



# VIZAG INDUSTRIAL SCAN

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## India's maize exports hit all-time high

VIS News Service

The export of maize has touched USD 816.31 million in the first ten months of current fiscal 2021-22 (April-January), already exceeding the USD 634.85 million achieved during the last financial year.

From an exports realization of USD 142.8 million in 2019-20, the export of maize increased nearly six fold, taking the total value of shipment to USD 1593.73 million in the last three years despite logistical challenges posed by the COVID19 pandemic outbreak. Neighbouring countries like Bangladesh and Nepal are the major importers of maize from India.

## UAE's Mulk Holdings comes to Andhra

Evinces to set up Rs 1500 cr Manufacturing plant



It is because of the positive policies of our CM to attract investments into the state Mulk holdings has come forward to invest in Andhra Pradesh.

Mr. Zulfi Ravdjee

Special Rep. GoAP, Middle East & Far East

VIS News Service

Following the state government's road show in the Dubai 2020 Expo Mulk holdings has

come forward evincing interest in setting up a manufacturing plant in the Kopparthi EMC, YSR district.

Mr. Nawab Shaji ul Mulk, Chairman, Mulk Holdings International along with Mr. Nawab Adnan ul Mulk, Vice Chairman, Mulk Holdings met Chief Minister Mr. YS Jagan Mohan Reddy at his Camp Office.

Headquartered in the UAE, Mulk Holdings operates in Europe, USA, Africa, India and the Middle East. The company has its Marketing and distribution network in over 100 countries and has a production base in UAE, Oman, Serbia, India, Turkey.

Contd. on Page ...5

## HSL moves into the Fast Lane

Inks tripartite MoU to mfg. Speed Boats

VIS News Service

Hindustan Shipyard Limited (HSL) has yet again taken a stride towards innovation and diversifying itself. The iconic shipyard recently entered into a tripartite MoU with Eker



Group (Norway) and Vaan are equipped with moto to explore future Navigation & business in the field of Communication equipment.

flexible solutions with superior maneuverability which can be operated from shore upto maximum speed of 75 Knots.

These boats with a complement of 4 crew and 4 passengers are equipped with Navigation & Communication equipment.

HSL, Kerala based Startup & Norwegian co to manufacture P-42

manufacturing high speed boats for accelerating business growth.

As per HSL these boats are high end boats with smart,

In addition these high-end platforms can easily adopt to the roles of Search &

Contd. on Page ...6

## AP ropes in USD 178 Million as FDI in CY21

Aditya Sabharwal

As per the ministry of commerce and industry the state of Andhra Pradesh received a total FDI equity inflow of USD 178.09 million in calendar year 2021 i.e. Jan 21 to Dec 21.

In regards to the sector the highest FDI was received by the consultancy services of USD 75.31 million followed by automobile industry at USD 29.78 million and electrical equipments at USD 26.60 million. The FDI into AP however



declined in CY21 compared to CY 20. AP had received USD 208.6 million in CY 20.

As per the GoI the highest FDI during the calendar year 2021 was received by the state of Karnataka at Rs 18,554 crores followed by Maharashtra at Rs 12,226 crores, Delhi at Rs 7647.63 crores, Tamil

Nadu at Rs 3023 crores and Gujarat at Rs 2709 crores.

As per Reserve Bank of India (RBI) data, total FDI inflow into the country was of US\$ 74.01 billion reported in calendar year 2021 compared to US\$ 87.55 billion in calendar year 2020. The total FDI inflow includes equity inflow, equity capital of unincorporated bodies, re-invested earnings and other capital. During the calendar year 2021, total FDI inflow of US\$ 74.01 billion has been reported in India.

## Mega Food park @ Krishna to be soon operational

VIS News Service

In order to make the Krishna district a centre for food processing the mega food park at Mallavalli of Krishna district will get a core procession centre by April.



Giving this information APIIC chairman Mr.

Mettu Govinda Reddy said that the food park will come up on an area of 57.95 acres and that a huge core processing centre (CPC) was already established with an estimated cost of Rs 86 crore on an area of 7.48 acres.

It was further informed that right from processing pulp and juice from raw fruits, packing in various sizes and export facilities will be provided at the CPCs. All kinds of fruits, juices, powders will be packed in required quantities. Laboratories to test the quality of food products were also established at the CPC.

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**IN BRIEF**

**SAIL employees excel at VRP awards**

The employees of Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) made an impressive mark in the ceremony of Vishwakarma Rashtriya Puraskar (VRP) given for the performance year 2018. The prestigious national awards were given away by the Minister for Labour & Employment, Environment, Forest & Climate Change, **Mr. Bhupender Yadav** in New Delhi recently. 52 awardees, out of the total 96 award winners belong to SAIL representing 54% of the total winners. In a separate program, **Ms. Soma Mondal**, Chairman, SAIL felicitated the VRP winning employees.



**CIL auctions 160.5 MT coal under E-auctioning**

Union Minister of Coal **Mr. Pralhad Joshi** informed the Rajya Sabha that Coal India Limited (CIL) has not stopped conducting of e-auction for any period during this fiscal. During this fiscal (till February'22) CIL has offered a quantity of 160.5 Million Tonne (MT) under various windows of e-auction, out of which a quantity of 100.1 MT has been allocated. There is no shortage of coal at power plants and power plants are having coal stock of 26.398 MT as on 08.03.22. Moreover, CIL is having a pit-head stock of around 45 MT along with daily production of 2.5 MT/day. Some Power plants are not able to build sufficient coal stock due to payment issues.

**NMDC Shines at the Rough Diamond Auction**

NMDC conducted an e-auction for sale of rough diamonds produced at its Panna Diamond mines located in the state of Madhya Pradesh. The e-auction received an overwhelming response from Diamond merchants of Surat, Mumbai and Panna. About 8337 Carats of rough diamonds, produced prior to Dec'20, were offered in the auction and almost 100% of the quantity received winning bids. NMDC's Diamond Mining Project at Majhgawan - Panna happens to be the only mechanised diamond mine in the country. **Mr. Sumit Deb**, CMD, NMDC said, NMDC has been in the sphere of mining for over six decades now.



**Seminar on SAPat RINL**

RINL- VSP Director (Finance) **Mr. VV Venugopal Rao**, inaugurated a one-day Seminar on "Developments in SAP- Internal Audit Perspective" at Management Development Centre of RINL - Visakhapatnam Steel Plant recently. The Internal Audit & Stock Verification (IA&SV) Department organised the seminar. Mr. Venugopal Rao, in his address mentioned about the need of continuous learning and improvement in technical aspects in the field of Auditing. He also urged the participants to be familiar with the latest changes which are happening in the fields of GST and other tax regimes.

**Production of iron ore increased by 27%**

Union Minister of Coal, Mines and Parliamentary Affairs **Mr. Pralhad Joshi** informed the Lok Sabha that the total production of iron ore in India increased by 27% during 2021-22 (April-January) as compared to the same period of the previous year. In the states of Andhra Pradesh, Goa and Maharashtra, the production of iron ore decreased during this period. The Government has taken various steps to increase production and availability of iron ore, which inter-alia include Mining and Mineral Policy reforms to ensure enhanced production.

**NMDC creates history in iron ore production**

**Registers 40 Million Tonnes (MT) of production**

VIS News Service

Mining major NMDC became the first company in the country to cross 40 million tonnes (MT) iron ore production in a year.

From a production of 4 MTPA in the late 1960s to 40 million tonnes now, the growth trajectory of the

domestic iron ore demand, the company has been rolling out ambitious expansion plans and capex outlay in pursuit of enhanced production.

In recent times, NMDC has adopted cutting-edge technology and built a transformational digital infrastructure to overcome Covid induced slowdowns

accept challenges despite all odds. The company's perseverance and consistency has paid off and I congratulate the team for this historic accomplishment. I am confident that we will continue to cross many more milestones on our way to fulfil Nation's vision of Aatmanirbhar Bharat.



I am confident that we will continue to cross many more milestones on our way to fulfil Nation's vision of Aatmanirbhar Bharat.

**Mr. Sumit Deb,**  
CMD, NMDC

largest iron ore producer of the country has been exceptional.

Starting from 4 million tonnes in 1969-70, NMDC crossed 10 million tonnes in 1977-78, added another ten million by 2004-05, crossed 30 million tonnes within a decade and has now breached the 40 million mark stated an official release from the company.

Keeping pace with the constant surge in the

and the cyclical volatilities in the sector.

Congratulating the team on the historic achievement, **Mr Sumit Deb**, Chairman and Managing Director, NMDC said, "NMDC's ground-breaking achievement of becoming the first iron ore mining company in India to cross 40 MT is an illustrious display of its ability to

This achievement also shows that we are on the track to become a 100 MTPA company by 2030."

The company has set a target of becoming a 100 MTPA company by 2030. The CPSE also plans to leverage their expertise in moving towards a multi-mineral outlook with coal, diamond, gold and other strategic minerals of national interest in their portfolio.

