



VIZAG INDUSTRIAL SCAN

An Industrial Fortnightly

VOLUME 24 ISSUE 11, PAGES: 12 ■ Oct 1-15, 2021

www.viscan.in

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION Rs.999/-

AP's Commercial Taxes Rev. up 74%

Aditya Sabharwal

With the easing of the second wave of the pandemic and things starting to normalise Andhra Pradesh's commercial taxes revenue has seen a welcome surge in its revenue collections for the first half of the current fiscal compared to the same period last year.

Primarily due to the low base effect of last fiscal



Our strong focus on 'Return management' has yielded us good results.

Mr. Ravi Shankar Narayan IRS,
Chief Commissioner ST

65.16% and 65.83% respectively compared to the same period last year.

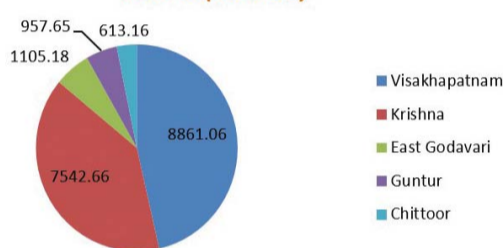
While in terms of liquor the department collected revenues of Rs 1879.66 crs in Q1FY22 and Rs 2224.6 crs in Q2FY22 marking a growth of 171.04% and 165.96% respectively compared to the same period last year.

Professional tax collection increased too with the department recording revenues of Rs 56.61 crores in Q1 and Rs 65.43 crores in Q2 thereby marking a growth of 85.62% and 23.36% respectively.

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Top 5 Districts in Terms of Collections

H1FY22 (Rs in Crs)



GST revenue collections for the state for both Q1&Q2 FY22 saw a growth of

87.20% and 42.09% compared to the same period last year.

RHI Magnesita bets big on Vizag

Invests Rs. 50 crs on plant Expansion

VIS News Service

A global leader in refractory products and solutions, RHI Magnesita, recently announced the



expansion of its Vishakhapatnam plant with an initial investment of Rs 50 Crore in the current year.

The investment would lead to a 33% increment to the plant production capacity in the near term. The expansion is part of the strategic initiative of the com-

pany to support the Make in India initiative of the Government.

Informing on the expansion **Mr. Parmod Sagar**, MD & CEO of RHI Magnesita India Ltd., said "The Vizag facility has gained strategic importance in our Global production network. The plant has already been a critical supplier of High Alumina bricks for our customer network in India and the international market. We want to enhance its capacity to strengthen its position as the high alumina bricks production hub for the larger region of India, West Asia and Africa. This expansion is well in line

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New Chief Comm.

VIS News Service



Mr. Suresh Kishnani MIRS has been appointed as the new Chief Commissioner of customs and central tax Visakhapatnam zone. Mr Kishnani is taking over from Chandigarh wherein he was the Principal chief commissioner there.

The Visakhapatnam Central Tax Zone is headed by the Chief Commissioner of Central Tax, and comprises of 7 Commissionerates some of them includes Visakhapatnam, Guntur, Tirupati, Guntur Appeals and Guntur Audit.

Air Traffic at AP's Airports surge 80% in Q2

Aditya Sabharwal

Signalling a strong recovery in the air passenger traffic in Andhra Pradesh the four main Airports of AP have witnessed a welcome surge in its passenger footfalls.

Passenger Traffic at AP's airports recorded a thundering comeback after a brutal second wave of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Although Air travel passenger numbers had revived in the Q3 and Q4 of FY'21

the second wave of the pandemic had disrupted a full recovery.

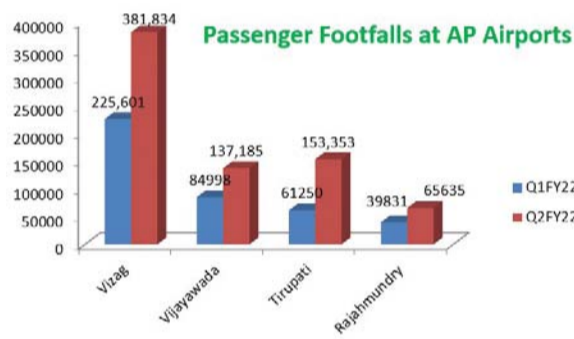
Now with the second wave having passed by, Airport Directors at four of the main AP's airports have enthused confidence of a speedy recovery while

ther increase once the winter schedule comes into play.

