

VIZAG INDUSTRIAL SCAN

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Trade Deal with India a priority



Aditya Sabharwal

Following the much lionised trade agreements with UAE and Australia, India is currently negotiating trade deals with other countries too, a key

among them is with the country of United Kingdom.

Being touted to be completed by this Diwali

Contd. on Page ...3

AP all set for Davos

CM to Chair high-level meetings with Investors

VIS News Service

Addressing media persons, Minister for Industries, Investment, Infrastructure, Commerce, Handloom, Textiles and Information Technology, **Mr Gudivada Amarnath**, informed that the CM's first international visit to highlight AP's global excellence in attracting investment into the state will be done at the world economic forum in Davos.



Unveiling the Andhra Pradesh logo at the Curtain Raiser event, the Minister

for Industries said that an Invitation had been received from WEF President **Mr. Borge Brende**.

'Andhra Pradesh delegation is going to Davos to tap the immense investment opportunities AP presents for the world under the theme "People,

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Cyber Crimes a growing Menace

CP urges Industry for Cyber Security Audits

Aditya Sabharwal

In order to effectively arrest the growing menace of cyber security frauds, Visakhapatnam's Police Commissioner, **Mr CH Srikanth, IPS** has urged industry to regularly carry out cyber security audits in their respective organizations.



'Any industry that values their core data and its privacy needs to regularly carry out these audits as it will only help them safeguard their data' said the city's police

commissioner speaking to *Vizag Industrial Scan*.

As cyber security crimes become more sophisticated in their operation and execution it has become

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AP woos Centre for Mega Tex Park

U.Bharath

The state of Andhra Pradesh has made a comprehensive pitch to the central government for a proposed mega textile park under the Union Government sponsored PM MITRA scheme.

It is stated that there are about 13 states that are vying for the 7 mega textile



AP stands a fair chance of bagging the mega project.

Mr. Karikala Valaven, Spl. CS, Industries, GoAP

parcs which the central government shall allocate.

The Ministry of Textiles had issued a notification to set up 7 Mega Integrated Textile Region and Apparel (PM MITRA) Parks with a total outlay of Rs. 4,445 crore.

It is hoped that the PM MITRA Parks will have world-class industrial infrastructure which

would attract cutting edge technology and boost FDI and local investment in the textiles sector.

'Andhra Pradesh stands a fair chance of bagging the mega project' said **Mr Karikal Valaven**, Special Chief Secretary, Industries, GoAP speaking to *Vizag Industrial Scan*.

The Senior IAS officer had recently made a presentation on behalf of the AP Government at the National PM MITRA workshop with his team at Delhi.

As many as 13 states including Telangana, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu, Punjab, Odisha, Gujarat, and Rajasthan are vying for the 7 such mega textile parks to be set up across the nation, and

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Govt. allows 50% concession in Rev. share for Coal gasification

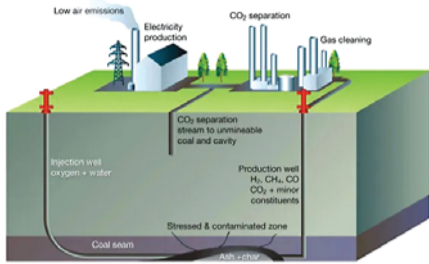
VIS News Service

Union Minister of Coal, Mines & Parliamentary Affairs **Mr. Pralhad Joshi** said that Ministry of Coal has allowed concession of 50% in revenue share for coal gasification. Speaking at an Investors meet in Mumbai, Union Minister Mr. Pralhad Joshi also pitched for options like manufacturing Hydrogen from Coal to help India become energy independent. Earlier during the day Mr. Joshi launched the closed / discontinued mines of Coal India Ltd. on revenue sharing model.

Investor's Meet on 'Coal Gasification - Way Forward' in Mumbai was organized by Coal India and FICCI. The Investor Meet cum workshop aims

to encourage effective implementation of Coal Gasification projects and also to ensure ease of doing business in this area.

Minister of State for Coal, Mines & Railways **Mr. Raosaheb Patil Danve**



said, 'Coal Gasification is the need of the hour and a step towards sustainable future. Union Minister Mr. Danve added that the Government aims gasification of 100 million tonne coal by 2030. "This will generate jobs in both technical and non-technical sector," he added.

Coal gasification is considered as cleaner option compared to burning of coal. Gasification facilitates utilization of the chemical properties of coal. Union Minister Mr. Pralhad Joshi encouraged the industry players to think about 'coal to Hydrogen'. During the event Mr. Joshi launched a report 'Roadmap for Coal to Hydrogen', prepared by Ministry of Coal.

Experts from Industry, consultants, researchers and stakeholders in coal gasification spoke during the event. Apart from Additional Secretary, Ministry of Coal, **Mr. M. Nagaraju** and Chairman CIL **Mr. Pramod Agarwal** and other industry leaders attended the program.

CIL offers 20 discontinued mines to Pvt. players

VIS News Service

World's largest coal miner Coal India Ltd. (CIL) will offer its 20 closed/discontinued underground coal mines to the private sector to reopen and bring into production on revenue sharing model. An Investors' Meet was organized in Mumbai to sensitize the private sector about the offer.

Addressing the investors at the event, Union Minister of Coal, Mines & Parliamentary Affairs **Mr. Pralhad Joshi** said that the target of Coal Ministry is to minimize the import of thermal coal and to make the country Aatma nirbhar in the sector. Showcasing the opportunities to the investors present at the session, Mr. Joshi said 'Not long ago, people used to say the need for coal is



Extractable reserve in the closed/discontinued coal mines is around 380 million tonnes.

Mr. Pralhad Joshi
Union Minister of Coal, Mines

going to reduce but we are currently witnessing surge in coal requirements'. He added 'Extractable reserve in the closed/discontinued coal mines is around 380 million tonnes, 30-40 million tonnes of coal can be easily extracted from the mines.' He further said 'the continuation of mining activities will help in increasing coal supply to TPPs while creating employment opportunities for local people. Mr. Joshi further said the Coal Ministry is open to all suggestions which will assure win-win scenario

for the government as well as the industry.

Speaking on the occasion, Minister of State for Coal, Mines & Railways **Mr. Raosaheb Patil Danve** said India has the 5th largest reserve of coal in the world. He said 'Government's aim is to increase domestic coal production to 1.2 billion metric tonnes by FY 23-24'. He added 'As a fuel, coal is the biggest contributor in the energy mix'. He further said 'the initiative will pave the way for deployment of latest mining technology, robust systems and processes'.

R.K Singh invites German energy Cos to invest in India

VIS News Service

In a recently held virtual round table meeting with major German companies, Union Minister for Power and New & Renewable Energy, **Mr. R.K Singh**, invited them to come and invest in India. Union Secretary for Power **Mr. Alok Kumar**, Joint Secretary MNRE **Dr Vandana Kumar** and other senior officials from India and Germany also joined the meeting.



manufacture green hydrogen at the most competitive prices, he informed the German companies.

The Minister informed the German companies that India's plans will create significant opportunities in Offshore wind. We plan to have a capacity of 30,000 MW of Offshore wind in our country, he said.

Mr. Singh highlighted that India has emerged as the most attractive destination for investment in Renewable Energy and said that India has focused programs for capacity addition and accelerating the Energy Transition.

The Minister informed that India already has one of the largest RE capacities in the world, and also has the fastest rate of growth of RE Capacity addition.

Mr. Singh emphasized that India Will also add some of the largest capacities in battery storage, green hydrogen and green ammonia for its own use and also meet the growing global demand.