**CIL to Produce 1Bn Ton**

VIS News Service

Union Minister of Coal, Mines and Parliamentary Affairs **Mr. Pralhad Joshi** informed the Rajya Sabha that as per the draft report of NitiAayog, the coal demand is expected to remain in the range of 1,192-1,325 million tonnes by 2030. A plan to increase all India coal production to the level of 1 BT by 2023-24 and coal production by Coal India Limited to 1 BT by 2024-25 has been prepared. The resultant increase in coal availability will be able to meet the demand of coal to the extent available.

CIL has taken the following steps to achieve the target of augmentation of coal production capacity.

15 Projects identified with a Capacity of about 160 MTPA (Million Tonnes per Annum) to be operated by Mine Developer cum Operator mode.

Capacity addition through special dispensation in Environment Clearance under clause 7(ii) of Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) 2006

**'Need Strategy for 300MT tonnes'**

VIS News Service

Speaking at a National Conference on "Making India Atmanirbhar in Steel - Role of Secondary Steel Sector" Union Minister of Steel, **Mr. Ram Chandra Prasad Singh** said that industry has made great strides in production by moving from 22 million tonnes in 1991 to 120 million tonnes in 2021-22.

Strategy needs to be devised to reach target of 300 million tonnes by 2030 and 500 million tonnes by 2047. The Minister said that increase of Iron ore production and other needed raw materials need

proper strategic directions with suitable policy support. There is an urgent need to move towards green steel and PM has ambitious vision on Hydrogen. Iron and steel industry will be big beneficiary as coal can be replaced by Hydrogen and our dependency on import of coal also will reduce.

The Conference was organised with aim of providing a platform to players in the Secondary Steel sector to share their views on the challenges faced by the sector and ways in which the Ministry can create an ecosystem in which the industry can thrive.

**Sadashiv New Dir. (C) at NALCO**

VIS News Service

**Mr. Sadashiv Samantaray** has recently taken charge as the new Director (Commercial) of NALCO.

Mr. Samantaray is a graduate in Mechanical Engineering from G.B.Pant University of Agriculture and Technology, Pantnagar and MBA from Utkal University. After joining NALCO as a Graduate Engineer Trainee of the second batch in 1985, he has acquired more than 36 years of experience in technical and commercial areas of the organization. He has been instrumental



in introducing many new initiatives in the company like MOU system with customers, LME linked pricing mechanism etc, and development of an efficient and effective logistics system for effective supply chain and cost savings.

**'India to remain Coal Centric Economy'**

VIS News Service

Coal will continue to remain a primary source energy in the country wherein the demand for the fossil fuel is said to further increase.

Giving a written reply in Rajya Sabha recently the Union Minister of Coal,

Mines and Parliamentary Affairs **Mr. Pralhad Joshi** said that he doesn't see energy transition away from coal in the foreseeable future.

'Although there will be push for renewable/non-fossil based energy, but share of coal in the energy

basket is going to remain significant in years ahead.

Coal demand in the country is yet to peak', informed the minister.

The draft Economic Survey 2021-22 projects coal

demand in the range of 1.3-1.5 billion tonnes by 2030, an increase of 63 per cent from the current demand.

Thus, as of now there is no scenario of energy transition away from coal affecting any stakeholders involved in coal mining.



## French Transport Minister visits JNPA

*Looks to Strengthen co-operation in port trade*

VIS News Service

French Minister for Transport **Mr. Jean-Baptiste Djebbari** recently visited Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority (JNPA), India's premier container port, as a part to elevate Indo-French relations in the land, air, and sea transport with sustainable solutions at the core of it.

The French Minister for Transport discussed the contribution of French companies to developing Indian ports and logistics value chain, along with the execution of the joint master plan on the blue economy.

During his visit to JNPA, a presentation was displayed giving them a glimpse of the projects at JNPA. Later, they were taken for a port visit.

At the time of the port tour, they were shown the overall functioning of the port and the latest development work in the port.



While interacting with the French Transport Minister and other delegates **Mr. Unmesh Shard Wagh**, IRS, Dy. Chairman, JNPA, said, "JNPA promotes and emphasizes on the sustainable solutions and land and sea transport systems, enabling meaningful participation in

social and economic activities. JNPA provides multi-modal facilities and several projects that enable ease of operation that gives the finest experience to our customers and stakeholders."

Talking about Indo-French relations, he added, "India and France are interested in progressive advancement in maritime domain and port sector and are also both enthusiastic trading partners."

Minister of State for Transport of France **Jean-Baptiste Djebbari** appreciated JNPA's green port initiatives and the steps taken towards sustainable development.

## APM T's New Value Add Service

VIS News Service

APM Terminals Mumbai (Gateway Terminals India - GTI) introduces new value-added service for its customers. The terminal is providing the rail service to reposition the empty containers to the shipping lines, ICDs and CFSs. The shipping lines and trade can

re-position their empty inventory by rail from our terminals to ICD, ICD to the terminal or even ICD to ICD (via terminal), said APM.

This will help decongestion on roads, reduce turnaround time for empty boxes whilst providing greater visibility of the inventory position to the

customers to plan their supply chain. As part of the new service, it welcomed the first rake of Navkar Corporation Limited - a leading CFS, ICD & Container Trains Operator; at its terminal from their ICD Tumb in Gujarat on 16th March 2022.

## SCR records Rs. 10,000 Crore Revenue in Freight Loading

VIS News Service

South Central Railway has crossed a major milestone in freight revenue in the current financial year. The zone recorded a whopping Rs. 10,000 crores in freight revenue for the year 2021-22 (from April, 2021 upto March 17th, 2022) by loading 112.51 Million Tonnes (MTs).

SCR's conscious efforts in capturing new traffic and in improving the existing traffic have resulted in achievement of this endeavor, stated an official release from SCR.

The growth in freight loading has been across



continuous monitoring of the movement of freight trains has helped in increasing 17.7% in revenue and 17.3% in loading as compared to the previous financial year i.e., 2020-2021.

Some of the major contributors for this growth were commodities such as Coal with loading of 53.78 MTs, Cement with 32.339 MTs, Food grains with 7.980

- Coal 53.78 MT
- Cement 32.33 MT
- Food Grains 7.98 MT
- Fertilizers 5.92 MT

the entire freight segment, with all commodities witnessing higher loading levels.

The relentless efforts of SCR officials to attract freight business towards Railways combined with

Introduction of various freight incentive schemes and enhancement of freight handling facilities including infrastructure at several way-side stations has helped in registering robust growth in both freight revenue and loading. In addition, the newly formed business development units (BDU) at both divisional and zonal level have contributed its might in improving the zonal freight basket.

**Mr. Sanjeev Kishore**, General Manager appreciated the SCR team for their committed efforts in registering best freight loading figures and also achieving the 10,000-crore revenue landmark in the freight revenue segment.

## Alphonso & Kesar mango exported to Japan

VIS News Service

In a major boost to export, Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) facilitated Season's first consignment of fresh Mangoes export from Mumbai to Japan on March 26, 2022.

Alphonso and Kesar varieties of Mangoes was exported by M/s. Berrydale Foods (OPC) Pvt. Ltd., a registered exporter of

APEDA to M/s. Lawson Retail Chain, Japan.

These mangoes were treated and packed at APEDA approved

**Mango festival organised in Tokyo**

Maharashtra State Agricultural Marketing Board (MSAMB)'s facility. A mango festival is being organised in Tokyo, Japan as a part of Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav, in

collaboration with Embassy of India, Japan & Invest India today (March 28, 2022), wherein Mango exhibition & tasting will be done at various outlets of Lawson super markets.

APEDA, a Statutory Body under the Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India, is the nodal agency for promoting Indian agro and processed food

exports and is responsible for facilitating and promoting



export of horticulture, floriculture, processed food, poultry products, dairy and other agro products.

## APSEZ cargo volumes zoom to 300 MMT

VIS News Service

A dani Ports and Special Economic Zone Ltd (APSEZ), the largest integrated transport utility in India has crossed a historic milestone by handling 300 MMT of cargo well ahead of the year end (March 2022).

"The acceleration of our cargo volumes is a manifestation of our ability to continue to execute on our strategy," said **Mr.**

**Karan Adani**, CEO and Whole Time Director, APSEZ.



We are confident of reaching our goal of 500 MMT by 2025 and emerge as the world's largest private ports company by 2030."

## Program on Import of Fresh Fruits

VIS News Service

As part of its client outreach program and enhancing Ease of Doing

Business environment, Cochin Port in association with FSSAI and Cochin Customs Brokers' Association had recently organized an Awareness

Program on Import of Fresh Fruits. The session on the topic 'General Overview on Import of Fresh Fruits' was taken by an Authorised Officer, FSSAI Cochin.