'Overall passenger numbers have gone up and we expect them to increase further' said **Mr. K. Srinivasa Rao**, Vizag's Airport director speaking to Vizag Industrial Scan.

Concurred Airport Director Rajahmundry **Mr. Manoj Kumar Naik**, 'Passenger traffic is reviving and we expect the numbers to grow

Contd. on Page ..11



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NALCO addressing India's need for Aluminium: CMD

VIS News Service

Addressing the shareholders on the occasion through the virtual platform, NALCO CMD **Mr. Sridhar Patra**, said that NALCO as one of the leading CPSE of the country has come a long way in the service of the Nation and powering India's Mineral Security. The company has not only addressed the need for self-sufficiency in aluminium, but has also given the country a technological edge in producing this metal of the future at par with global standards said Mr Patra.



Although LME was at rock bottom in Q1; with planned initiatives, along with effective procurement strategies led to a landslide improvement in the bottom-line of the company," he said.

Highlighting the future plans of the company, Mr. Patra said that the focus is now on early commissioning of the expansion activities. "With steady progress on the ongoing expansion activities, we are optimistic for commissioning of the proposed one million tonnes per annum 5th Stream of Alumina Refinery expansion by 2023-24", said Mr. Patra.

National Aluminium Company Limited (NALCO) declared a final dividend of 20% i.e. Rs. 1 per equity share, during the 40th Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Navaratna CPSE, held at Bhubaneswar. The total dividend pay-out for financial year 2020-21 comes to Rs. 644.27 crore, as against Rs. 279.84 crore declared and paid during the previous financial year 2019-20.

Nalco Declares 20% dividend

He added that despite the turbulent environment, coupled with volatile nature of LME prices and subdued demand for metal, the company has made steady progress by focusing on the 5P's - production, productivity, people, projects and profit. Amid the Challenging business environment, the year 2020-21 has been a year of accomplishments for Nalco, Mr. Patra said.

Steel Minister stresses on using Energy Efficient Methods

VIS News Service

Speaking at a webinar on Future of Indian Mining, Metals & Cement Industries- Decarbonization, Environment Manage-



Govt. aggressively funding energy saving Technologies.

**Mr. Faggan S Kulaste
Steel Minister**

ment & Sustainable Solutions Minister of State in Steel & Rural Development, Government of India, **Mr. Faggan Singh Kulaste**, said, "Using energy-efficient methods to produce steel will not only reduce production costs but also improve competitiveness. This can be achieved through highly developed energy management systems and usage of the latest technologies in production process, to reduce our carbon footprint. Solutions like renewable energy, solar power and zero-liquid discharge, zero-waste approach would become the norm in the future".

Addressing the webinar organized by FICCI, the Minister said

that, Government of India, with an objective to enhance energy efficiency in the sector is aggressively funding the projects focussed upon energy sav-

ing technologies and carbon reduction.

main in pace with their global counterparts. **Mr. Satendra Singh**, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Mines, Govt of India said that the country is one of the largest consumer markets in the world with capacity to consume large amounts of consumables that are likely to have components that are coming from mining or metal sector.

"Newer technologies that are carbon free and environmentally sustainable present before us a good opportunity," he said.

Mr. SK Roongta, Mentor, FICCI Non-Ferrous Metals Committee and Non-Executive Chairman, BALCO, stated that the large level of energy requirement and emission of green-house gases like carbon dioxide, carbon mono oxide and oxides of sulphur, among others, are a major cause of environment pollution from the mining activities," he said.

NTPC REL Sign First Green Term Loan

VIS News Service

NTPC Renewable Energy Ltd (REL) a 100 per cent subsidiary of NTPC Ltd, has signed its first Green Term Loan agreement of Rs. 500 crores at a very competitive rate with a tenor of 15 years with Bank of India on 29th September 2021 for its 470 MW Solar Projects in Rajasthan & 200 MW Solar Project in Gujarat.



