he said that rakes are always provided to places that need them the most.

Railways effort for efficient, seamless multi-modal transport network is not only limited to bulk cargo traffic, Waltair division is making all efforts to boost the parcel traffic.

South, North-West and South-West Cabins connecting centre EI of R&D Yard" at an estimated cost of Rs.28 Cr

Similarly electrification of 23 ETKM Port Railway lines have been completed in the

locomotives without interchange at R&D yard by which detention will be reduced and turn round of rakes improves said the Chairman, VPA.

He further informed that VPA is constructing covered sheds in an extent

Customs at the forefront of Trade Facilitation



Highlighting the role of customs in facilitating trade, **Ms. Aarti Saxena IRS**, Additional Commissioner, Customs, said that the Customs Department has always been at the forefront of ironing out bottlenecks and giving trade a boost. 'Trade facilitation has been our biggest focus for long', said Ms Saxena.

Citing some of the key programs of the customs department she identified faceless and contactless assessment along with the department's digital platform, e-sanchit to be huge trade enablers.

'The Customs Department has undertaken a slew of measures to enhance ease of doing business by providing 24x7 clearances and significantly enhancing our digital footprint' said the Additional Commissioner, Customs.

cargoes and to meet the statutory requirements of Pollution Control Board and National Green Tribunal.

VPA is also developing a

on the operational roads which are hampering free flow of traffic and causing inconvenience to movement of other traffic also.



VPA under the chairmanship of Mr Rama Mohan Rao is progressing very well. As the president of the container lines association I can say that we have got the best possible support from the chairman and his team at VPA. We regularly have meetings with the VPA management wherein any trade related issue is immediately addressed and sorted out.

Mr. Jeevan, President, VCLA

NABARD pegs AP's Credit Potential at Rs. 2.54 lakh crore

VIS News Service

NABARD has projected a credit potential of Rs. 2.54 lakh crore under priority sectors for Andhra Pradesh for 2022-23, an increase of 10% over the potential assessed for FY 2021-22 by NABARD.

NABARD in an official release stated that Credit potential for Agriculture sector has been assessed at Rs. 1.71 lakh crore, forming 67% of the total potential identified under priority sectors. Crop loan potential of Rs. 1.22 lakh crore has been identified.

Potential for agriculture & allied term credit has been

husbandry (Rs. 13,574 crore), farm mechanisation (Rs. 4,047 crore), fisheries (Rs. 4,222 crore) and horticulture (Rs. 3,333 crore), food processing (Rs. 4,069 crore) and construction of storage and marketing infrastructure (Rs. 2,860 crore). Rs.



52,468 crore credit potential has been assessed for MSME sector and Rs.

(Rs. 15,690 crore), export credit (Rs. 3,074 crore) and education (Rs. 2,452 crore). The credit potential assessed acts as a road map to banks for extending loans to priority sectors as mandated by RBI and for Government Departments



for providing funds for bridging key infrastructure gaps.

Mr. B Uday Bhaskar, General Manager of NABARD's AP Regional Office, stated that NABARD has cumulatively extended financial support of Rs.

32,844 crore during 2020-21 and more than Rs. 35,000 crore so far in the current fiscal to GoAP, various corporations and banks in the state.

He informed that NABARD has dovetailed its developmental agenda with the policy directives of the State for achieving faster and inclusive sustainable development.

Ms. K Nikhila, Regional Director, Reserve Bank of India, requested the bankers to align their credit plan as per the potential assessed by NABARD for the year 2022-23.

She also requested the banker to take advantage of the different government programmes for enhancing term lending under agriculture & allied sectors.

VIS journo felicitated



VIS News Service

As part of the International women's day celebrations Vizag Journalists Forum in association with Prajapita Brahmakumari Eswariya Vishwavidyalaya felicitated senior women journalists of the city.

Vizag Industrial Scan senior journalist **Ms. Pushpa Bhargava** was among the journalists felicitated from the print media.