### COCHIN PORT TRUST



Giving the inaugural address **Dr. M. Beena IAS**, Chairperson, Cochin Port, exhorted the members of Trade to

ensure compliance of regulatory provisions, emphasized the need for a proactive disposition by all the Participating Government Agencies (PGAs) to facilitate the promotion of trade.

She congratulated FSSAI for coming forward for the interactive session to enlighten the members of the trade about the procedures to be followed for the importation of fresh fruits.

## GTI - JNPA resolve pending issue

VIS News Service

APM Terminals Mumbai [GTI - Gateway Terminals India Pvt. Ltd.] and Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority (JNPA) have signed a Settlement Agreement to reach an amicable solution and resolve a decade-long pending issue on Tariff related matter pertaining to the year 2012.

As per an official release from APM Terminals the principles of the Settlement Agreement were formulated by the

Conciliation and Settlement Committee (CSC) as per the guidelines issued by the Indian Port Association (an apex body of Major Ports under the administrative control of the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways) for settlement of pending issues between the operators and the port authority at Major Ports in India. The calculations on tariff differential will be done post the court orders said the release.

Speaking on the occasion **Mr. Freddy Svane**, Ambassador of Royal Danish Embassy mentioned, This is a progressive step in creating



an environment of trust and ease of doing business for investors.

**IN BRIEF**

**AIIMS Ex-dir. appointed as GIMSR Pro VC**

All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS-Bhubaneswar) former Director **Dr. Gitanjali Batmanabane** recently took charge as Pro Vice-Chancellor, GITAM Institute of Medical Sciences and Research (GIMSR). Dr. Batmanabane also served as the Professor and HOD of Pharmacology Department of JIPMER, Puducherry and Convener, MCI Regional Centre for Faculty Development Programs. She had worked with the World Health Organization (WHO) particularly acted as head of WHO Collaborating Centre for Training and Research in Essential Medicines and Rational Use of Medicines. GITAM President **Mr. M. Sribharath** expressed that under the leadership of Dr. Gitanjali Batmanabane the teaching and research in GIMSR will reach new heights in coming years.



Dr. Batmanabane also served as the Professor and HOD of Pharmacology Department of JIPMER, Puducherry and Convener, MCI Regional Centre for Faculty Development Programs. She had worked with the World Health Organization (WHO) particularly acted as head of WHO Collaborating Centre for Training and Research in Essential Medicines and Rational Use of Medicines. GITAM President **Mr. M. Sribharath** expressed that under the leadership of Dr. Gitanjali Batmanabane the teaching and research in GIMSR will reach new heights in coming years.

**Next PF near you on April 11**

The next 'Nidhi Aapke Nikat' or 'PF near you' will be held on April 11th 2022 at regional office, marripalem vuda layout, Visakhapatnam. All employees' provident fund subscribers as well as employers and other stakeholders of Visakhapatnam district having any grievances/issues are therefore requested to refer the same before the regional PF commissioner on or before April 5th 2022. They may register their grievances either through post/courier/fax no 0891-2558734/Email address ro.vizag@epfindia.gov.in.

**ENC chief visits Western Naval Command**

**Vice Admiral Biswajit Dasgupta**, AVSM, YSM, VSM, Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Eastern Naval Command recently visited Mumbai. On arrival, the Admiral laid the wreath at the Gaurav Stambh, Naval Dockyard (Mumbai) and was presented the Guard of Honour. Thereafter, he called on **Vice Admiral Ajendra Bahadur Singh**, PVSM, AVSM, VSM, ADC, Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Western Naval Command. The combined Area of Responsibility of the Western & Eastern Naval Commands is about ten times the landmass of India. The two Commanders-in-Chief discussed various issues of operational importance towards enhancing India's maritime security.



**Talk on Quality Mgmt. at NSTL**

In commemoration of AzadiKaAmritMahotsav and as part of moving towards Aatmanirbhar Bharat initiative, Quality & Reliability Directorate of Naval Science & Technological Laboratory (NSTL), Visakhapatnam recently invited **Mr. A Madhusudan**, Scientist 'G', Group Head QA of Advanced Naval Systems Programme (ANSP), Hyderabad to deliver a talk on "Quality Management System (QMS)" in the process of building robust quality culture at the laboratory. Mr. A Madhusudan showed the roadmap on how QMS be achieved through coexistence of Quality Control (QC), Quality Assurance (QA) and continually Quality Improvement (QI) process.



**DCIL & Cochin Shipyard do a First**

*Sign pact to build India's 1st Trailing suction Hopper Dredger*



*This a historic moment for India and the world as Beagle 12 series dredger will be the first of its kind.*

**Prof. Dr. GYV Victor,**  
MD and CEO, DCI.

VIS News Service

**D**redging Corporation of India and Cochin Shipyard Limited recently signed a historic Ship Building Agreement for the First Make in India Project for Construction of First Beagle Series 12 Trailing Suction Hopper Dredger (TSHD) of 12000 Cubic Meter capacity.

Emphasising the need for having sufficient dredgers Union Minister of Ports Shipping & Waterways & Ayush **Mr. Sarbananda Sonowal** said it is of utmost importance for timely completion of dredging and

the new dredgers would be able to bring in much needed efficiency and timely completion of dredging.

As per the ministry the dredger to be built under the 'AtmaNirbhar Bharat' concept is one of the largest initiatives under Atmanirbhar Bharat and is a true reflection of international Collaboration for Make in India.

He further informed that this Ship Building Agreement would also benefit from the Shipbuilding Financial Assistance Policy (SFAP)

(2016) of the Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways for Indian Shipyards for shipbuilding contracts secured between 01.04.2016 and 31.03.2026.

Financial assistance is granted under this policy to Indian Shipyards equal to 17% of the lower of "Contract Price" or the "Fair Price" or "actual payments received", whichever is least. He said a provision of Rs. 4,000 Crore has been made for ten-year period, viz. 2016-2026.

He also said the Ministry has issued Dredging Guidelines at Major Ports to ensure that the dredge material has to be taken up for recycling and reuse based on scientific study.

Mr Sonowal also thanked IHC Holland which is the technology partner for this project and stated that this Ship Building Agreement is a very good example of Indo-Dutch collaboration in the Make in India initiative and in strengthening the long-standing Maritime relationship between the two countries.

**Rajneesh new Dir. - Finance, HPCL**

VIS News Service

**Mr. Rajneesh Narang** has recently taken over as Director - Finance of HPCL. Prior to this, he was serving as Executive Director - Corporate Finance of HPCL. He is



also the Chief Financial Officer of the Company.

Mr. Narang is a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India and holds a Masters Degree in Financial Management. Mr. Narang brings with him rich and varied professional experience of more than 3 decades across various spectrum of Downstream Oil Company, during which he has held various challenging assignments in the field of Corporate Finance, Treasury, Risk Management, Margin Management & Marketing Finance.

**Govt to provide training to weavers**

VIS News Service

**S**rikakulam District Collector **Mr. Srikrishna Lathakar** has said that more training will be imparted to aspiring handloom workers. He was the chief guest at a meeting organized by NABARD recently, which trained handloom workers through charaka-knitting charities. On the occasion he said that he wanted to further enhance the quality of handloom textiles. He said 180 people have been trained and will facilitate marketing after the cloth is made. We will provide training, finance and supply raw material, etc. to the interested workers. Union and state Finance ministers, who visited the district last year, said they would provide necessary facilities to the handloom workers. He called on women to move forward with self-reliance.

**Waltair div. gives India its first stainless steel foot-over-bridge**

VIS News Service

**T**he Waltair Division of East Coast Railway has provided a Foot Over Bridge at Naupada Railway station. This is said to be India's first-ever stainless steel foot-over-bridge (FOB) opened for public usage.

The work had been assigned to Jindal Steel Company, that fabricated most cost-effective and superior quality stainless steel for structural applications - Jindal Durasafe. This state-of-the-art FOB was opened for public usage by Divisional Railway Manager, Waltair Division **Mr Anup Satpathy** along with Divisional Officers and Jindal Stainless' senior management including Director, **Mr Tarun Khulbe** and Sales Head, **Mr Rajeev Garg**.

This is for the first time in Indian Railways that

Stainless Steel Girder is used for an FOB. The Codal Life of this stainless-steel FOB is 125 years as per RDSO. Being in the coastal area, this Stainless Steel Structure will be corrosion free and life will be much more than that of

any normal mild steel FOB stated a release from Waltair division. Lauding this achievement, DRM Mr Anup Satpathy said, "India's coastal railway infrastructure has, for long, been marred by corrosion. We congratulate Jindal Stainless for developing an optimum stainless steel grade to rise to the challenge. RDSO's approval on the grade strengthens our confidence in this choice. We look

forward to strengthening India's railway infrastructure with sustainable choices going forward as well."