He stated that India will be one of the largest producers of green hydrogen in the world. We will

NMDC has a Steady FY23 Start

VIS News Service

National Mineral Development Corporation Ltd. (NMDC), Country's largest iron ore producer, a CPSE under Ministry of Steel reported production of 3.15 Million Tonnes (MnT) and sale of 3.12 MnT of iron ore in the first month of FY23.

The company continues to register growth in its physical performance. Iron ore production in April 2022 was 0.6% higher than that of April 2021 and sales during the month saw a growth of 0.9% over the CPLY. Deriving strength

from the 42 MnT produced in FY22, the mining major achieved the highest production for any April

(in million tonnes)			
Year	April 2021	April 2022	Growth %
Production	3.13	3.15	0.6%
Sales	3.09	3.12	0.9%

month in the company's history.

Encouraging the team to keep up the spectacular performance, NMDC CMD, **Mr. Sumit Deb**, said, "FY23 has started on the right note for us and is a reflection of our team's

hard work aligned with the company's strategic posture. Our adoption of new technology and digital

initiatives is strengthening our supply chain and making NMDC future ready. Having achieved the target of 42 MnT iron ore production, we are confident that NMDC will grow to become a 50 MnT mining company in the near future."

JSHL bags Safety Award from BSC

Jindal Stainless (Hisar) Limited (JSHL) received the coveted 'International Safety Award 2022 Merit' from the UK-based British Safety Council for the third consecutive year. This internationally-acclaimed certification validates JSHL's committed and consistent efforts towards establishing a robust workplace infrastructure for health and safety during CY 2021.

MD, JSHL, **Mr Abhyuday Jindal** took note of this achievement and said, Our commitment to safety is embodied in the work culture at JSHL.

April's Total Coal Production Touches 661.54 Lakh Ton

VIS News Service

During the month of April, 2022 India's total coal production stood at 661.54 lakh tons. While Coal India Ltd (CIL) and its subsidiaries produced



534.7 lakh ton coal, production by Singareni Collieries Company Ltd (SCCL) stood at 53.23 lakh ton and production from captive mines touched 73.61 lakh ton during last month.

As per the provisional statistic of the Ministry of Coal, while the total offtake of the coal sector was 708.68 lakh ton during the month, the power sector offtake touched the figure of 617.2 lakh ton in April. At the same time, offtake to the power sector from Coal India alone stood at 497.39 lakh ton.

Coal India has achieved the highest production of 534.7 lakh ton during April this year indicating a 6.02 percent growth. The previous highest ever production was recorded during April, 2019 having attained a production of 450.29 Lakh Ton. Similarly,

coal offtake touched the figure of 570.55 Lakh ton in April. The previous highest offtake of coal was recorded in April, 2021 with 540.12 lakh ton.

The total coal production during the financial year 2021-22 was 7770.23 lakh Ton (provisional) compared to 7160 lakh ton during 2020-21, recording a growth of 8.55 per cent. Coal India Ltd (CIL) production had gone up by 4.43 per cent from 5960.24 lakh ton in 2020-21 to 6220.64 lakh ton during the fiscal 2021-22.

Total coal dispatch during 2021-22 touched the figure of 8180.04 lakh ton against the figure of 6900.71 lakh ton the previous year, an increase of 18.43 per cent.

Moving towards Green Steel

VIS News Service

A recent Parliamentary Consultative Committee meeting for Ministry of Steel was convened to brainstorm on the topic "Transition towards Green Steel" under the Chairmanship of the Union Steel Minister, **Mr. Ram Chandra Prasad Singh**.

The Chairman urged upon the stakeholders to come together in development of a time bound action plan and concerted efforts for lowering of the emissions from the steel industry in line with the commitments made so that production of Green Steel can be fulfilled

and promote "Atmanirbhar Bharat".

Discussions were held between the Members of the Committee with the senior officials from Ministry of Steel and senior officials & experts from the steel industry, on the present scenario and the way forward for promoting the transition towards

Green Steel. Various strategies & technologies that can be adopted by the steel industry to produce green steel, their pros & cons and their Technology Readiness Levels (TRLs) and when these are like to be available commercially were also discussed.



AP's Hotel Industry meets Kishan Reddy

Seeks policy support for revival in Hospitality / Tourism sector

VIS News Service

Senior representatives of the hotels and restaurants association of Andhra Pradesh (HRAAP) recently met the Minister of Tourism, Culture and Development of North Eastern region of India, **Mr. G Kishan Reddy** and submitted a letter recommending points to help boost tourism in the state of Andhra Pradesh.

'Due to the severity of the COVID-19 pandemic on the hospitality industry we have recommended certain points to the minister of Tourism' said HRAAP.

In the letter accessed by *Vizag Industrial Scan*, HRAAP has suggested the establishment of Parytak Bhavan, an India Tourism Office and an Institute of Hotel Management in Andhra Pradesh.

'Andhra Pradesh requires the above 3 institutions exclusively for tourism promotion. The Andhra Pradesh government aggressively promotes tourism and perceives it as an employment creator. It is to complement the AP Tourism activities in an efficient manner the state requires these 3 facilities' said the letter addressed to Mr. Kishan Reddy.

In addition they have asked for the revival of the Indian

Elegant Hotel's New GM



VIS News Service

Mr. Pavan Kumar Ch. recently joined as the General Manager of Elegant Hotel, Visakhapatnam. Earlier known as Karunya residency the hotel was later rechristened as Elegant Hotel which offers a wide array of Rooms, Restaurant & Banquets located in Ramnagar. Being in the hospitality industry for many years Mr. Pavan Kumar has been earlier part of various brands like Taj Group,



culinary institute at Tirupati. 'ICT does not have a full time director and administrative officer. There is also no budgetary support from the government of India' informed the letter.

Some of the other requests consisted of inclusion of tourism in the concurrence list, allocation of industry status to the Tourism sector, constituting a national tourism board and relief in taxes and statutory liabilities.

HRAAP also advocated for GST exemption for the sector in order revive Tourism in the country. 'The government should consider

1 year GST exemption to travel and tourism so that service providers can offer services at a lower cost' stated the letter.

Making an appeal to the GST council HRAAP suggested that all F&B revenue of hotels be delinked from their hotel room tariff slabs and be allowed to charge GST at 5% without ITC under the composite scheme and 12% GST with ITC.

Dr. S Prasanth, President HRAAP along with **Mr MV Pavan Kartheek**, State VP, HRAAP met the tourism minister and submitted the letter on behalf of HRAAP.

Trade Deal with India a priority

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the free trade agreement holds huge potential for the two nations.

Just in the recent past both countries have seen some bold announcements made both in terms of investments and employment. In a virtual summit held last year both the Prime Ministers launched an enhanced trade partnership which involved a billion pounds of new investments in both countries and about 6500 new jobs to be created by Indian investments in UK.

And in the most recent visit of British Prime Minister **Mr Boris Johnson** an additional billion pounds of investment has been said to be made into the UK by India. 'Now that the UK can create its own trade policies, it is critically important that we develop a new FTA with India. It is a priority for the British government the PM and our team' said **Mr Alan Gemmell**, Her Majesty's Trade Commissioner (HMTc) for South Asia speaking exclusively to *Vizag Industrial Scan*.

Twenty-Five years and on

AK Sabharwal

Milestones are often described as specific points in one's work that typically act as a yardstick in measuring one's progress or achievement towards a certain goal.

Well in that sense having successfully achieved twenty five years in publishing that too in a niche publication like ours is most certainly a milestone we cherish immensely.