Ms. Bhargava was felicitated by Visakhapatnam Mayor **Ms. Hari Venkata Kumari**, VMRDA Chairman **Ms. A. Vijaya**

Nirmala, PCPIR Chairman **Ms. C. Lakshmi** and GCC Chairman **Ms. Shobha Swati Rani**.

The ceremony recognized the untiring efforts of women journalists during tough phase of the pandemic and added that to make a mark in any domain, family support is a pre-requisite. Women were also hailed for their multitasking ability which they said comes naturally to the women keeping in mind the varied responsibilities they undertake both at home and office.

Rs. 52,468 crore credit potential has been assessed for MSME sector

assessed at Rs. 49,455 crore, with major components being animal

30,848 crore under other priority sectors, with major components being housing

Increasing AP's share in Maritime Trade: APMB

Aditya Sabharwal

Blessed with the second largest coastline in the country measuring 974 kms the maritime sector presents a lucrative economic opportunity for the state of Andhra Pradesh.

The Andhra Pradesh Maritime board thus has a major role to play in making the state a desired place for maritime trade.

Albeit with stiff competition and an increasingly tough business environment APMB has a tough task ahead of not only drawing cargo to its state-owned ports but also wooing investors to aggrandize the infrastructure at some of its minor ports.

Taking this challenging task head on is a former Marine commando Lt Cdr **BM Ravindra Nath Reddy (IN Retd.)**, APMB's deputy CEO.

No stranger to facing tough and extreme conditions and armed with a never say die attitude, Mr Reddy is leaving no stone unturned in wooing investments and cargo to its ports.

In a freewheeling interview to Vizag Industrial Scan, Mr Reddy spoke on an array of opportunities that the maritime sector presents in Andhra Pradesh and importantly the work he and his team is undertaking in making AP a leading maritime hub.

How important is AP's maritime sector in the overall scheme of things?

Andhra Pradesh's maritime sector presents a world of opportunities for us and we are making a sincere effort in harnessing this. The sector is being given paramount importance by our Chief Minister **Mr. Jagan Mohan Reddy** and this is evident through his staunch focus on developing 3 greenfield ports and leading port led industrialization.

What model is being worked upon for these 3 greenfield ports?

Our CM has a clear view and understanding in developing these greenfield ports in order to maximize revenue for the state. In AP we are adapting the landlord model of development wherein the state's revenue share is



higher than what is typically seen in PPP models.

What are some of key tasks you are working on in making AP a maritime hub?

One of my biggest tasks is to increase the states revenue through maritime trade. And to accomplish this we need to draw more cargo to the state and export them through our ports. As I often say 'What should be going through my ports should go through my ports and what can go through my ports should also go through my ports'. We have identified a plan on drawing more cargo to AP Ports and are working on it.

Could you please elaborate on this?

Many of our Aqua products are being exported from neighbouring state ports. This needs to change and we should be able to export this from our own ports here. In addition the cargo that is exported from other neighbouring states we should become their preferred gateway also. For example 80-90% of container cargo from Hyderabad is being sent from JNPT. This despite the fact that Hyderabad-Kakinada is 50% less in distance compared to JNPT and also keeping in mind the surging road freight. We want to make

AP an export and distribution hub to ASEAN countries.

How is APMB addressing this?

We have identified some of the bottlenecks and are working on it. We have had a series of meeting with logistics providers in Hyderabad and are addressing some of their key challenges.

What are some of these key challenges?

Well overall they want a better eco-system which includes enhancing the frequency off feeder vessels. Some of this includes negotiating with vessel operators, identify cargo etc. We want to start of by plucking the low hanging fruits first.

Is Kakinada Deep sea water port's infrastructure adequate?

In terms of Equipment and infrastructure the Kakinada deep sea water port is well established. We want to substantially increase container cargo from here.

What are some of the other key opportunities you see in this sector?