On this milestone, Managing Director, Jindal Stainless, **Mr Abhyuday Jindal** said, "This foot-over-bridge ushers in an era of sustainable infrastructure in stainless steel and Jindal Stainless is proud to collaborate with Railways for this momentous challenge. We are committed to providing tailor-made, corrosion-free, and eco-friendly solutions for the Indian climatic conditions, and bolster the Atmanirbhar spirit of the Indian stainless steel industry. I congratulate the government and Indian Railways for their visionary decision-making.



# IIMV Dir. gets Term extension

**Aims to take IIMV among top 20 B Schools**

VIS News Service

**P**rofessor Chandrasekhar has been appointed by the Board of Governors of the Indian Institute of Management Visakhapatnam, for a second term of five years with effect from 22 March 2022.

Professor Chandrasekhar had taken charge as the founder Director of IIM Visakhapatnam on 22 March 2017.

Speaking on the occasion, Professor Chandrasekhar said "I am humbled at the Board's enduring confidence and trust in me. My sincere gratitude to the Ministry of Education, GoI; and to the Government of

AP for their invaluable support to me and to the Institute at large, in its growth and development. Our discerning Board comprising members of



eminence and distinguished IIM Alumni has been a great source of encouragement, inspiration and strength. It is on the strength of such guidance and support that the Institute could lead in many initiatives and carve out a distinctive place for itself,

with several firsts to its credit".

"The vision of the Institute would be to rank among the top 20 business schools of the country in the next five years" added Professor Chandrasekhar. Professor Chandrasekhar is an engineer and management professional by training.

IIM Visakhapatnam is one of 7 IIMs established by the central government in 2015. It has grown well in a short span of 6 years and is today counted among the best on several parameters such as faculty strength, learning outcomes, research output, executive placements, entrepreneurship development etc.

The GRIHA five-star rated permanent campus of the Institute is taking shape on a 241-acre campus in Gambheeram Village of Anandapuram Mandal.

# Tourism meet at Vizag in April

VIS News Service

**T**ourism Minister Mr. Muttamsetti Srinivasa Rao said that a Tourism meet would be held at VUDA Children's theatre in Visakhapatnam on April 16. The Minister who recently held a meet with tourism investors and industrialists said that the State government has decided to make Andhra Pradesh best in Tourism sector with Public Private Partnership (PPP).

The Minister also discussed on eco-tourism and organic tourism.

**SIDBI Thematic Assistance for Purchase of capital Assets in New Enterprises (STHAPAN)**

**Objective:**

- Financial assistance to Greenfield Units for setting up new units which includes:
  - purchase of land,
  - construction of factory building,
  - purchase of equipment, plant & MFA etc.

**Target Group:**

- MSMEs setting up units in identified sectors under Production Linked Incentive Scheme (as per the list identified by GoI), high growth / sunrise sectors and other important sectors

**Interest Rate and Repayment:**

- Interest Rate- 6.00% to 7.30% p.a. for first year with reset applicable thereafter (as per internal rating)
- Repayment - Generally upto 7 years
- Moratorium - Upto 2 years

**Key Features:**

- Attractive RoI
- Quicker sanction

**Eligibility:**

- New Entities or Greenfield units are eligible
- Promoters should have minimum 5 years of business experience
- Promoters Contribution - Minimum 25%
- Standard Norm apply (CIBIL/CMR, due diligence etc.)

**Loan Amount:**

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**Validity of Scheme :**

- Upto March 31, 2022 for sanctions

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# 6100 Rly. stations with Wi-Fi

VIS News Service

**T**he High Speed Free Wi-Fi Internet Facility has now become available at 6100 Railway stations across the country.

The milestone of 6100 stations with Wi-Fi coverage was reached with the commissioning of Wi-Fi facility at UBARNI Railway station (Rae

Bareilly district, UP) over Lucknow Division of Northern Railway. With this, we are close to 100% coverage (except the halt stations) and only a few stations are left. RailTel is providing state-of-the-art public Wi-Fi under the brand name of 'RailWire' which is the retail broadband service of RailTel. Students, especially

competitive examination aspirants from remote locations with limited access to internet, use the station Wi-Fi facilities for their examination preparations.

Talking about it, **Mr. Puneet Chawla**, Chairman & Managing Director, RailTel said, RailTel is at the forefront of National Digital Transformation activities.

# Shobha to Head CII IWN Southern Region

VIS News Service

**T**he CII IWN Southern Region recently elected the office-bearers for the year 2022-23.

Director, Alpha India Pvt Ltd, Hyderabad **Ms. Shobha Dixit**, has taken over as the Chairwoman of IWN Southern Region.

Patra India BPO Services, Vizag Managing Director, **Ms. Lakshmi**



**Mukkavilli**, has taken over as the Deputy Chairwoman of CII IWN Southern Region for the year 2022-23.

# 'Every woman must utilise Disha App'

VIS News Service

**T**he Chief Minister **YS Jagan Mohan Reddy** told the officials that the Disha Act should reach every household and every woman should utilise the Disha App in the State.

Speaking at a review meeting on the Disha App and the enforcement of the law, he said that we must move forward with the slogan of welfare and safety of every women in the AP.

# UAE's Mulk Holdings comes to Andhra

Contd. from Page 1

The visiting individuals shared with the CM on Mulk Holdings Business Plan in AP.

Mulk plans to Manufacture aluminium coils, high performance paints used for coil coating, production of aluminium coil coating production lines, film manufacturing unit, mineral line course production lines, aluminium composite panels panelling, aluminium composite panels etc.

'It is because of the positive policies of our chief minister Mr Jagan Mohan Reddy in attracting investments into the state that Mulk holdings has come forward to invest in Andhra Pradesh' said Mr Zulfi Ravdjee, Special representative, GoAP to Middle east and Far east (Cabinet Rank) speaking to *Vizag Industrial Scan*.

Mulk Holdings had signed a MoU with the AP government during the visit of the late Industry's

# Skim man to Head Hyd. Press Club



VIS News Service

**Mr. Laveti Venugopal Naidu**, a resident of Srikakulam district and a resident of Rajam Mandal Gadimudi, has been elected as the President of the Hyderabad Press Club for the two Telugu states. Mr. Naidu is currently working as an Assistant Chief Correspondent for a daily newspaper in Hyderabad. The election was held recently. 93 per cent of the 1152 members exercised their right to vote in the election.

**Mr. Satya Rao**, former president of the JAPPA, congratulated Venugopal Naidu on his election.

# Event on Mitigating Climate change & Poverty Alleviation

VIS News Service

**V**EDA Climate Change Solutions Ltd (VCCSL), an enviro-social enterprise recently organized a brainstorming session in the City of Destiny to explore opportunities for developing projects integrating climate change mitigation and poverty alleviation strategies to provide local as well as global benefits on sustainability.

VCCSL is said to have successfully developed and is implementing a United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) registered Afforestation / Reforestation (A/R) Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) project "Improving Rural Livelihoods (IRL) through Carbon Sequestration by adopting environment friendly technology based agro-forestry practices (UNFCCC No.4531)" in

partnership with JK Paper Mills, Rayagada and BioCarbon Fund established by The World Bank.

As per VCCSL the IRL project benefits more than 1500 small farmers in Odisha and Andhra Pradesh through plantations raised on 1600 hectares of degraded lands.

VCCSL and JKPL have entered into an Emission Reduction Purchase Agreement (ERPA) with The World Bank and the participating farmers of this innovative project received additional revenue from the sale of carbon credits for the first time in India after first verification in 2012.

Some of the eminent speakers at the event included **Dr. M. Satyanarayana**, President,

Veda Climate Change Solutions Ltd, **Mr. Biswajeet Dwivedi**, Vice President (Commercial), JKPL, **Mr. Anant Shankar**, IFS, Divisional Forest Officer, Visakhapatnam, **Mr.**



**Chaitanya Sure** (Climate Partner, Munich), **Dr. C.B.S. Dutt** (Senior Scientist, NRSC), **B.P. Ratho** (General Manager, JKPL), **Ms. Manali Bhaduri Mr. G. Prasad Babu** (CEO, Geo Climate Risk Solutions) and **Mr. A.J Rao**, Environment Expert, **Mr. Sai Kishore Nellore** (Executive Director, VCCSL) participated in the deliberations.

**To manufacture:**

- Aluminium coils
- High performance paints used for coil coating,
- Film manufacturing unit
- Aluminium composite panels

With an investment of Rs 1,500 crores the plant aims to create direct and indirect employment opportunities for 1000 people and 2000 people respectively.

Minister Mekapati Gautam Reddy in Dubai.

Industries special chief secretary Mr Karikal Valaven, APIIC MD and Mr. VC Subramanyam and other officials were also present in the meeting.

## 'More than 2 IPR apps filed by Naval personnel every month'

VIS News Service

The apex body of the Naval Innovation and Indigenisation Organisation (NIO),



Naval Technology Acceleration Council (NTAC) held its 2nd meeting at New Delhi recently.