VIS my readers has for the past 25 years tirelessly showcased the entrepreneurial spirit of Andhra Pradesh, its people and highlighted the state as an ideal destination for trade and investment.

One always has an option of seeing the glass half full or half empty and we at VIS have always chosen the former.

Armed with this objective VIS has many a times also highlighted some of the most pressing & pertinent issues that the industry on a whole faces and that need immediate government intervention and support. This however has always been done in the most constructive and productive manner without yielding to sledging or demeaning a particular individual or organization.

When we began our journey way back in 1998 Vizag was predominantly known as PSU hub with the presence of giants like RINL, VPA, HSL, HPCL, BHEL etc.

What is heartening to see is that all of these giants continue to be a force to reckon with and most of them have/are laying out aggressive plans for their further expansion and development.

The private sector which merely consisted of micro and small enterprises feeding into these behemoths have today become bolder and stronger in their expansions too and are venturing out into newer territories.

From Pharma to Textiles to Marine to IT the private sector both in Vizag and in Andhra Pradesh have grown across sectors and have created a niche for themselves.

Most of these sectors play a significant role in exports from the state. Andhra Pradesh today contributes roughly about 5.8% of the total exports out of India. However with new age technologies swiftly taking shape, companies today have to constantly re-innovate themselves, their procedures in the race to become more efficient.

No industry can continue to rest on its past laurels without the paramount role of innovation. Digital has become a synonym for growth and transparency and its great to see these organizations drive this keenly in their respective organisations.

The government too on its part both state and central have taken a slew of initiatives in making digital their mainstay. A case in point is the customs department which through its various digital centric initiatives like Turant customs, faceless assessment etc have simplified many operational procedures.

With innovation and technology being talked about the role of the Start-ups cannot be ignored. Startups today are disrupting various sectors by bringing in a whole new perspective of functioning while making systems transparent. We hope to see Andhra Pradesh become an attractive destination for startups too with the right policies and framework being put in place. And the onus of making this happen doesn't alone lie on the government but the private sector needs to equally play a role in creating an attractive ecosystem.

Similarly Tourism is another sector we believe Andhra Pradesh has yet to realize its full potential keeping in mind its picturesque sights and sounds. We look forward to a thriving Tourism sector in Andhra Pradesh along with the other sectors.

As we embark upon the next twenty five years we look forward to keep bringing you the very latest and the most relevant news and updates for our readers without whom this journey wouldn't have been possible.

As always we look forward to your continued trust and good wishes in powering our journey ahead.

AU's Startup eco-system all set to get a Boost

DST to offer Rs 5 crores grant for setting up Tech Biz Incubator

VIS News Service

In order to further boost the efforts of Andhra University in strengthening the startup ecosystem in the university campus AU recently received a communication from the Department of Science & Technology Ministry of Science & Technology government of India informing that the National Expert Advisory Committee (NEAC) has recommended to establish an inclusive Technology Business Incubator (i-TBI) under its NIDHI, i-TBI program at Andhra University.

A grant of Rs. 5 Crores will be given subject to compliance of certain project implementation conditions for establishing the i-TBI in AU Engineering College informed **Dr H Purushotham**, DPIIT Chair at Andhra University

speaking to *Vizag Industrial Scan*.

The grant is for establishing incubation lab, working space, man power costs, organizing training programs, mentoring of the startups.



The most important component of the grant is providing ignition grant up to Rs. 10 lakhs to the startup companies which would encourage entrepreneurs to test new ideas.

This will help connecting the University to the national innovation and startup ecosystem said the Principle Investigator.

Expressing their happiness on this news, AU's Vice Chancellor, **Prof PVGD**

Prasad Reddy and Registrar **Prof V Krishna Mohan** congratulated the Principle Investigator Prof Hanumanthu Purushotham the DPIIT-IPR Chair **Mr Ravi**

Eswarapu, CEO of AU Incubation Hub; **Prof K Venkata Subbaiah**, Head Mechanical Engineering and **Prof P. Mallikarjana Rao**, Head Electrical Engineering Department of AU Engg.

The team diligently worked in getting the approval amidst stiff national level competition.

The approval/sanction letter was handed over by the Vice Chancellor to the project implementation team.

IN BRIEF

Talk on social media

Frankie Sturm, Acting Public Affairs Officer at the US Consulate in Hyderabad, said there was a need to spread social media ethics among young people. He interacted with faculty and students from the Department of Journalism and Mass Communication at American Corner. He spoke on 21st century media polarization and the emergence of social media affiliation with traditional media. On this occasion, Frankie released the book "Krishnaveetham", a children's fiction book written by **Dr. Krishnaveer Abhishek, Manoj and Akhil**. Head of the Department of Journalism and Mass Communication **Prof. DVR Murthy, Dr. Ravi Vincent, Dr. Lakshmaiah, Tadi Vidura** spoke.



NSTL scientist wins Bronze in TT Championship

Tanguturi Ramu, Scientist 'D' of the Naval Science & Technological Laboratory (NSTL), Visakhapatnam had won Bronze Medal in Men's Singles event in PARA Table-Tennis National Championship-2021, which was organized by Para Table Tennis Promotion Association jointly with Madhya Pradesh(MP) Table Tennis Association under the aegis of Table Tennis Federation of India. He participated and represented Andhra Pradesh state in the tournament which was conducted in Indore city, Madhya Pradesh during 27-30 April 2022. He won Bronze medal in Men's Singles event under Class-9 category for the first time in the history of para table-tennis of Andhra Pradesh. With this, he was qualified to participate in International Para Table Tennis Tournaments, representing India.

MMTS First Class Fare reduced up to 50%

The fare of the popular sub-urban train service in the twin cities of Secunderabad – Hyderabad region i.e., MMTS (Multi-Modal Transport Service) is set to reduce by up to 50% for the First Class Single journey passengers.



The Ministry of Railways has decided to rationalize the basic fares of First Class in the suburban train services with effect from May 5, 2022.

Accordingly, the First-class base fares for single journey for the passengers travelling in the MMTS trains over Sub-urban sections of Secunderabad and Hyderabad Divisions has been reduced. **Mr. Arun Kumar Jain**, General Manager (In-Charge), SCR has appealed to the passenger to avail this benefit. He said that with the summer season setting-in and with the gradual increase in the MMTS passengers, this reduction in fare will immensely benefit the First Class segment of passengers availing these services.

AU signs MoU with Missouri State University

Andhra University recently entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with the State University of Missouri. AU VC **Prof PVGD Prasada Reddy**, the Registrar **Prof V. Krishnamohan** and Indo Global Studies CEO **Ashok Kallam** exchanged contract documents on behalf of Missouri State University. The event was attended by AU International Student Affairs Dean **Prof EN Dhanunjaya Rao** and others.



As part of the MoU, Missouri State University, in collaboration with AU, will conduct an MS Project Management course for students. As part of the course the students are required to take a one-year 12-credit course in India and another 18-credit course at Missouri State University in the United States. Students will then have the opportunity to do three years of optional 'practical' training. Indian students have the opportunity to do the most demanding project management course at minimum cost.

RBKs nominated for UN Award

VIS News Service

The State government's initiative, Rythu Bharosa Kendras (RBKs) have won international recognition after being nominated for the United Nations Award.

Speaking to presspersons, Minister for Agriculture **Mr. Kakani Govardhan Reddy** said the RBK initiative has been nominated by the Centre for Champion Award, the highest recognition given by the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the UN. RBKs are a role model, serving at the village level for the past two years and the 10,778 outlets have been supplying quality seeds he said.