NTPC REL currently has renewable project portfolio of 3,450 MW of which 820 MW projects are under construction and 2,630 MW projects have been won for which PPAs are pending to be executed.

Dr. Prahallad Panda, CMO and Secretary-in-charge along with other HODs and Dy. HODs were also present on the occasion. As part of Swachhta Pakhwada various activities like Awareness drive among workers and staff of all Departments & Divisions of PPT, Swachhata Awareness hoardings, Swachhata Rath, Cleaning of Pump Houses and digital display at important locations in the township were undertaken.

SAIL ready for next phase of expansion: Soma Mondal

VIS News Service

SAIL's CMD **Ms. Soma Mondal** has said that with the improved leverage position, SAIL is ready to move into the next phase of expansion.

Speaking at the company's 49th Annual General Meeting she said that during FY'21, SAIL effected supplies to projects like Katra to Banihal Tunnel project, BRTF Leh-Ladakh project, Leh Airport, Eastern Dedicated Freight Corridor Corporation, Lower Subansiri Hydel project in Assam, Agartala-Akhura Rail link project in Tripura among others.

Describing FY'21 as the year of 'Growth and Scaling newer heights' for SAIL, Ms. Mondal said SAIL posted its highest ever EBITDA of Rs 13740

Manoj Kumar CMD, CMPDI



VIS News Service

Mr. Manoj Kumar assumes charge as Chairman-cum-Managing Director of Central Mine Planning and Design Institute (CMPDI). Prior to this, he worked in different capacities in CMPDI.

Mr. Kumar graduated in Mining Engineering from IIT-BHU, Varanasi in 1986. He has vast experience both in underground and opencast mining and played a lead role in the planning of India's biggest coal mines like Gerva, Kusumunda, and Dipika Mines. He has been awarded as the best General Manager at Coal India Level in the year 2019.

Crore which was higher by ~23% over CPLY.

The factors which helped improve profitability included higher sales of secondary products, sale of iron ore fines, lower usage of other raw materials, improvement in techno-economic parameters, benefit in stores and spares expenses, decreased purchased power rates, reduction in interest charges, higher dividend income

and forex exchange gain among others. The Profit Before Tax (PBT) of the company stood highest in the last ten years. The company's borrowings came down to Rs 35350 Crore with a reduction of more than Rs 16000 Crore consequently improving the debt-equity ratio to 0.87 on March 31, 2021 vis-à-vis 1.36 as on March 31, 2020 stated an official release from SAIL.

RINL sales turnover up 14%

Reduces net loss to Rs 789 crs from Rs 3910 crs

VIS News Service

Addressing the 39th Annual General Meeting (AGM) of Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited for the Financial Year 2020-21, **Mr Atul Bhatt**, CMD said that in spite of the impact of COVID-19 during the year, the company achieved a Sales Turnover of Rs.17,980 Crs., with a growth of 14% over the previous year.

As per an official release from RINL it stated that the inventory of steel could be reduced by 0.290 MT during the year by increasing the Exports to 1.308 MT from 0.497 MT in the previous year.

With the gradual unlocking of economic activity in the country, the production

was stepped up by reverting to 3 Blast Furnaces operations since Nov'20. With the commissioning of Coke Oven Battery-5 also in Dec'20, the production levels attained new highs. With



improvement in market conditions at the same time, the company achieved Profit after Tax (PAT) since Dec'20, he added. For the year as a whole, the Company could achieve a positive EBITDA of Rs. 1,400 Crs. as against

negative EBITDA of Rs. 1,499 Crs. in the previous year said the release.

The company has reduced the net loss (PAT) to Rs. 789 Crs. as compared to a net loss (PAT) of Rs. 3910 Crs. in the previous year.

The company achieved improvement in 2 major areas of cost i.e. Iron Ore and Coal. The usage of Iron Ore Slimes as a replacement of Iron Ore Fines was increased to 24% from 9% in the previous year. The Pulverised Coal Injection was increased to 98.2 Kg/tHM from 97.2 Kg/tHM in the previous year. The sales of High End Value Added steel increased to 24% of Domestic Sales during the year from 20% in the previous year.

Many new initiatives on the anvil: Shipping Minister

VIS News Service

There will be many new initiatives in maritime sector in the future, stated Union Minister for Ports, Shipping and Waterways and AYUSH **Mr Sarbananda Sonowal**.