Chaired by VAdm SN Ghormade, Vice Chief of Naval Staff, the NTAC reviewed the ongoing and proposed indigenisation and innovation cases.

It was noted that on an average more than two IPR applications have been filed by naval personnel every month since the launch of the NIO by the

RakshaMantri on 13 August 2020.

Patent applications have been filed for military specific as well as dual-use innovations. Many dual use products have already been transferred to the MSMEs for mass production through the National Research & Development Corporation

(NRDC) and the Rashtriya Raksha University

Indian Navy has been at the forefront of indigenisation with a fully functional and dynamic Directorate of Indigenisation. Additionally, a technology Development Acceleration Cell (TDAC) has been created under NIO to focus on innovation.

Major initiatives towards Indigenisation include industry outreach programmes (conducted at Ahmedabad, Bhubaneswar and Coimbatore) and the proposal set up a center for Indigenisation and Self-Reliance (CISR).

TDAC also engages with the academia and the industry in addition to channeling in-house naval innovations.

## Indian Navy's CoE (ME) recognised by MSDE



VIS News Service

The Centre of Excellence (Marine Engineering), INS Shivaji has been recognised as a Centre of Excellence in the field of Marine Engineering by the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE).

The recognition certificate was handed over by the Secretary MSDE, Mr.

The Centre of Excellence (Marine Engineering), INS Shivaji was set up in 2014 with a broad mandate including induction of niche technologies for naval applications, undertaking quality research in collaboration with R&D and academic institutes of repute and providing engineering solutions for field level issues. The

**Recognition to further cement INS Shivaji's standing as a preferred training establishment for Friendly Foreign Navies in the field of Marine Engineering.**

Rajesh Aggarwal, IAS to Commodore Arvind Rawal, Commanding Officer, INS Shivaji at the Ministry Headquarters.

Recognition as the Centre of Excellence by MSDE is first of its kind for any military organisation and an indication of the establishment's sustained efforts towards skill and technology development.

Centre was accorded the recognition after a thorough evaluation of the infrastructure & facilities available at INS Shivaji and the training being imparted towards enhancing the skills of personnel of Indian Navy, Friendly Foreign Navies and the entire ecosystem.

## AU inks MoU with DFRL

VIS News Service

The prestigious Defence Food Testing Research Lab (DFRL) is partnering with the management of the ambitious Food Testing Research Lab being set up at AU. AU Registrar Prof V. Krishnamohan and DFRL Director Dr. Anil Dutt Semwal signed the MoUs in the presence of AU V-C Prof PVGD Prasada Reddy at a function held at DFRL premises in Mysore recently.

DFRL will provide technical assistance and technical assistance to the Foot Testing Lab as part of the Memorandum of Understanding. Andhra University provides basic facilities like building, technical equipment, setting up of laboratories. DFRL will provide the intellectual and technical support needed to train students in food science and technology related fields, and to conduct research in this field more broadly.

Speaking on the occasion, AU VC Prof PVGD Prasada Reddy said, "We are setting up Foot Testing Research Lab, Pharma Testing Lab and Genetic Testing Lab as part of our efforts to make AU a national research hub.

## HSL moves into the Fast Lane



**Roping in of P-42 boat advanced technology is a step towards providing quality products to our customers. C&MD, Hemant Khatri**

Contd. from Page 1

Rescue, surveillance, Anti-Submarine Warfare, Mine Counter measures, ambulance, fire, harbour control & close protection.

'HSL being a premium shipyard of the country has continuously strived towards strengthening the profile diversity through adapting modern technologies. Roping in of P-42 boat advanced technology into HSL arena is a step towards achieving its ultimate goal of providing quality products to our customers' said HSL's C&MD, Hemant Khatri speaking to Vizag Industrial Scan.

"EKER" is a well reputed Norwegian company which designs, constructs and sells professional boats, especially suitable for defence and law enforcement.

"VAAN" is an Indian private limited startup

involved in the manufacture of parts and accessories for motor vehicles and their engines, brakes, gear boxes, axles, road wheels, suspension etc. HSL is collaborating with the EKER group as well as the upcoming Indian Startup Vaanmoto for manufacturing the high speed boats in India under Atmanirbhar Bharat initiative.

CMD, HSL highlighted that this will enhance the potential and technical capabilities of HSL as well as of the country by getting the Smart High Speed Boats.

**What is P-42?**

P-42 is a super-speed boat with a proven speed of 70 Knots and with a Dimensional strength of 7G having the capability of facing more beating, higher speeds in harsh and rough conditions of sea when other vessels breakdown.

## MoD signs Rs 887 crs with L&T

**To build MPVs @ L&T plant Kattupally**

VIS News Service

The Ministry of Defence recently signed a contract with M/s Larsen & Toubro Ltd. for acquisition of Two Multi-Purpose Vessels (MPVs) for the Indian Navy at an overall cost of Rs.887 Crore under "Buy-Indian" Category.

The contract was signed in the presence of VAdm SN Ghormade, Vice Chief of the Naval Staff and Mr. Pankaj Agarwal, Additional Secretary & Director General Acquisition. Delivery of vessels is scheduled to commence from May 2025.

MPVs will be the first of its kind platform, constructed to provide a cost-effective solution to meet a variety of requirements of the Indian Navy. These vessels, to be

built by M/s L&T shipyard at Kattupally (Chennai), will perform multi-role support functions such as maritime surveillance & patrol, launching/recovery of torpedoes and operation of various types of aerial,



surface and underwater targets for Gunnery/ASW firing exercises. These vessels would also be capable of towing ships and rendering Humanitarian Assistance & Disaster Relief (HADR) support with limited hospital ship capability. They will also act as a trial platform for naval weapons and

## Brazilian team visits WNC

VIS News Service

A three-member Brazilian delegation led by Admiral Flávio Augusto Viana Rocha, Special Secretary (Strategic Affairs), Presidency & Advisor to President of Brazil, recently visited Headquarters Western Naval Command.

During the visit, Admiral Rocha interacted with Vice Admiral Ajendra Bahadur Singh, PVSM, AVSM, VSM, ADC, Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Western Naval Command. The two Admirals discussed various issues of mutual interest, including challenges and mitigating strategies in the maritime domain.

The FOC-in-C (West) brought out the PM's vision of SAGAR- Security and Growth for All in the Region - and Indian Navy's maritime vision during the discussions and also suggested that Brazilian Navy ships, when deployed in the IOR, may visit Indian Ports. It was made known that the Indian Shipyards are well equipped to provide any technical support to the units deployed for prolonged duration away from their homeports.

sensors under development, support platform for ISV & salvage operations, and to provide logistics support for our island territories.

This contract will further boost and encourage active participation of Indian Shipbuilding Industry in

consonance with the "Aatmanirbhar Bharat" initiatives of the Government of India. With majority of the equipment and system sourced from indigenous manufacturers, these vessels will be a proud flag bearer of "Make in India, Make for the World" initiatives of the Ministry of Defence.

# NTPC Simhadri's power Gen. up 17%

VIS News Service

The NTPC Simhadri plant part of the Maharatna NTPC has seen its plant load factor go up to 65% in the current

lakh tonnes shall go to NTPC Simhadri' said the CGM.

Being a coal based plant he highlighted that 35000 tonnes of coal is required

preserve environment Mr. Philips Thomas DGM(P&S), NTPC Simhadri informed that the plant has spent more than Rs. 938 Crores for various equipments / systems such as ESPs, Effluent Treatment Plant, Dry Ash Extraction System, Ash Water Re-circulation System, Dust extraction and Suppression system etc. to mitigate pollution during operation of its 4 units.



fiscal from the 48% it had registered last fiscal.

'We have seen a 17% jump in our plant load factor (power generation) and expect our PLF to be 70% in the next fiscal' said NTPC Simhadri's Chief General Manager, Mr. Diwakar Kaushik speaking to media persons in the city recently.

Stating that the power demand has gone up he spoke on the shortage of coal which had prompted NTPC to import coal from Indonesia.

'At a corporate level we have imported 10 lakh tonnes of coal from Indonesia out of which 2

everyday for power generation.

Simhadri Super Thermal Power Station is the first coastal coal fired thermal

Operational Performance Snapshot			
DESCRIPTION	FY Target	ACTUAL TILL 20.03.2022	FY 2020-21
Generation (MUs)	11426	11073	8245
PLF (%)	65.2	65.2	48.5
DC (%)	85	88.51	94.96
Availability (%)	90.51	89.57	94.27
Forced Outage & PL (%)	2.50	1.81	1.05

power station of NTPC Limited. The NTPC Simhadri unit has a total installed capacity of 2025 MW of which 4 units are of 500 MW each and 25 MW of renewable power (solar). Speaking on the steps to

In addition, Flue Gas Desulphurisation (FGD) systems are being installed at a total cost of Rs 871 Cr and De-NOx systems at a cost of Rs 16 Cr said the DGM.