Radm Vikram Menon takes over as FOGA

VIS News Service

Rear Admiral Vikram Menon, VSM recently took charge as Flag Officer Commanding

Goa Area (FOGA) and Flag Officer Naval Aviation (FONA) from **Rear Admiral Philipose G Pynumootil**, AVSM, NM, who retired on superannuation after a career spanning over 36 years in service.

Rear Admiral Menon is an alumnus of the National Defence Academy and the Naval War College and was commissioned into the Indian Navy on 01 January

1990. An experienced fighter pilot and Qualified Flying Instructor with over 2000 hours of flying experience, he has flown



the Sea Harrier aircraft extensively from INS Viraat. He also served as the Senior Pilot of INAS 300 and commanded INAS 552. He was awarded the Vishist Seva Medal in 2018 while commanding INS Hansa, a premier air station of the Indian Navy.

NTPC invites EOI from Startups

VIS News Service

NTPC Ltd has invited Expression of Interest (EOI) to produce torrefied biomass pellets from Indian startups.

Through its R&D wing, NETRA, NTPC intends to provide a platform to Indian startups to enable them to develop advanced technology for producing torrefied biomass pellets that are well-suited for decentralized small-scale users. As per a release from the ministry of power the last date of submission of the proposals titled, "Torrefied Pellet



Manufacturing Plant for Agri-Waste" is 19th May 2022.

India produces an estimated 230 MMTA of biomass that is either wasted or burnt. Biomass co-firing in power plants has proven to be a major solution to cater to this menace thereby reducing carbon footprint in the environment.

The Union Ministry of Power has set up the National Mission for the use of Biomass in thermal power plants (Mission SAMARTH) and has mandated 5-10 percent co-firing of Biomass in all coal-fired thermal power plants in the country.

'Villagers happy to donate land for Bhavanapadu port'

VIS News Service

The Minister of State for Animal Husbandry, **Dr. K.S. Sidiri Appalaraju** recently reviewed the construction of the Bhavanapadu port in Srikakulam with the concerned authorities and people of the villages of Moolapeta, Rajapuram and Vishnuchakrapuram.

Mr Appalaraju said he was seeking suggestions for the construction of the port and informed that land was to be acquired in



241.89 acres are government lands while 433.7 acres were identified as private lands. These include villages of Moolapeta, Rajapuram, Vishnuchakrapuram etc.

Mr. Appala Raju said that while the lands of some villages need to be acquired for this, the villagers of Moolapeta, Rajapuram and Vishnuchakrapuram are happy to come forward to donate the land and thanked all of them.

24th National Tech Day at NALCO

VIS News Service

Navratna CPSE National Aluminium Company Limited (NALCO) joined the nation in celebrating the 24th National Technology Day at its Research & Technology Centre at Bhubaneswar recently.

Former Chairman of ISRO, **Dr K. Sivan** addressed the gathering on the theme "Integrated Approach in Science and Technology for sustainable future", on virtual mode as the Chief Speaker on the occasion. **Mr. Sridhar Patra**, CMD, NALCO delivered the presidential address while The function was organized offline as well as online in which employees of NALCO from across the country participated.

Helping Women ride the Digital Wave

VIS News Service

With an objective of promoting trade and commerce in the city of Visakhapatnam while encouraging women in businesses, the Women's Wing of Vizagapatnam Chamber of Commerce and Industry (VCCI) recently organised a one day seminar 'Ignite' in Visakhapatnam.

With the theme Digital Transformation the event looked at ways to enlighten the participants in the core areas like digital marketing, cyber security, digitisation of business processes and e-commerce.

A group of rural women from a remote village in Chittoor district who transformed their lives using digital platforms were

showcased as a case study during the seminar.

VCCI mentioned that about 150 enthusiastic entrepreneurs attended the seminar to learn about

marketing expert **Mr Niranjan Pagadala**, young and successful entrepreneur **Mr Kanthi Dutt** and digitisation expert **Ms Bhagyasree** spoke.



digital marketing, cyber security, e-commerce and digitisation of business processes.

Mr. Naresh Kumar, CEO, Symbiosis Technologies participated as the chief guest of the event while Cyber Security expert **Dr Ananth Prabhu**, digital

The event was organised by the president of Women's Wing, **Dr. Hema Yadavalli**, Honorary Secretary **Ms. Sandhya Godey**, conveners **Ms. Preeti and Ms. Sapna Somani** and the other members of Women's Wing.

AK Sharma new IT Secy.

VIS News Service

Mr. Alkesh Kumar Sharma recently assumed charge as Secretary, Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY) in New Delhi. An Indian Administrative Services Officer of 1990 batch, of Kerala cadre Mr. Sharma has earlier



served as Additional Secretary and Secretary in the Cabinet Secretariat, Government of India. In addition to other responsibilities given to him, Sharma was looking

after the Cabinet proposals of all infrastructure, economic, finance, industry, Agriculture and allied ministries of the Central Government.

Mr. Sharma worked as **Chief Executive Officer & Managing Director** of the **National Industrial Corridor Development Corporation Limited (NICDC)** (earlier **DMICDC**) from October 2015 to September 2019. He was also **CEO** of **National Industrial Corridor Development and Implementation Trust (NICDIT)**.

Rlys TTEs get new Facility

VIS News Service

With an aim to provide more comforts to the Train Ticket Examiners (TTE), Waltair Division of the East Coast Railway



renovated the existing TTE's rest house with modern amenities. **Divisional Railway Manager Mr. Anup Satpathy** inaugurated the facility wherein a recreational facility has also been arranged equipped with indoor games like Chess, Carrom board for stress relief of the staff and for entertainment an LED TV has been placed.

Corridor Development Corporation Limited (NICDC) (earlier **DMICDC**) from October 2015 to September 2019. He was also **CEO** of **National Industrial Corridor Development and Implementation Trust (NICDIT)**.

Making AP numero uno tourist destination

VIS News Service

Minister of State for Tourism, Culture and Sports Ms. R.K. Roja said that necessary steps need to be taken to make Andhra Pradesh the number one tourist destination in the country.

Ms. Roja directed the authorities to upgrade the infrastructure in the tourist spots to accommodate the influx of tourists. She also reviewed the projects undertaken by the state government through **Central Financial Assistance Funding, Swadesh Darshan and Prasad Schemes**. She also discussed with the authorities on the **Kakinada, Nellore Coastal**

Industries to get 70% power

VIS News Service

Minister for Energy Mr. Peddireddi Ramachandra Reddy said that the State government has decided to lift the one-day power holiday for industries and 50 per cent power cut in power supply in industrial sector as power consumption had come down to 186 million units from 235 million units per day. Speaking to presspersons the minister said this decision was taken keeping in mind the requests made by food processing units, ice factories and cold storage operators. He said 70 per cent power supply will be restored to other industries while 100% power supply will be provided to food processing industries.

Circuit and Buddhist Tourism Circuit projects.

The Minister discussed with the officials the project



issues to be sanctioned by the Central Government.

The review meeting was attended by **Dr. Rajat Bhargava**, **Special Principal Secretary, Department of Tourism, MD Kannababu & Others.**

SMAL initiates TPM at its Vizag facility

VIS News Service

Sarda Metals & Alloys Ltd. recently adopted TPM (Total Productive Maintenance) in its organization with the help of CII, Institute of Quality.

The organization is said to have rolled out all 8 Pillars of TPM through **MMM (Manager Model Machine)** journey after going through a learning curve of understanding the methodology.

Total productive maintenance (TPM) is a strategy that operates under the objective that everyone in a facility should participate in maintenance, rather than just the maintenance team.