“People should know about the prospects, potential and strength of water transportation mode. It should be used optimally with the help of technology. We should move forward by using our natural resources”, urged Mr Sonowal.

The Union Minister was addressing the Diamond Jubilee Celebrations of Shipping Corporation of India (SCI), along with Union Minister of State for Ports, Shipping and Waterways, **Mr Shantanu Thakur**.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr Sonowal said,

students residing in different parts of India should know about the opportunities in the maritime sector and how the marine



resources can be utilized for the development of our country as well as mankind.

Mr Sonowal applauded SCI for playing a big role in fulfilling the Prime Minister’s vision of ‘Transformation through transportation’. “SCI will have to further show its strength in the future”, he said. He said, SCI has played an important role in spreading India’s name and fame across the world for the last 60 years’.

Mr Sonowal felicitated the all-women crew members of SCI’s MT Swarna Krishna which was flagged off from JNPT Liquid Berth Jetty on March 6, 2021 and created history.

Union MoS Mr Thakur said, “We are striving to develop all major ports of India in every possible manner in accordance with international standards”.

MV SCI flagged off

VIS News Service

The Union Ministers virtually flagged off MV SCI Chennai from Kandla Port for EXIM trades with the middle-eastern countries. The vessel will sail from Kandla, proceed to Kochi and Tuticorin for loading export cargo and sail towards the Middle East.

Haranadh takes Charge at PPT Wows to make PPT no 1

VIS News Service

Former Deputy Chairman of VPT, **Mr. P.L. Haranadh** recently took over as the new Chairman of Paradip Port Trust (PPT).

Taking charge Mr. Haranadh emphasized on making PPT the No.1 major port in the country during his tenure.

He stressed on prioritising completion of various upcoming projects at PPT, including the much ambitious Western Dock project at the earliest.

Before joining PPT, he was working as Chief Freight Transportation Manager of East Coast Railway. He has rich experience in rail transportation, especially in freight operations, business development and traffic planning.

In recognition of



many meritorious works, he received National Award for outstanding management in 2002 and in 2005 from Ministry of Railways.

During his stint at VPT he was instrumental in developing innovative marketing solutions like total logistics solutions to customers to attract cargoes like coal, containers etc. During his tenure, he contributed to overall growth of Visakhapatnam Port and the Port scaled up to 3rd position among major Ports. Mr. Haranadh is an IRTS officer of 1994 batch.

Kerala sends 1st export of VA products to Australia

VIS News Service

The Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) recently facilitated exports of the first consignment of various value-added and nutrient-rich products derived from Jackfruit, Passion fruit and Nutmeg (Jaiphal) sourced from farmers in Thrissur, Kerala, to Melbourne, Australia.

As per an official release these products have a shelf life of more than one year.

FFFAI’s new Chairman



VIS News Service

The Federation of Freight Forwarders’ Associations in India (FFFAI) in its 58th Annual General Meeting (AGM) elected the new Office-Bearers of the Executive Committee for the year 2021-23.

In the meeting, **Mr Shankar Shinde** took over as the Chairman, FFFAI for the ensuing two years’ tenure and was also elected Managing Director on IFCBA (International Federation of Custom Brokers Association).

Taking charge Mr. Shinde said one of his priorities would be to empower the customs brokers by enhancing Skill development, Training, increasing their role in Logistic Sector, diversification with forward and backward integration.

IIFF (India Institute of Freight Forwarders) is the training arm of FFFAI providing regular training programme in Logistics with Diploma Certification from FIATA.

IN BRIEF

VPT bags 3rd cleanest port award

Adding another feather to its cap, Visakhapatnam Port Trust has bagged the 3rd Cleanest Port Award from Union Ministry of Ports Shipping and Waterways for the year 2019. As part of Swachh Bharat the port conducted cleaning programmes in and around Port Area, Gnanapuram, Street Plays etc. from September 16th 2019 to 30th 2019. VPT Chairman **Mr. K. Rama Mohana Rao, IAS**, commended the officers and employees of VPT, for this achievement.