Agri and Agro processing is for sure a major opportunity area. Chittoor being a horticulture hub we

want to harness the huge potential the district presents itself by making it an Agri export hub. Just to give you an example there is an immense potential of Agri exports to UAE. I can easily say there is atleast 100 MT of export opportunity just to UAE. Similarly Kadapa has surplus banana and papaya production and there is a huge demand for it in UAE.

Talking of UAE could you highlight some of the key meetings APMB had in Dubai Expo 2020?

We had a very successful trip and as stated there is immense business and trade opportunities between the two regions. Our meetings with our counterparts there were very fruitful with investors showing keen interest in the maritime sector in Andhra Pradesh. For instance marquee names in the shipping sector both DP World and Sharaf Groups have shown keen interest in investing in AP's maritime sector.

Apart from Trade are there other avenues of increasing revenue?

Yes. Beyond ports we are also looking at enhancing deep sea fishing, marine tourism etc.

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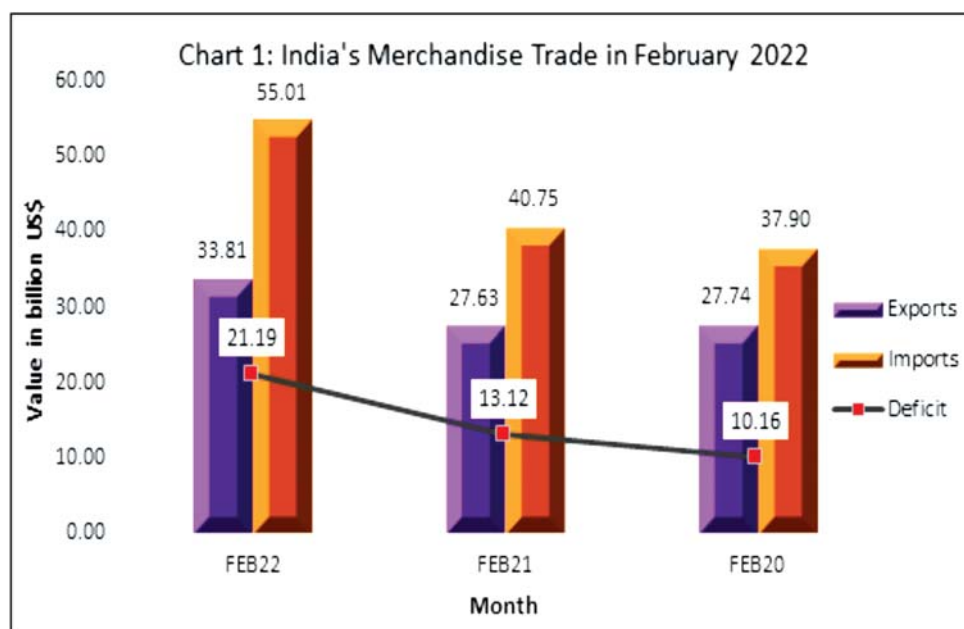
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		Feb-22	Feb-22	Feb-22	Feb-22 over Feb-21
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2.	Petroleum Products	4109.38	2471.16	12.15	66.29
3.	Gems and Jewellery	3105.59	2682.08	9.18	15.79
4.	Organic and Inorganic Chemicals	2407.81	1930.21	7.12	24.74
5.	Drugs and Pharmaceuticals	1938.79	2001.44	5.73	-3.13
6.	RMG Of All Textiles	1598.64	1348.55	4.73	18.54
7.	Electronic goods	1477.76	1104.69	4.37	33.77
8.	Cotton Yarn/Fabrics/Made-ups, Handloom Products Etc.	1258.88	947.64	3.72	32.84
9.	Rice	920.67	918.94	2.72	0.19
10.	Plastic and Linoleum	793.34	631.19	2.35	25.69
	Total of 10 Major Commodity Groups	26883.24	21095.80	79.51	27.43
	Rest	6928.61	6537.45	20.49	5.98
	Total Exports	33811.86	27633.25	100.00	22.36