Speaking on the occasion, **Mr. Neeraj Sarada**, **Deputy Managing**



Director of Sarda Metals & Alloys Ltd and present **Chairman of CII, Andhra Pradesh** infused a sense of pride amongst the **SMAL employees** through his presentation on the journey so far and spoke on the need, challenges and opportunities ahead.

Participating as chief guest, **Executive Director - Institute of Quality - Confederation of Indian Industry, Mr Vipin Sahni**

shared his experience on TPM implementations and the benefits thereof achieved by various industry verticals across the globe.

The kick-off ceremony was concluded by passing on the kick-off emblem from pillar chairpersons and other stakeholders, and also an oath taking to spread TPM scope from **MMM** to entire organization.

Awareness on Marine Pollution

VIS News Service

In order to address issues pertaining to combating oil spill at sea, a one day **Pollution Response seminar** was recently organized by **ICG Headquarters, Coast guard District No 06, Malkapuram.**

A presentation on combating marine pollution at sea was delivered. In addition, a demonstration through video on laying of **RO boom, TC3 bucket operation by Helo and spill spray arms** was also shown during the workshop.

IIMV-DAF sign MoU

VIS News Service

The **Indian Institute of Management Visakhapatnam** recently signed a **Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)** with the **Dr. Ambedkar Foundation (DAF), Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India.**



The **MOU envisages establishing the Dr Ambedkar Chair in Public Policy, Economics and Social Sciences at IIM Visakhapatnam.** The said Chair would serve as a knowledge centre to advance studies and research to understand, assess, disseminate, and implement ideas and thoughts of **Dr. B.R.**

Ambedkar. The Chair would promote the economic policies and principles of **Dr. Ambedkar.** In addition, the research agenda of the Chair at the Institute shall be to delve into the role of access to health and its role in social justice.

It is mentioned that **IIM Visakhapatnam** is the only IIM in the country to have been awarded this prestigious Chair.

The **Director, IIM Visakhapatnam Prof. M Chandrasekhar** signed the **MOU with Mr. Vikas Trivedi**, **Director, DAF** at the prestigious **Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi.**

FSSAI offers to set up food testing labs

VIS News Service

A team of the **FSSAI (Food Safety and Standards Authority of India)** along with **Indian Food Safety and Standards Agency CEO Mr. Arun Singhal** recently met



Minister Ms. Vidala Rajini to discuss the measures the state government was taking regarding food safety and quality.

They offered to set up food testing Laboratories across the State if the State government submits the proposals with estimates. He said that the Central

government is focusing on the quality of food and its continuous supervision. Referring to the drastic changes in the state brought out by the State government in providing **medical services from the village level**, **Mr. Singhal** said that it would do a lot of good to people.

Earlier the Minister said **YSR health clinics** have been set up for every 2,000 population in villages and have completely changed the rural medical system.

AU to train Armed Forces

VIS News Service

The **Director General of Resettlement, Ministry of Defence Representative** recently conducted an online meeting with **Registrar, A.U. Prof Krishna Mohan** and **Armed Forces students** undergoing **PRC program** in **CDS, Andhra University campus.**

Captain Navtej Singh representative of **Ministry of Defence**, announced that a total of 1500 participants of **Armed Forces uniform personnel** will be undergoing training in **A.U** in the 14th batch of **PRC** during this **Academic Program.**

AP all set for Davos

Contd. from Page 1

Progress, Opportunities," said the minister.

He stated that this year's special logo was designed as a testament to the people-centric governance provided by the Chief Minister.

Later, **Minister Amarnath** unveiled a booklet designed to address the **Andhra Pradesh government's "sustainable development goals"** step by step.

The Minister said that the state of **Andhra Pradesh** was embarking on a new trend in the world with the

objective of public welfare, adding that the booklet focused on 9 areas of implementation such as **Navratnas, environment, social welfare and good governance.**

Informing about the upcoming visit to **Davos** and the possible meetings,

Renewable energy, Technology services, consumer goods, FMCG among key sectors for investments.

Minister Amarnath said that 13 high-level bilateral meetings will be chaired by **Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy.**

The bilateral meetings will focus on enormous

investment opportunities in the relevant sectors, **renewable energy, technology services, consumer goods, FMCG, logistics, capital markets** and to enhance partnerships with the **Government of Andhra Pradesh.**

He said that **Andhra Pradesh** was already the third state among the states to achieve the **AP Sustainable Development Goal** by setting 17 **Sustainable Development Goals** with a focus on the welfare of the people and providing equal opportunities to all the deserving citizens.

Stone Laid for Ro-Ro facilities at Cochin Port



VIS News Service

In order to promote coastal movement of cargo, Union Minister for Ports, Shipping & Waterways and Ayush, Govt. of India **Mr. Sarbananda Sonowal**, recently laid the foundation stone for the Roll-On-Roll-Off (Ro-Ro) facility at Cochin Port. The new Ro-Ro facility, under 'Sagarmala' scheme of Govt. of India, will be developed between Q1 berth & South Coal Berth on the Mattancherry Channel in Cochin Port. As per the port it will involve construction of RCC Jetty structure of 615 Sq.M including strengthening of

the existing roads leading to this facility and all allied works.

It will also promote affordable coastal movement of cargo using Ro-Ro ships and will help in decongesting the roads thereby minimize accidents. It will also to be an engine to promote and facilitate eco-friendly cost effective mode of transportation said the port.

The project is being constructed at an estimated cost of Rs.11.06 crores with 100% funding from Government of India under Sagarmala Programme and is scheduled to be completed in 9 months.

CPA's new logo

VIS News Service

The New Logo of Cochin Port Authority was unveiled recently by **Mr. Shantanu Thakur**, Union Minister of State for Ports, Shipping and Waterways, during the function held in Cochin Shipyard recently. Cochin Port was renamed as Cochin Port Authority



कोचिन पत्तन प्राधिकरण
Cochin Port Authority

under Major Port Authorities Act, 2021 and the first Board of Major Port Authority of Cochin, held on 2nd March, 2022, has decided to adopt a new logo for Cochin Port Authority. The new logo of Cochin Port Authority is said to be a faithful representation of the rich history of Cochin's core values and open approach.

Indian Railways Registers record Freight Loading

VIS News Service

Indian railways registered a record 122.2 MT of originating freight loading with an incremental loading of 10.5 MT (9.5% growth) over the previous best figures of April '21 i.e., 111.64 MT.

With this achievement, IR has registered the best ever monthly figures for 20 straight months and

the trend that started in September 2020 has continued unbeaten with new records of monthly freight loading being set with each passing month said a release from the railways.

The NTKMs booked through Indian Railways in April '22 have also increased from 62.6



billion in April '21 to 73.7 billion i.e., an increase of 17.7 %.

This growth has been fueled by incremental loading of 5.8 MT in Coal, followed by 3.3 MT in Food grains and 1.3 MT of Fertilizers. Except Raw material for Steel Plants (including Iron Ore) and Finished steel, all

Port of Call



Visakhapatnam Port Authority's Deputy Chairman **Mr. Durgesh Kumar Dubey** along with **Mr. T. Venugopal**, Secretary, VPA recently welcomed Minister for Tourism, GOI, **Mr. G. Kishan Reddy**. The minister was on a brief visit to the City of Destiny.

Coal Loading ↑ 11%
Food Grains ↑ 95%
Fertilizers ↑ 53%
Containers ↑ 10%

commodities have registered a growth over the corresponding period of last year. In terms of wagons loaded per day also there has been a growth of 9.2 % and IR has loaded 66024 wagons per day as compared to 60434 wagons last year in the month of April.