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## 'Polavaram Project to be completed in 18 months'

VIS News Service

The Chief Minister Mr. Y.S Jagan Mohan Reddy said that the Polavaram project would be completed in 18 months i.e; by Kharif 2023.

TDP government, where huge gaps were left in both upper and lower cofferdams resulting in the damage of diaphragm wall of the project.

However, efforts were made to clear the mess that had been created by the previous government and successfully completed spillway works, upper cofferdam, spill channel and installed 48 gates in a very short time.



Participating in a discussion on Polavaram in the Assembly Mr Jagan Mohan Reddy said that the height of the dam will not be reduced. He further said that as the project was started by former Chief Minister Dr YS Rajasekhara Reddy it will be dedicated to him and his statue will be installed.

The Chief Minister also asserted that Rehabilitation and Relocation (R&R) works are going on in full swing and will be completed on time with the help from Centre.

The Chief Minister exposed the poor handling and mismanagement of the project by the previous

## Encouraging Indian MSMEs

VIS News Service

MSME-Development Institute, Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Entrepreneur, Govt. of India, Visakhapatnam recently organized a One-day Publicity & Awareness Programme in Visakhapatnam as a part of celebrations under AzadiKaAmritMahotsav.

Andhra University Vice Chancellor, Prof. P. V. G.D. Prasad Reddy, who was the chief guest emphasized the MSME sector in Indian Economy.

Mr. D. Chandra Sekhar, Additional Development Commissioner, MSME-DI, Hyderabad highlighted various schemes and support by Ministry of MSME. Mr. S.K. Verma,

Deputy Secretary, Ministry of MSME, New Delhi, Dr. Bijay Kumar Sahu, Head IPFC, TISC and NRDC, Vizag, Prof. V. Krishna Mohan, Registrar, Andhra

Visakhapatnam also addressed the gathering.

About 84 participants who included existing MSMEs, prospective entrepreneurs and



University, Mr. Ramalingeswara Raju, General Manager, District Industries Centre, Visakhapatnam and Mr. A.K.Balaji, President, V A S S I W A ,

students attended the programme.

All the speakers requested the young generation to take up entrepreneurship as a career option and promised necessary help and handholding support.

## IAS Trainees visit Sri City

VIS News Service

A 10-member team of 2019 batch Indian Administrative Service (IAS) probationers (Assistant Collectors) of Andhra Pradesh cadre visited Sri City on a study tour. Mr. Satish Kamat, President (Operations), Sri City received them and gave a presentation on the saga of Sri City, detailing how it has emerged as one of the mega industrial parks in the country. Explaining about the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) programme of Sri City, he illustrated how the backward region around Sri City has been transforming economically.

Commenting on the visit Mr. Ravindra Sannareddy, Founder Managing Director, Sri City said, "We feel proud as Sri City emerged as a 'must visit place' for planners, administrators and technocrats in the country.

The trainee officers visited the place, as part of 'AP Darshan' tour.

## Govt. to take action on rumour mongers

VIS News Service

The government has decided to register criminal cases against those who make baseless allegations against liquor products supplied by the Andhra Pradesh State Beverages Corporation, the State Excise Department Special





Secretary Dr. Rajat Bhargava said.

Speaking to reporters he said that the allegations made by the MPs during this period against the AP were baseless and that their allegations were damaging to the reputation of the government. They mentioned that some

harmful substances were found in the samples taken from the liquor bottles in the state. Mr. Bhargava said that criminal cases would be booked against those making baseless allegations on the liquor supplied by AP State Beverages Corporation Limited (APSBCL).


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7730887030  
E: info@navitechengineering.com

## Visiting Vizag?

Here's help for your accommodation

Name of Hotel	Person to Contact	Tel No.
Keys Select Hotel	Mr. Pavan Kartheek (GM)	0891-6694444
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Devee Grandbay	Mr. Jaydeep Biswas (GM)	0891-3045678
Hotel The Park	Mr. J.Gopalakrishnan (GM)	0891-6623670
The Gateway Hotel	Mr. Sandeep Reddy (GM)	0891-2754026
Hotel Palm Beach	Mr. Sandeep Reddy (GM)	0891-2754026
Best Western Plus Tejvivaan	Mr. John Ravi Kiran (GM)	0891-6677880
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## VIS Focus Your very own Greengrocer



Nikhitha Challapilli

**A**griculture is the backbone of our economy and has been a source of livelihood for many. However, due to poor yields and heavy debts, most of the young farmers are giving up on farming. Wanting to positively impact the fate of farmers by increasing their income, a young graduate from Vizag thereby established Pinamsa. An online supermarket that sells fresh vegetables and fruits, Pinamsa aims to bring fresh produce to the doorsteps of its consumers.

Started by **Mr. Harish Kolli** an ECE graduate from Vignan Institute of Technology he has worked in the Automotive industry for more than 6 years on driverless car technology both in India & China.

However, it was watching his cousin **Mr. Suresh**, a successful farmer, that Harish was drawn towards the agricultural field wanting to enhance the livelihoods of farmers. "Bringing the freshness of fruits & vegetables from farms to tables is our motto," said Mr. Harish. He stated that more than 100 acres of land are dedicated to yielding chemical-free produce.

The produce is carefully transported to storage units and is made available through their outlet at Achutapuram. Orders can be made through Pinamsa app or through its website.

Similarly orders can also be made over the phone. With minimal margins, Pinamsa sees that the vegetables and fruits are delivered at affordable prices. The startup claims to have served 2000 customers with the support of 20 membered staff who work proactively.

With Pinamsa, Harish has created employment for almost 30 families by taking abandoned lands for lease and asking the owners (farmers) to yield produce. Harish also takes it as a responsibility to create awareness about cultivation. "I invite my clients, agricultural enthusiasts, and students to Pinamsa farms to realize the significance of farming," adds Harish.

Going forward Mr. Harish aspires to expand the reach of Pinamsa across the Telugu-speaking states to serve the consumers with organically produced veggies and fruits.

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

**Founder's Name :** Mr. Harish Kolli

**Incubated/Started (Year):** 2021

**Industry:** Food industry

**Number of Team Members :** 20

**Funding Received :** Self-funded

**Vision :** To bring identity to the farming community and improve the rate of agriculture.

**Market of Operation:** Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh

**Revenues:** Rs. 13-14 Lacs.

**Company's culture :**

Aggressive  Easy Going  Methodical

**PTIM (Person that inspires me):** My Cousin Suresh Kolli who is a phenomenal agriculturist.

## IIT Roorkee sets up Supercomputer

VIS News Service

**T**he National Supercomputing Mission (NSM) which is being steered jointly by Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY) and the Department of Science and Technology (DST) and implemented by Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC) and Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bangalore, has progressed significantly.

As part of its tireless journey of success, NSM has now deployed "PARAM Ganga", a supercomputer at IIT Roorkee, with a supercomputing capacity of 1.66 Petaflops. The system is designed and commissioned by C-DAC under Phase 2 of the build approach of the NSM.

## NIC Tech Conclave 2022

VIS News Service

**N**ational Informatics Centre (NIC) recently organized a Tech Conclave 2022 focused on Emerging Technologies applicable especially in e-Governance, with the theme - "Next Gen Technologies for Digital Government".

Addressing the event, **Mr. Rajeev Chandrasekhar** said that NIC plays an important role in bringing technology into Government & Governance. He further added that anticipating planning for the future of Technology for the Government, is embedded in the DNA of NIC.

The Secretary, MeitY congratulated NIC for its innovative products and said that the Conclave is

going to serve as an opportunity to devise innovative ways of working, new things that can be done for the citizens. He also congratulated NIC Team



for its transformative flagship product, eOffice.

Commemorating Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav at NIC, MoS **Mr. Rajeev Chandrasekhar** released the ebook titled *75 Digital Solutions* from

NIC. The ebook outlines the benefits of various Government Schemes & initiatives achieved, through Digital Transformation facilitated with the help of NIC developed technology-driven solutions for the Citizens, Businesses, and the Government. The eBook is available at: <https://uxdt.nic.in/flipbooks/75-Digital-Solutions-from-NIC/>

MoS also released the book titled "Citizen Empowerment Through Digital Transformation in Government" edited by **Dr. Neeta Verma**, DG NIC. The book captures the technology-led transformation of various sectors & their evolution presented from the lens of NIC officers working on PAN India digital infrastructure and services.

## Govt. doors open 24x7 for Startups: Goyal

VIS News Service

**E**very crisis can be converted into an opportunity like that of Covid-19. Covid-19 is a big crisis and the 'biggest of



the century' crisis was converted into an opportunity, wherein many of our boys and girls came up with innovative solutions to the problems, said **Mr. Piyush Goyal**, Union Minister of Commerce & Industry, Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution and Textiles, at the ET Startup awards in Bengaluru. The Minister assured the Startups that the

government was listening to their needs, and that its doors are open 24x7.