*Top 10 major commodity groups covering 78% of total exports in February 2022, Source: Gol



Imports of Top 10 Major Commodity Groups (National)

SL. No.	Major Commodity Group <i>(Preliminary Data February 2022)</i>	Value of Import (Million USD)		Share %	Growth %
		Feb-22	Feb-22	Feb-22	Feb-22 over Feb-21
1.	Petroleum, Crude & products	15042.44	9031.45	27.35	66.56
2.	Electronic goods	6244.93	4843.82	11.35	28.93
3.	Gold	4684.79	5290.40	8.52	-11.45
4.	Machinery, electrical & non-electrical	3612.66	3184.00	6.57	13.46
5.	Pearls, precious & Semi-precious stones	3186.03	2408.50	5.79	32.28
6.	Coal, Coke & Briquettes, etc.	2860.20	1318.11	5.20	116.99
7.	Organic & Inorganic Chemicals	2434.07	2039.23	4.43	19.36
8.	Artificial resins, plastic materials, etc.	1704.53	1458.36	3.10	16.88
9.	Fertilisers, Crude & manufactured	1670.20	224.57	3.04	643.73
10.	Iron & Steel	1603.74	1239.36	2.92	29.40
	Total of 10 Major Commodity Groups	43043.59	31037.80	78.25	38.68
	Rest	11961.83	9710.85	21.75	23.18
	Total Imports	55005.42	40748.65	100.00	34.99

*Top 10 major commodity groups covering 75% of total imports in February 2022, Source: Gol

India's Marine Exports set to record highest ever figures

Feb nos already surpass previous high of USD 7 Billion

U.Bharath

In what is being seen as a new record for the marine exports sector in FY 2021-22, the country has already achieved \$7.16 billion in exports (as of February 22) thereby surpassing its previous high of USD 7.08 billion in

exports. And in the frozen shrimps category the state of Andhra Pradesh held its lead exporting 195828 MT of the total 468523 MT commanding a lion's share of 42%.

In USD value terms, the total exports stood at \$4.6

next decade. I would say that the marine export has bounced back on its feet in the months of June and July in the year 2021, after the Covid-19 restrictions placed many hurdles in its way.

Concurred **Mr. M. Nagesh**, CFO of Nekkanti Sea Foods Ltd. and said "The growth of the marine export sector has gained momentum in the last decade and India continues to be the world leader with Andhra Pradesh

and the reduced vessel movement has to be addressed. He also flagged the trade barrier and the "testing regime" followed by China as another area of concern for the industry.

"Earlier, the container rates hovered around \$3,500 and now it has risen to \$15,000 and this is putting additional pressures on the growing sector" Pawan Kumar added.



India's marine export sector has witnessed phenomenal growth in sheer volume and market share.

Mr. G. Pawan Kumar
Secretary, SEAI

India continues to be the world leader with Andhra Pradesh holding a pride of place.

Mr. M. Nagesh
CFO, Nekkanti Sea Foods



2017-18. And this number is expected to soar even further with March yet to be accounted for.

This phenomenal growth amounts to a surging 33.15% (April-Feb'22) jump in sheer exports, when compared to the same period last fiscal which recorded \$5.38 billion.

It is, indeed, great days for the Marine exports industry which has taken upon an impressive growth trajectory after the limitations put in its way by the Covid pandemic, say industry experts.

Shrimp & Andhra Pradesh continue to Dominate

As per the data shared by MPEDA for the months of the April- October (FY 2021-22) the industry experienced a 'revival of fortune' after the hiccup in the growth caused by the Covid-induced lock downs in 2020-21.

Out of the total marine exports (Q1&Q2FY22) of 752,538 MT frozen shrimps alone contributed a whopping 468523 MT i.e.62% of the total marine

billion wherein Andhra Pradesh's share of exports stood at \$1.643 billion. Of this an overwhelming \$1.614 billion was on account of frozen shrimps.