DPA achieves highest sailing draft

VIS News Service

Deendayal Port Authority recently created a record wherein vessel M.V.RUBY STAR sailed from CJ-15 with a draft of 14.4 Mtrs. This is the highest sailing draft achieved in the Kandla Harbour area said DPA.

As per DPA the vessel, handled by MYSTIC SHIPPING PVT. LTD., loaded 74,000 MT of Aggregate in bulk account M/s. CHOWDHURY ASSOCIATES. The vessel is destined to the port of Chittagong in Bangladesh.

BIS's Second Phase of Hallmarking from 1st June 2022

VIS News Service

After the successful implementation of Mandatory Hallmarking by the Bureau of Indian Standards in 256 districts of the country, it has been notified by the government to implement the second phase of mandatory hallmarking from 1st June 2022 vide Hallmarking of Gold Jewellery and Gold Artefacts (Amendment) Order, 2022.

The first phase which was in effect from 23 June 2021, saw more than three lakh gold articles are being hallmarked with HUID

every day said a release from BIS.

The second phase of the mandatory hallmarking will cover additional three caratages of gold



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jewellery/artefacts viz.20, 23 and 24 carats.

As per a release from BIS the test report issued to the consumer will assure the consumer about the purity of their jewellery and will

also be useful if the consumer wishes to sell the jewellery lying with him.

The charges for testing of gold jewellery up to 4 articles is Rs 200 and for 5 or more articles, the charges are Rs 45 per article said the release.

The authenticity and purity of the hallmarked gold jewellery items with HUID number, purchased by consumer, can also be verified by using 'verify HUID' in BIS CARE app which can be downloaded from play store.

Keel laid for 2nd DSC at Titagarh Wagons

VIS News Service

Keel laying for the second ship of Diving Support Craft (DSC) project was recently held at M/s Titagarh Wagons Ltd., Kolkata. The contract for procurement of Five Diving Support Craft (Yards 325 to 329) for the Indian Navy was signed on 12 Feb 21 with M/s Titagarh Wagons Ltd., at a total project cost of Rs 174.77 Cr.

On commissioning, these craft will provide diving assistance for IN ships inside and close to harbour,

for underwater repairs, maintenance and salvage. The DSCs will be fitted with state-of-the-art diving equipment and tools for



performing diving operations. With all main and auxiliary equipment sourced from indigenous manufacturers, these ships are proud flag bearers of Make in India initiatives of the Ministry of Defence.

April's Engg Exports up 15%

VIS News Service

Exports of engineering items in value terms stayed above US\$ 9 billion in April and recorded 15% year-on-year growth. This clearly shows India is gradually moving towards becoming a manufacturing powerhouse in the world, EEPIC India Chairman **Mr. Mahesh Desai** said.

"While the trade deals with UAE and Australia are expected to give a boost to the sector, the proposed free trade pacts with other countries like UK and Canada would further give

impetus to exports from India," he said.

"Even as several world institutions have downgraded India's GDP



growth it is still the fastest-growing among major economies. This suggests India stands on strong footing and the engineering sector which contributes

over one-fourth of the country's total exports would remain a key growth driver," Mr Desai noted.

Mr. Desai said that there are certain challenges such as high logistics cost and unprecedented increase in raw material costs which have been hurting the engineering as well as other sectors.

"The government is well aware of the issues facing the sector and we hope policy actions would be taken to minimize the impact," he said.

India's Pharma exports up 103%

VIS News Service

Indian pharma exports witnessed a growth of 103% since 2013-14, from Rs. 90,415 Crores in 2013-14 to Rs. 1,83,422 Crores in 2021-22. The exports achieved in 2021-22 is the Pharma Sector' best export performance ever. As per the Ministry of Commerce and Industry exports grew by almost USD 10 billion in 8 years.

The trade balance continues to be in India's favour, with a surplus of USD 15175.81 Million

said the release from the ministry.

Indian pharma companies enabled by their price competitiveness and good quality, have made global mark, with 60 per cent of

and 14th by value. The current market size of the Indian pharmaceutical industry is around USD 50 billion. The share of pharmaceutical and drugs in our global exports is 5.92%.



India's Pharma exports
Top destinations: USA, UK, South Africa, Russia and Nigeria
Formulations and biologicals account 73.31% of total exports
55 % of India's pharma exports cater to highly regulated markets

the world's vaccines and 20% of generic medicines coming from India.

India ranks 3rd worldwide for production by volume

Formulations and biologicals continue to account for a major share of 73.31% in our total exports, followed by Bulk drugs and drug intermediates. India's top 5 pharma export destinations are USA, UK, South Africa, Russia and Nigeria.

Seminar explores new age Tech in Civil Engg.



VIS News Service

Emphasizing the need for innovative and new technologies in the field of civil engineering, a technical seminar was recently conducted at Andhra University Conventional Centre on the theme "Modern Trends and Technologies in Civil Engineering".

Jointly organized by Andhra University &

AM Sanjeev Kapoor new DG (I&S)



VIS News Service

Air Marshal Sanjeev Kapoor assumed the appointment of Director General (Inspection and Safety) [DG(I&S)] of Indian Air Force at Air HQ New Delhi on May 01, 2022. The Air Marshal is a graduate of National Defence Academy and was commissioned in the Flying branch of IAF in December 1985 as a Transport Pilot. He is an alumnus of Defence Services Staff College (DSSC) Wellington, College of Defence Management and National Defence College. The Air Officer is a Qualified Flying Instructor with more than 7700 hours of flying experience on various aircraft in the inventory of IAF.

In a service career spanning over 36 years, the Air Marshal has tenanted important command and staff appointments. The Air Officer is a recipient of Vayu Sena Medal and Ati Vishist Seva Medal.

Director General Naval Project, Visakhapatnam [DGNP(V)] the seminar witnessed participation from DRDO, Border Roads and the Premier Civil Infrastructure firms in the Country. Over 450 students from various Engineering colleges in Visakhapatnam took part in the seminar.

Vice Admiral Sreekumar Nair, AVSM, NM, DGNP, Visakhapatnam gave the inaugural address while the keynote address was given by V Adm Biswajit Dasgupta, AVSM, YSM, VSM, FOC-in-C Eastern Naval Command. V Adm Biswajit Dasgupta impressed upon the tremendous importance of Civil Engineering for Naval Infrastructure development as well as for the Nation. He further emphasized the need for tapping new technologies with the aim of enhancing the user experience.

Lt Gen Harpal Singh, PVSM, AVSM, VSM, ADC, the Engineer-in-Chief stressed upon the

need for speedy induction of the latest into the project management by the Military Engineer Services and completing timelines for Projects without cost over rise.

Similarly Andhra University's Vice Chancellor, Prof P V G D Prasad Reddy spoke on the need for constant academic-industry cooperation to constantly upgrade its technologies in India's march towards a fully developed nation.

The day-long Seminar was aimed at sharing of Knowledge from subject experts for both practicing engineers involved in infrastructure creation and for the budding engineers of Andhra University. A total of 9 case studies on some of the marquee projects that were completed recently or are under construction were discussed during the seminar.

V Adm Biswajit Dasgupta also inaugurated the Building Information Management Cell and Virtual Reality Centre of DGNP (V) which is a facility towards fully automated project management & visualization.

National Technology Day at NSTL

VIS News Service

In connection with National Technology Day and in commemoration of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, Naval Science & Technological Laboratory (NSTL), Visakhapatnam organized a programme. Dr. Samir V Kamat, Distinguished Scientist & Director



General (Naval Systems & Materials) was the Chief Guest of the occasion.