**Mr. Goyal** said the present Ukraine-Russia crisis is a wakeup call for all of us, not to be dependent on crude oil and defence equipments. He asked Startups to help India become self-reliant in energy needs. Some of the Startups are looking for innovative ways for indigenization of defence equipments.

While referring to the traffic problem in Bengaluru, **Mr. Goyal** asked Startups to find solutions to ease the traffic. Prior to the interaction session Railway Minister **Mr. Ashwini Vaishnav** presented the awards and addressed the elite gathering. He said that the Semiconductor policy provides support to Startups.

## Need to connect farmer with New Technology

VIS News Service

**S**peaking at a FICCI Seminar on Consumer Awareness "Jaago Kisan Jaago" on World Consumer Rights Day **Mr. Kailash Choudhary**, Minister of State, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare, Government of India, emphasised the need to connect farming with new technology.

He added that farmers need "better seeds, lower cost of production, storage and market access". Alluding to the efforts taken by the government for the farm sector, the minister pointed to the increase in the agriculture budget to around 132,000 crores now, neem coated urea, nano fertiliser, the launch of the eNAM portal, among others. The minister also said that 10,000 FPOs are being formed countrywide to aid farmer groups jointly

undertake several post-production activities. "4000 FPOs are already set up," he said and added, "Every block will have one FPO."

**Mr. R.G. Agarwal**, Chair of the FICCI Committee on Crop Protection and Chairman, Dhanuka Group,



said that the biggest questions we have ahead of us are the rising population and reducing land availability for farming. "We need precision agriculture today," he said and pointed to the need for sensitising farmers to new technology and innovation. "Farmers need knowledge more than subsidy today," he added.

## AIM- NITI Aayog tie-up with Snap Inc

VIS News Service

**A**tal Innovation Mission, NITI Aayog recently announced their partnership with Snap Inc. to drive Augmented Reality (AR) skilling among the Indian youth. Snap Inc. is a global camera company and Snap's camera plays a transformative role in how people experience the world around them, combining what they see in the real world, with all that's available to them in the digital world.

Over a two-year timeframe, Snap Inc is expected to train over 12,000 teachers affiliated with the Atal Tinkering Labs on



Augmented Reality, enabling the reach of the program to millions of students affiliated with ATL's network of schools. Snap Inc also announced its

partnership with the Atal Incubation Centers (AICs) to support the Indian startup ecosystem with AR advertising bootcamps, Ad



credits and other opportunities.

**Uthara Ganesh**, Public Policy Head, India at Snap Inc also expressed her

views and said, "We at Snap are excited to help the Atal Tinkering Labs in its mission to create a culture of innovation and entrepreneurship in India, and help India become an Augmented Reality hub."

As a part of the Lensathon, Snap will be hosting special workshops aimed to introduce young women in India to AR and skills that will be necessary to navigate the digital economy of the future.

# AP's real estate demand shows signs of a rebound

Vizag, Vijayawada among Top-30 cities, Tirupati an "emerging hot spot" for senior citizens

U. Bharath  
The cities of Visakhapatnam and Vijayawada have emerged as the top-30 real estate markets in the country, and these cities account for a good chunk of 40% real estate business happening

The good news is that a city like Tirupati is an "emerging hotspot" for the real estate sector as senior citizens and retirees have been flocking to this tier-2 city, primarily due to the affordability factor. In the days to come, the temple

continues to be in good demand as it caters to the budget home buyers of all hues.

"However, we, in Lansum properties operate in the premium segment of housing (Rs. 1 Crore Plus) which is a luxury market. For this segment, the demand has been particularly good in the metro cities and home buyers overwhelmingly go for properties within the periphery of city limits" he noted.

### Volatility factor

When asked whether the volatility factor has been experienced in the housing market, Arun insisted the growth graph is almost fixed in the luxury segment.

space in a city like Vizag, it has been "typically limited" Mr. Arun noted.

While the builder flagged nagging macro-economic factors including spiraling input costs as negatively affecting the growth of the sector at present, he said the natural offshoot of this might be rise in property prices, in the months to come.

"The property prices are expected to go up in the next three to four months, which would pinch the home-buyer more. So the right time would be to buy it now" he said.

While dwelling on the government support being extended to the real estate sector Mr. Arun said that

### Concerns of Less demand more supply also surface

However many others in the real estate sector opine that there is far too much supply than there is demand. Mr. P. Koteswara Rao,

of new projects have been shelved due to the aforementioned factors.

### A revival on the cards for the FY2022-23

Mr. PVL Narasimha Raju, NAREDCO President (Vizag Chapter) concurred that "the overall



The sector has revived towards the end of the covid-19 second wave, and consequently registrations have gone up since then.

Mr. K. Arun  
Managing Partner Lansum Properties.

in Andhra Pradesh (along with the Guntur cluster) according to the data shared from State Bank of India, one of the primary lenders of housing loans in the country.

While the growth of real estate has been "muted" during the first quarter of FY2021-22, it has witnessed a visible momentum during the second quarter, and is "on track" during the third quarter, the data accessed by Vizag Industrial Scan further revealed.

### Tirupati emerging hotspot for senior citizens

city is expected to offer more space for the real estate segment among the cities in Andhra Pradesh, the data revealed.

### "Medium segment" is good demand; luxury housing growing in metros

According to Mr. K. Arun, Managing Partner and Head of Sales & Marketing, Lansum Properties, the real estate sector has revived towards the end of the covid-19 second wave, and consequently registrations have gone up since then. He said that the "medium segment" of housing



The demand & supply gap is there for all to see.

Mr. P. Koteswara Rao  
Former CREDAI Vizag Chairman

"When it comes to surplus inventory, it has been a "standard thing" in the sector despite the fluctuation of fortunes. "As for the luxury housing market

our demands have so far been well-met and the cost control of "inputs", if effected would further boost up the sector.



A turnaround is expected in the new financial year for the real estate sector.

Mr. PVL Narasimha Raju  
NAREDCO President, Vizag

former Chairman of CREDAI (Vizag Chapter) stressed that "the demand the supply gap is there for all to see. The sector has witnessed less demand, whereas the supply is more which would eventually lead to the problem of surplus inventory and unsold units

While alleging that the "cartelization" of the cement industry and the 100% price hike of steel has adversely affected the well-being of the sector, Mr. Rao said that government should necessarily step in to save the industry from negative growth as the announcement

buyer sentiment has gone down and it will take another couple of months for the real estate sector to revive". While noting the currently running projects have faced no problem what so ever, he said that the new projects are getting stalled and being held up due to many "unsustainability factors".

"The next couple of months would be tough for the sector and the turnaround is expected in the new financial year" Narasimha Rao said and cited "shifting of capital" of new projects have afflicted the sector which needed to be tided over in the new fiscal.

## APMB developing world's largest Maritime Infra



VIS News Service

Highlighting the state of Andhra Pradesh as a key region for maritime trade and economic prosperity, APMB's CEO, Mr. Muralidharan said that the state government has a hawk eye focus on the maritime sector in the state. "We are developing the largest maritime infrastructure available anywhere in the world" said APMB's CEO.

Mr. Muralidharan cited the three greenfield ports which the state government has chalked out to build i.e. Ramayapatnam, Krishnapatnam and Bhavanapadu.

Stating that these greenfield ports will give new avenues to trade while helping bring down costs

Mr Muralidharan informed that the Ramayapatnam port is under the Gati Shakti ambit.

Elaborating on the benefits of the Ramayapatnam port he said that 50% of granite exports in India is from close proximity of Ramayapatnam port. Similarly he highlighted cement, food grains and shrimp exports to be other products wherein the port can be utilized effectively.

The port is slated to have deep-draught and designed for 4 berths (in phase 1) with a potential traffic of 24.91 MTPA. The EPC contract for the construction of the port was awarded to a private contractor last year in July and the construction of the port is said to have already commenced.

## Vizag's Star hotels face problem of plenty

Aditya Sabharwal

Often cited as a popular tourist hub, Visakhapatnam has seen a spurt in new room inventory (star category) over the past decade or so.

Albeit one would relate this rapidly growing inventory to market dynamics however the reality surprisingly seems to be different.

As per industry insiders the City of Destiny has a total of 2000 rooms across star category hotels of which, on



Vizag's Surplus Room Inventory  
As per Industry Sources Vizag has about 2000 rooms under star category hotels of which only 60% are occupied on an average.

an average only 60% are occupied.

"This on an average leaves about 40% of the total star rooms in the city empty" said Mr. MV Pavan Kartheek, State Vice

President of HRAAP (Hotel and Restaurant Association of Andhra Pradesh) speaking to Vizag Industrial Scan.

Apart from the brutal covid-19 pandemic what has aggravated the situation is the absence of any major events in the city. "We have failed to attract any large scale conferences or events into the city for a long time" said an industry insider.