USA Biggest Market

During the April-October FY 22 period, USA continued to lead the chart for the sheer volume of exports from India with 239,222 MT (worth \$ 2108.73 million), with Andhra Pradesh exporting 135769 MT worth \$ 1215.38 million.

The other big markets included China with 147869 MT (\$ 719.01 million) and the European Union (EU) holding the third place with 105697 MT (\$608.78), out of which AP exported a good 9075 MT (\$ 74.18).

Industry optimistic about further growth

Mr. G. Pawan Kumar, Managing Director of Sprint Exports Private Ltd and Secretary of SEAI speaking to *Vizag Industrial Scan* said 'the marine export sector has witnessed a phenomenal growth in the sheer volume and market share and it would remain the same in

holding a pride of place in it since then".

Pressing Issues

The industry however is faced with a few challenges which it is trying to address. Mr Pawan Kumar touched upon some sensitive issues afflicting the industry. "There are some outstanding issues, which need to be sorted out for further growth of the industry. Issues like ever-rising costs of containers

Russia-Ukraine war

Similarly Mr. Nagesh is apprehensive that the ongoing Russia-Ukraine war may disturb the potential growth of India's marine export sector "We are adopting a "wait and watch" approach like the rest of the world as the ongoing war may cause fuel price hikes. "Otherwise, just 1% of marine exports are carried out to Russia, which is not a big deal" Nagesh opined.

Flipkart has 3K sellers from AP

VIS News Service

Flipkart's group CEO, **Mr. Kalyan Krishnamurthy** recently informed that there are about 3000 sellers from Andhra Pradesh on e-commerce giant Flipkart.

Addressing the CII AP annual meeting he said that Flipkart is bullish on Andhra Pradesh and has 2 fulfillment centres in the state.

Delivering a deep dive on the topic of Bridging the gap between Bharat and India with e-commerce,

the Group CEO of Flipkart Group, said India is well-positioned to rapidly grow in the next two years due to ease of doing business and adoption of digitization.

India is second to China in using e-commerce through digitization which is good news. Hailing the AP Government's



noble intervention in embracing technology as an engine of growth, Mr. Kalyan Krishnamurthy said it yielded good economic progress with strategic IT Policy.

New IR Facility at NSTL

VIS News Service

Naval Science and Technology Laboratory (NSTL) established a new Infra-Red (IR) test facility to study performance of Diesel Engine Infra-Red Signature Suppression (IRSS) systems being developed

by the laboratory for Indian Navy.

Inaugurating the facility, **Dr. Y. Sreenivas Rao**, Director, NSTL appreciated the team for designing and developing a unique facility that can simulate the exhaust gas

system of diesel engines of any make thereby avoiding multiple test facilities.



IIMV's Summer Intern records highest ever stipend @ Rs 3.5 lakhs

VIS News Service

The Indian Institute of Management Visakhapatnam (IIMV) recently marked the completion of its Summer Placements Drive for the MBA 2023 batch.

As per the institute IIMV this time too delivered 100% placements. In an official release by IIM it stated 'The Career Development Services (CDS) Office takes immense pride in announcing the results with the highest stipend witnessing a staggering 75% increase over the last year at INR 3,50,000 for the two-month internship; and an average stipend across the batch of INR 57,700'.

Held on a rolling basis, the summer placement season witnessed more than 60 companies participating in the process and making multiple offers.

IT/ITES continued to bet big on fresh talent accounting for 27% of the total offers made, followed by BFSI (22%), Consulting (12%), Manufacturing

Nippon Steel, HPCL and NSDC.

Director, IIM-Visakhapatnam, **Prof M Chandrasekhar**, said, "I congratulate our young

CDS Chair, **Prof Deepika Gupta** said, "I am ecstatic with the results and congratulate the students for such a fantastic achievement. Importantly,



(10%), EdTech (10%), E-Commerce (5%) and other sectors like FinTech and FMCG.