Re-emphasizing the theme of National Technology Day-2022 - "Integrated Approach in science & technology for a sustainable future", Dr. Kamat stressed NSTL community to accelerate along with the rate of change of technological development all over the world.

On this occasion, Titanium Medal and Director's Commendation Certificate was presented to Mr. Sunny Verma, Scientist 'D', for his oration on "A Monte Carlo based simulation scheme for failure studies of parachute assisted air drop of AUVs".

At the Secretariat



Contributing towards the Nadu Nedu scheme, Devi Sea Foods MD Potru Brahmanandam and Avanti Group CMD Alluri Indrakumar recently presented a cheque for Rs. 2 crore each to Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy.

HSL fetches over Rs 200 crs in Ship Repairs

VIS News Service

Making a conscious effort in further enhancing its ship repair business Hindustan Shipyard Limited under the leadership of Cmde Hemant Khatri, IN (Retd.) has been making significant strides in this vertical of business.

With HSL's proven expertise in carrying out



intricate repair of over 2000 Naval and Merchant ships the shipyard truly has immense potential of becoming a Ship repairs hub on the Eastern Sea Board of India.

The shipyard has been aggressively participating in ship repair tenders issued by various

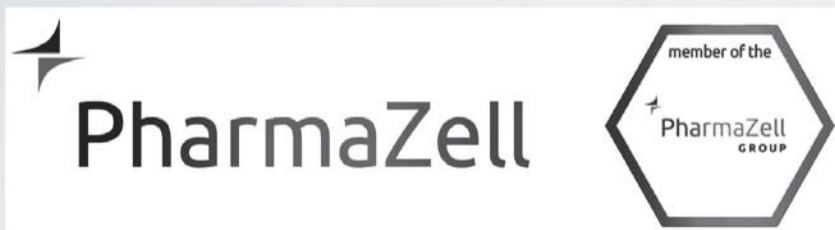
customers like SCI, DCI, ONGC, etc.

As a result, HSL has won five back to back successive Ship Repairs orders i.e MODU Sagar Bhushan, MV Viswa Vijeta, MV Vishva Malhar, MV Viswa Ekta and MV Swarajdweep worth Rs 230 Cr just in the past 7 - 8 months.

The major reforms undertaken at HSL in

the past few months have propelled its growth and created extensive opportunities for MSMEs.

HSL is exploring 'Strategic Partnership' models to tie up with global OEMs which will also support MSMEs to set up ancillary industries and supply chain under Atmanirbhar Bharat initiative.



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Tell us about your company, area of work, team and importantly who your target segment is. For startups that qualify shall get featured in
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Forging Partnerships



VIS News Service

Minister for Industries, Infrastructure, Investment & Commerce and Information Technology, Government of Andhra Pradesh recently met **Dr. Andrew Fleming**, Deputy High Commissioner, British Deputy High Commission Hyderabad and **Mr. Alan Gemmell**, Her Majesty's Trade Commissioner of South Asia and British Deputy High Commission Mumbai.

During the meeting possible avenues of collaboration

HPCL begins Countdown for Yoga Day

VIS News Service

Oil major company HPCL recently participated in the Countdown to International Day of Yoga, christened as Yoga Utsav 2022. Minister of Petroleum & Natural Gas and Housing & Urban Affairs, **Mr. Hardeep Singh Puri** and Minister of State for Petroleum and Natural Gas and Labour & Employment, **Mr. Rameshwar Teli** led the celebrations by performing Common Yoga Protocol.

Director HR, Additional charge C&MD and Additional Charge Director Marketing - HPCL, **Mr. Pushp Kumar Joshi**, Director Refineries-HPCL, **Mr. V S Shenoy** along with Senior officials joined the celebrations from HP Nagar East, Mumbai by performing various Yoga Asanas. Various other locations of HPCL also participated in the celebrations by performing Yoga.

International Day of Yoga, is celebrated annually on 21st of June since its inception in 2015.



were discussed between the Government of Andhra Pradesh and the British Government in sectors like FinTech, AgriTech, Aqua processing & Exports,

state. It is stated that the British High Commission expressed interest to co-host the shrimp summit to enhance Trade relations.

Tourism Tech, EV. The Minister requested support of the British High Commission in building trade partnerships with the

NITI Aayog team meets CM



A delegation of NITI Aayog led by its advisor Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) **Sanyukta Samadar** recently met Chief Minister **Mr. YS Jagan Mohan Reddy**. The CM expressed his willingness to set up a monitoring cell on the targets to be achieved for sustainable economic progress in the Planning Department in partnership with the UNDP. The meeting was attended by Chief Secretary **Dr Sameer Sharma**, Planning Secretary **GSRK Vijaykumar**, UNDP (India) Chief Advisor **Meenakshi Kathel**, Justice Commission SDG Officers **Allen John**, **SDP Dennis Curry**.

AU awards IPR champions

Winners get cash prize along with certificate

VIS News Service

DPIIT-IPR Chair, Centre for Intellectual Property Rights Andhra University organized online the AP

competition. The winners of these awards were announced during the World IP Day celebrations and AU Foundation Day on April 26. The awards were

the winners of the awards. The total award amount was Rs.10,000 and a Certificate. All the winners are from Andhra University.



Ms. Anjali Nidadavolu from M.Pharmacy got the first prize, **Ms Maram Anasuya Kumari** M.Sc (Maths) got the second prize and 5 students shared the third prize. They are **Ms. Sukeerthi**

State IPR Champions Quiz competition for the college students of Andhra Pradesh on the eve of World IP day on April 25. More than 650 students from almost all districts of Andhra Pradesh registered for the quiz

presented to the winners by the Vice Chancellor **Prof PVGD Prasad Reddy** in presence of the Registrar **Prof V Krishna Mohan** and DPIIT-IPR Chair **Prof H Purushotham**. The Vice Chancellor congratulated all

Nimmakuri, Ms. Renu Sravanthi Dommeti, Ms. Pulla Sirisha, Mr Shaik Bhavan all from M.Pharmacy and **Mr. Balabadrani Naga Satwik** from AU Law college.

AP woos Centre for Mega Tex Park

Contd. from Page 1

understandably all these state governments have also forwarded the proposal to the Central government informed Mr Valaven.

Elaborating further he said that the AP Government has urged the Union Government to set up the mega industrial textile park spread over 1,186 acres either in Visakhapatnam-Chennai Industrial Corridor or as a part of the YSR Jagananna Mega Industrial Hub.

APIIC has agreed to extend all possible support to the proposed mega textile park and Mr Valaven underscored that the state government has extended many incentives to the textile sector even during the covid-19

pandemic to spur growth of the textile sector.

“We have already three functioning textile integrated parks in the state, and the atmosphere is very congenial to set up



the mega textile park with logistical advantages such as highly efficient road, rail and air connectivity prevailing in Kadapa district” Mr Valaven observed.

Central Team visits Kadapa for feasibility

A high-level central team headed by **Mr. H.S. Nanda**, Director, Ministry of Textile, and Deputy

Secretary **Punendra Kant** have visited Kadapa district recently and conducted the feasibility study at the site in Kopparthi mandal where a land mass is identified to set up the park.

The team also held wide ranging discussions with the senior officials in the industries department at Amravati, before departing for Kadapa district to examine the site and conduct the feasibility study. During their visit they were briefed about AP's potential and the position it enjoys for being the seventh largest producer of cotton and second in silk.

The fact that many textile parks are already functioning in the state,

which is also the biggest producer of yarn, only add value to the AP being the top contender in the race to bag the project, said the special chief secretary.

Generating Employment growth.