Similarly revival in corporate travel has been laggard which for many

star hotels is their bread and butter.

Tourism too has failed to attract high end tourists into the city as well.

Insiders say no new tourism projects have taken shape.

"Tourism in our state is lagging far behind. There are no new tourism projects



On an average about 30-40% of the total star category rooms in the city are lying vacant.

Mr. MV Pavan Kartheek  
State VP, HRAAP

in the city. Decision making is lacking on executing smaller infra projects despite there being a huge potential" said an industry insider.

As per another industry stakeholder even though state and city have incredible tourist attractions the infrastructure leading up to it are in such poor conditions that tourists don't want to visit them at all.

"Even some basic hygiene amenities like good bathrooms, dustbins, signage etc. have not been

put in place' said the industry insider.

Industry also cites a huge drop in the travel spend of tourists. "Many of the

current tourists flocking the city have budgets in the sub Rs 2000 per room night category leaving star hotels like us high and dry" said one of the hospitality veterans.

With dismal utilization of existing room inventories upcoming brands are said to have paused their development plans till the market improves.

Mr Pavan however hopes for the situation to improve in the coming financial year and expects a rebound in tourism thereby increasing footfalls across hotels.

# Naval Dockyard releases Special Postal Cover

VIS News Service

To commemorate 50 years of yeoman service of the nation, the Naval Dockyard,



Visakhapatnam (NDV) released a special postal cover, a digital version of a Coffee Table Book. A Painting exhibition was also conducted as part of the event.

The event was inaugurated at NDV by Vice Admiral Kiran Deshmukh,

AVSM, VSM, Contoller Warship Production and Acquisition in the presence of Vice Admiral Sreekumar Nair, AVSM, VSM, Director General

Naval Projects, Vice Admiral Sanjay Vatsayan, Chief of Staff, Eastern Naval Command, Dr. Venkateswarlu Mutyala, IPoS, Post Master General and other dignitaries. Delivering the welcome address at the event, RAdm IB Uthaiyah, AVSM, VSM,

Admiral Superintendent, NDV paid rich tributes to the vision, resilience and innovation of Yard personnel, past and present who have made the Yard's work ethos what it is today. From its inception in 1940 as a Boat Repair Shop to its present avatar, Naval Dockyard, Visakhapatnam has evolved into one of India's finest dockyards, hosting state-of-the-art facilities in niche fields of ship and submarine repair and maintenance.

# At the Secretariat



Nobel laureate Esther Dufflo (French - American economist) meeting Chief Minister Mr. YS Jagan Mohan Reddy at the CM's Camp Office. Esther Dufflo is the recipient of the Nobel Prize in Economics in 2019.

# 10-day Fest at Red Fort

VIS News Service

A ten-day mega Red Fort Festival - Bharat Bhagya Vidhata was held 25th March to 3rd April, 2022 at Red Fort in Delhi.

The festival helped to improve the livelihoods of artisans across the country in a culturally and economically sustainable manner by showcasing a variety of authentic arts, crafts and textiles from across the nation. The celebration is a fusion of rich and varied Indian handicrafts by artisans offering only the finest quality of 'Made in India' articles.

# GPL's Rs. 25 lakh for Vizag Rly. Stn. Swachhta

VIS News Service

As part of its Corporate social responsibility, Gangavaram Port has come forward to give Rs. 25 lakh to Waltair Division



for promotion of cleanliness at Visakhapatnam railway station. The CSR fund will be utilized for procuring Swachhta implements which will be placed at Visakhapatnam railway station and in railway colonies in Visakhapatnam.

Chief Executive Officer, Gangavaram Port Limited Mr. N Sambasiva Rao presented the cheque worth Rs. 25 lakhs to Divisional Railway Manager Mr. Anup Satpathy.

Speaking on the occasion DRM Mr. Anup Satpathy appreciated the efforts made by Gangavarm Port Limited for taking initiative to provide funds under Corporate Social Responsibility for public use. He expressed more initiatives from various PSUs and industries towards noble mission.

Restaurant	Price
CHENNAI SUPER CHETTINAD (Chicken / Mixed Veg) Served with Ghee Rice, Pickle & Papad	₹410 / ₹315
DELHI KATHI ROLL (Chicken / Veg)	₹250 / ₹210
PUNJAB TIKKA MASALA (Chicken / Paneer) Served with Rice / Roti / Naan	₹410 / ₹330
KOLKATA FRIED RIDERS (Chicken / Fish) Served with Onion, Cucumber Salad & Mustard Sauce	₹325 / ₹360
MUMBAI SIZZLERS (Chicken / Fish) Served with Herbed Rice and Sautéed Vegetables	₹500 / ₹525
RAJASTHAN ROYAL MAAS (Mutton / Chicken) Served with Onion Salad, Rice / Roti / Naan	₹550 / ₹410
ROYAL CHALLENGER BISI BELE BATH	₹225
SUNRISE BIRYANI (Mutton / Chicken / Veg) Served with Raita, Pickle and Onion Salad	₹450 / ₹350 / ₹300
GUJARAT SWEET TOOTH Shrikhand / Malpua with Rabdi	₹200 / ₹240
LUCKNOW SUPER KEBAB (Chicken Shami Kebab / Nawabi Veg Kebab) Served with Veg Salad & Mint Sauce	₹325 / ₹280

# Naval Kid swims across Palk Strait

VIS News Service

Ms. Jiya Rai, daughter of a senior sailor of the Indian Navy, Mr. Madan Rai, MC-AT-ARMS II of INS Kunjali, and a student of Navy Children School, Mumbai, brought laurels to India by swimming across the Palk Strait from Talaimannar (Sri Lanka) to Dhanuskodi (India), a distance of 29 km, in 13 hours and 10 minutes on 20 March 2022. A child with Autism Spectrum Disorder, she achieved the feat at the age of 13 years and 10 months, becoming the youngest and fastest female swimmer in the world to swim across the Palk Strait.



# Vizag Rly. Stn. chosen for OSOP

To act as marketing Hub for local product

VIS News Service

Waltair Division of East Coast Railway in association with Etikoppaka Lacquer & Wooden Toys Manufactures Mutually Aided Co-operative Society Ltd. launched the One Station One Product kiosk at Visakhapatnam railway Station recently.

Visakhapatnam is the first station in the East Coast Railway to implement the "One Station One Product" concept. The main objective of the concept is to make each railway station a promotional hub and showcase destination

for a local product, thereby giving a major boost to local industries. The concept of



"One station One Product" was announced by Government of India in the recent budget.

Etikoppakka Wooden products are made with

Ankudi Karra (Wrightia tinctoria) Tree and coated with Lacquer color by hundreds of local Artisans of the Etikoppaka village, Yelamachili mandal of Visakhapatnam District. It is being promoted by Waltair

Division as a pilot project for 15 days under One station One Product (OSOP) scheme of Central Government aimed at supporting local products

and artisans and enhancing their income.

Speaking on the occasion DRM Mr. Anup Satpathy said that the railway station will act as a marketing hub for the promotion and upliftment of local product.

As per the Railway Board advice, one station on each zonal railway will be identified for the implementation of the concept, initially as a pilot project for a period of 15 days. Visakhapatnam railway station was identified in entire East Coast Railway zone for implementation. He opined that this scheme would be successful and definitely benefit the local artisans.

# NALCO wins Golden Peacock Award

VIS News Service

One of the largest integrated Bauxite-Alumina-Aluminium-Power producers in the country, National Aluminium Company Ltd (NALCO) has been adjudged the National Winner of the prestigious Golden Peacock Award for Sustainability, in recognition of its relentless focus on Sustainable mining and environment-friendly practices. NALCO CMD Mr. Sridhar Patra recently received the Award in a virtual session organized by the Institute of



Directors (IOD). Mr. Patra addressed the gathering and lauded the employees for their steadfast commitment towards Sustainability drive and environment management practices.

This Award is testimony to the high standards NALCO follows in Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) strategies. This a significant recognition of the hardwork and dedication of NALCO Collective which has brought laurels to the organization, the CMD said

# HPCL sweeps PRSI National Awards

VIS News Service

HPCL has bagged 14 coveted Awards at PRSI National Awards' 2021 at the virtually held Award ceremony recently 2022. The annual PRSI National Awards are the highest recognition for excellence in Public Relations & Corporate

Ambassador of India to Ireland and Dr. Ajit Pathak, President, Public Relations Society of India, virtually.

The distinguished Jury comprised of eminent personalities from the field of Communications including Media & PRSI personnel to assess the



work of various companies under various categories. Public Relations Society of India is national association of PR practitioners which was established in 1958. It recognizes and honours the work done by Companies & Individuals and awards them to motivate and reinforce the culture of achieving excellence and quality.

The awards were bestowed upon by Ms. Estuko Tsugihara, President, International Public Relations Association, Mr. Akhilesh Mishra,