Prominent recruiters that reposed confidence in the Institute's talent include Microsoft, KPMG, YES Bank, ICICI Bank, Bosch, D.E. Shaw, Cognizant, ThermoFisher, ICICI Lombard, Mahindra Logistics, Latent View Analytics, Dalmia Bharat, TVS Credit, ArcelorMittal

talent for making the Institute proud, yet again. I strongly believe that our student-cohort will make a useful contribution to the operations of their recruiters, whom I thank profusely for the good learning opportunities provided".

I thank our recruiters for exhibiting continued faith and trust in our Institute,

Some of the Top Recruiters:

Microsoft | KPMG | ICICI Bank
COGNIZANT | Bosch | HPCL

making it a sought-after destination. The success tastes sweeter, as 80% of the batch comprises fresh graduates".

NSE's MoU with Chhattisgarh



VIS News Service

The Government of Chhattisgarh & NSE recently signed a MoU to fuel growth of MSME's in the State.

The MoU was exchanged between **Mr. Manoj**

Kumar Pingua, Principal Secretary, Department of Commerce & Industries, Government of Chhattisgarh and **Ms. Rachana Bhusari**, VP & Head - Primary Market, NSE.

Anantapur's Rs 729 cr Training Academy

VIS News Service

Union Finance Minister **Ms. Nirmala Sitharaman** recently participated at the ground-breaking ceremony for NACIN (National Academy of Customs, Indirect Taxes & Narcotics) academy. NACIN is being set up at

unveiled the plaque for NACIN at Palasamudram. Speaking on the occasion the FM **Ms. Sitharaman** said adequate compensation was paid in two villages of Anantapur under R&R package and informed that the academy will launch a training



Palasamudram village in Anantapur district with an investment of Rs. 729 crore. She said that it is expected to be completed by 2024.

As per the government NACIN was sanctioned for Anantapur in 2015 and it was the then Finance Minister **Arun Jaitley** who

program for IRS officers from September 2023.

The FM also assured that the Union government will provide all possible assistance to the state of Andhra Pradesh without any shortcomings and will see to it that there is no shortage of funds.

Naval Air School's Diamond Jubilee

VIS News Service

Naval Air Operations School recently celebrated its Diamond Jubilee. The event saw participation of serving officers and veterans including Gallantry award winners. The event marked 60 glorious years of training the school.

The inaugural address for the seminar was delivered by FOC-in-C, SNC and Key Note address was delivered by **Rear Admiral Philipose George Pynumootil**, Flag Officer Naval Aviation.

As part of the Diamond Jubilee Celebrations, a coffee table book depicting the history of the Naval Air Operations School to kindle nostalgic read for all novice and voracious readers was released.

Emphasising SDGs



VIS News Service

Andhra Pradesh's Finance minister **Mr. Buggana Rajendranath** recently presented the state's budget for the fiscal 2022-23.

The FM proposed an expenditure of Rs 2.56 lakh crore and a projected revenue deficit of Rs 17,036 crore.

The government earmarked an astounding

Rs 48,802 crore for social welfare schemes. This is said to be Rs 800 crores more on what the government spent in the current fiscal.

Emphasising on SDGs **Mr Buggana** said that the government realizes that SDGs (Sustainable Development Goals) are a broad framework. It is hard to imagine that these SDGs can be achieved without action at the

grassroots level and community empowerment said the FM.

He said that it was because of the government's single-minded focus on decentralized governance by building strong local institutions like Village/Ward Secretariats, Volunteer network, and Rythu Bharosa Kendras; by massive modernization of education and health systems; and by an unprecedented strengthening of women self-help groups that AP had performed exceedingly well on these parameters.

'Andhra Pradesh aims to be a leader among Indian states to successfully integrate SDGs with OBS (Outcome Budget Statement Model) to plan, monitor, and evaluate the progress of these interventions over a specified timeframe' said the state's finance minister.