According to industry experts, the prestigious project would augment employment generation in the drought hit regions of Kadapa, Anantapur and Chittoor and the project is expected to give direct employment to 1 lakh people and indirect employment to 2 lakh people. Added to these factors, prestigious institutes such as Handlooms and Handicrafts Centre in Anantapur and the Indian Institute of Handloom Technology (IIHT) also situated in the state, speak volumes about the textile-rich ecosystem which is prevailing in Andhra Pradesh.

'Top priority to Tidco Houses'

VIS News Service

The State Municipal and Urban Development Minister **Dr. Adimulapu Suresh** said the government would give priority to Tidco houses and the authorities should work hard to complete the houses as per the plan.

Speaking at a review meeting, the Minister said, 1,50,000 houses must be completed by July and 2.62 lakh houses by December and handed over to the beneficiaries. He said he would arrange a coordination meeting with the finance ministry officials for the payment of bills.

The Minister said we are determined to complete these TIDCO homes to the fullest extent and provide them with complete infrastructure.

India a fast growing market for the UK

Aditya Sabharwal

Having recently concluded two important and significant trade deals with UAE and Australia, India is in discussions with few other countries for similar type of pacts.

An important FTA that is currently in the making is with United Kingdom which is being worked upon with a keen sense of urgency. Both the

Her Majesty's Trade Commissioner (HMT) for South Asia speaking exclusively to Vizag Industrial Scan.

Mr Gemmell who also happens to be the British's Deputy High Commissioner to Western India was joined by Mr. **Andrem Fleming**, British's Deputy High Commissioner to AP and Telangana for the interview wherein they



elaborated on the fast evolving UK-India trade relations, key sectors for investments and the opportunities they present.

Edited Excerpts below. **We have been hearing of a possible FTA with Britain some time later this year. Could you elaborate on the proposed FTA and what this would entail for India-Britain trade going forward?**

Alan Gemmell: Now that the UK can create its own trade policies, it is critically important that we develop a new free trade agreement with India. I must tell you that this is a priority for the

bring their technology to India. I therefore believe there are big opportunities for UK to support the on-going Innovation in the Indian healthcare eco-system. There are

There is a big opportunity for the UK-India defence relationship. There are British businesses that can make in India and partner with companies here.

Coming to the state of Andhra Pradesh, what according to you are some key areas of partnership here?

Andrew Fleming: To my mind Agritech and Food processing are big areas of opportunity for the state of Andhra Pradesh. Similarly there are many shrimp factories in and around this region, so shrimp exports to UK is another area of tremendous opportunity.

Agri & Food processing big areas of opportunities in AP

Prime Ministers have asked their respective negotiators to get it completed by as early as this Diwali.

The UK-India bilateral trade is said to have totalled over £18 billion in 2020 and surpassed £21.5 billion in 2021.

'Now that the UK can create its own trade policies, it is critically important that we develop a new FTA with India. It is a priority for the British government the PM and our team' said Mr. Alan Gemmell,

What are some of the key sectors for investments between the two nations?

Alan Gemmell: Albeit there are a range of potential sectors, just in the last few years or so we have seen tremendous opportunities in both Tech and Healthcare. Almost all Indian tech companies operating in the UK have increased their presence in UK and have significantly increased employment there.

Healthcare can play a very significant role in our partnership. Just to give you an example in healthcare, a British robotics surgery company has announced a 200 million pounds export deal i.e. to

about 43000 people in British health service of Indian origin. We would want to see more British healthcare business come here.

Similarly green energy and EV transitions are a key sector. There are a number of British companies looking to take up opportunities in the EV space in India. A 217 million pounds investment was done in the state of Maharashtra to develop EV batteries and allied.

How important is India's Defence Sector for UK?

Alan Gemmell: We absolutely want to grow and develop our market share in the defence sector in India.

8 British Cos operating in Sri City, Andhra Pradesh

And in terms of manufacturing I believe Sri City to have a well-established ecosystem. We have 8 British companies employing 2000 people in Sri City. We thus would certainly want to highlight Sri City and what it has to offer British companies.

New RDO assumes charge



VIS News Service

Mr. D. Hussain has recently taken charge as the new RDO of Visakhapatnam. Mr. Hussain holds an MBA, MA & B.Ed degrees. He has earlier worked as Deputy Collector in 2013 and worked as RDO Ananthapur, Kurnool and Nellore, Project Director DRDA Guntur.

Prior to joining Group II services he worked as teacher from 1983 to 1995.

Mr. Hussain joined as Deputy Tehsildar under group II services in 1995. He was promoted as Tehsildar in 1998 and worked in Kurnool, Chittoor and Kadapa districts.

Cyber Crimes a growing Menace

Contd. from Page 1

seemingly difficult for police to get back the siphoned money.

'These crimes are highly complex in nature and when a cyber crime occurs it is highly difficult to detect and get back the stolen amount' noted Mr Ch Srikanth.

Albeit the CP informed that the cyber security cell in the city is in the process of getting aggrandized and adequate training is being given to the officers to deal with such menaces it is highly cumbersome to get back money that has been erroneously taken away.

'It is not realistic for us to send our officers abroad when a cyber crime has originated from a different country' cited Mr Srikanth.

He thus advocated industry at large to protect their valuable data and to implement measures that can safeguard both your and client data.

'Keeping the competitive nature of businesses in mind

Cyber security audits are thus a good precautionary measure from preventing cyber crimes from happening' reiterated the Police Commissioner.

Traffic Woes

Talking on the issue of increasing traffic Mr Srikanth said that this is one of his top priorities and that necessary steps are



being taken to address this.

'People make an impression of a city when they look at basic things as to how traffic is being handled, how the constable on the road is behaving etc. Thus these are things we need to take care of and steps are being undertaken to ease out traffic woes' informed the CP.

Sowing Growth

VIS News Service

Secretary, ministry of Commerce, Govt of India recently visited VSEZ. During his meeting with various export developers and units the secretary lauded the efforts of VSEZ for achieving 135,500 crores export in the year 2021-22 which is 20% more than the previous year 2020-21.



Purdue Prof. visits AU

Dr. Rao S Govindaraju, Professor of Civil Engineering, Purdue University recently interacted with AU VC **Prof. P.V.G.D. Prasad Reddy**, and discussed about the academic programmes of Department of Civil Engineering, AUCE and developmental activities of the university.

Highest-ever April Freight Loading for SCR

VIS News Service

South Central Railway exhibited remarkable performance in the freight loading and passenger revenue segments in April, 2022. The zone achieved its highest ever April freight loading of 10.495 Million tonnes in April 2022. In another noteworthy achievement, the zone has recorded a whopping Rs. 370.5 crores in passenger revenue, which is also the highest ever for the month of April.



As per SCR the average number of wagons supplied per day during the month of April 2022 was 5,337, which is 10% more than the previous year.

SCR has accorded top priority to coal transportation due to which 5.273 MTs coal was loaded from the zone, which is 13% more when compared with the previous year. Other major contributors are Cement (3.016 MTs), Food grains (0.400 MTs), Fertilizers (0.558 MTs), Containers (0.185 MTs) and other goods (1.063 MTs.).

10.495 MTs of freight loaded in April,'22 Passenger revenue of Rs. 370.5 crs highest recorded in April of any year



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Equipment	T1 (Existing)	T2 (New)
RMQC	6	3
RTGC	10	9
Reach Stacker	4	5
Tractor Trailers	30	24
Reefer	350	300



The terminal expansion work is completed and has started operation.



The new terminal (T2) is equipped with Super Post Panamax cranes for handling larger container vessels.



The total quay length of the combined terminal is 845 metres with draft of 16.5 metres.

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