Brandix's 77th Eye camp

Over 190 patients benefit from the free Eye check up



more than 190 patients screened for healthy eyesight. Apart from the normal treatment, more than 135

community healthcare initiative – Brandix free Eye camps. An initiative aimed to support the improved healthcare of the communities by providing free eye care. So far, more than 50,000 eye patients were benefited through Brandix India free Eye camps."

Doraswamy, India Partner, BIAC, **Mr. Saravanan Chandramouleeswaran**, Chief Operating Officer, BIAC, **Uditha Weerabahu**, General Manager – Human Resources, Brandix India Corporate, **Mr. Charith Wickramasuriya**, Head – Finance, BIAC and company employees were among those present in the eye camp.

VIS News Service

Recommencing its flagship community healthcare initiative, Brandix free Eye camps, Brandix India Apparel City (BIAC) recently organized its 77th free Eye Check-up camp under Brandix Bharat Trust (BBT).

Part of its healthcare drive for the well-being of the communities in the vicinity the free eye camp saw

patients were given free spectacles and cataract surgeries were done for more than 30 patients at free of cost. This free eye check-up camp was organized in partnership with Sankar Foundation.

Speaking on the initiative, **Mr. Doraswamy**, India Partner - Brandix India Apparel City said, "We are pleased to recommence the Brandix India's flagship

Worker Rights discussed

VIS News Service

As part of celebration of 'Iconic Week' under Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav during 7-13 March 2022, Chief Labor Commissioner (Central), Hyderabad region organized a program on 'Awareness generation and sensitization of workers about their rights and for employers regarding compliance and responsibilities under various labour laws', held at IIM Visakhapatnam permanent campus site at Gamberam, Visakhapatnam.



Regional Labor Commissioner (C), Visakhapatnam **Mr. SK Mohanty** delivered the introductory address highlighting the beneficial provisions under various labour laws. The Dy. CLC (C) Hyderabad **Mr. D Srinivasulu** highlighted the rights of the workers and responsibilities of the employers.

Ayurveda camp held at Tada

VIS News Service

In line with its commitment towards providing health care amenities for the people of the neighbouring areas, Sri City Foundation in association with Sri Tulasi Ayurvedic Hospital, Sri City recently organised a free health check-up camp. The health camp, was held at Tada. Commenting on the medical camp, **Mr. Ravindra Sannareddy**, Founder MD said, "Sri City has been undertaking various initiatives to promote health of people residing in and around our project.

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Celebrating Women Power

VIS News Service

Various organizations celebrated the international women's day with much zest and excitement. Hailing women for their invaluable contributions in their respective organizations women employees were seen felicitated and praised for the untiring work they carry out for their companies.



HSL: Addressing women employees on the occasion, **Ms. Vandana Khatri**, President, HS Ladies Welfare Association emphasized on the importance of work life

balance and contribution of women to family, society, organization and Nation. HSL has implemented various initiatives towards women empowerment she said and cited the dedicated women recreation room and medical room that have been inaugurated for welfare of women employees.

All women crew train flagged off: In connection with International Women's Day an all women crew passengers train was flagged off from Visakhapatnam to Rayagada by **Ms. Parijata Satpathy**,

President ECoRWWO The 3 women who drove



the goods train were loco pilot **Ms. Sadhana Kumari**, Assistant Loco Pilot **Ms N. Madhuri** and Goods Guard **Ms. K. Ramya**. The Three Ticket Checking staff were **Ms. C V G Mangeswari**, **Ms. B Khillar**, **Ms. D Radha**. This was the first time ever in East Coast Railway ran its first all-female crew manned passenger train. The inaugural function was witnessed by Vice Presidents of ECoRWWO **Ms. Kavita Gupta & Ms. Madhumita Sahoo**; Secretary **Ms. Priyanka Sridevi** and others.