Freight train carries Cotton Bales to WB

For the first time, the Raichur railway station of Karnataka state has commenced loading of a new commodity i.e. Cotton Bales through Goods train. The freight train consisting of 21 wagons was recently dispatched to Bangaon station of West Bengal covering a distance of 1871 Km.

1st shipment of Kashmir walnuts despatched to B’luru

The first consignment of Kashmiri walnuts was recently flagged off from Budgam. A truck carrying 2,000 kgs was despatched to Bengaluru, Karnataka under the One District, One Product (ODOP) Initiative of the Ministry of Commerce & Industry. The successful facilitation of trade was recently marked with a flag off by Additional Secretary, **Ms. Sumita Dawra, DPIIT**.



JNPT records 40.40% growth

VIS News Service

Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust (JNPT) handled 2,703,051 TEUs during the first half of the FY 2021-22 against 1,925,284 TEUs during the same period last year which is 40.40% growth.



As per a release from

JNPT the rail coefficient in the first half of FY2021-22 was 18.04% while the total container traffic handled in September 2021 stood at 452,108 TEUs, witnessing a growth of 18.86% over the same month of last year.

NSIGT crossed the 1 lakh TEUs mark in a month

by handling 1,00,814 TEUs in September-2021, the highest ever TEUs handled since its inception.

Commenting on the half-yearly performance, **Mr. Sanjay Sethi, IAS**, Chairman, JNPT, said, “JNPT has been undertaking various measures to ensure the port is at par with technologically advanced global ports.”

SCR fetches Rs. 109crs in Six months

VIS News Service

The South Central Railway earned a revenue of **Rs.109.06 crores** by loading **2.56 lakh tonnes** of Parcels during the first six months in the current financial year 2021-2022. This surpassed their previous years entire parcel revenue of Rs. 108.30 crores.

As per SCR the major contributors for this growth was Timetabled Parcel Trains operated by the Zone. These trains have helped in transportation of several essential commodities like Fruits, Onions, Eggs, Fish, and Mangoes to different destination across the country said a release from SCR.

During the period April, 2021 to September

27th 2021, the zone ran 343 kisan rails transporting Onions, Mangoes and other agricultural commodities



carrying **108388 tonnes** generating revenue of **Rs.49.43 crores**.

Further, SCR operated Doodh Duroto specials to the National Capital carrying **3.78 crore** liters of Milk

which generated a revenue of **Rs. 17.85 crores**.

The other major commodities which generated revenue included **37,199 tonnes** of fish and **19,570 tonnes** of Eggs which generated revenue of Rs. 8.91 crores and Rs. 3.88 crores respectively. Importantly the zone has achieved 100% bar coding for tracking of Parcel packages.

SCR GM **Mr. Gajanan Mallya**, complimented the efforts put in by the Zonal and Divisional teams of Operating and Commercial branches in achieving the best ever parcel revenue in the history of the zone during the first six months of current financial year.

Sri City ranks among best Industrial Parks

VIS News Service

The Industrial Park Rating System (IPRS), launched by the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) has rated Sri City in 'leaders' category, along

with the 40 other best performing industrial parks and 13 best performing Special Economic Zones (SEZs) in the country. Sri City is the only park from South India to get this rating. Besides this, as per IPRS, with its highest level of performance, Sri City was recognised as one of the 14 top performing Pri-

private Industrial parks, and its Electronic Manufacturing Cluster (EMC) is considered as one of the 15 top rated sector specific parks. Also, Sri City is the top rated Industrial park in Andhra Pradesh across all categories and parameters

Expressing happiness at



We are very happy to get this recognition, and this serves as a fitting testimonial for our world-class infrastructure.

Mr. Ravindra Sannareddy
Founder & MD, Sri City

said a release from Sri City. At an event held in New Delhi recently, **Mr. Som Parkash**, Minister of State for Commerce & Industry, launched the upgraded version of the Industrial Park Rating System (IPRS) 2.0, that ranks industrial land banks across the country.

the IPRS rating, **Mr. Ravindra Sannareddy**, Founder Managing Director Sri City said, "We are very happy to get this recognition, and this serves as a fitting testimonial for our world-class infrastructure, hand holding friendly assistance to clients and the best practices for the environmental sustainability."

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Mr. Anurag Jain, Secretary,

Canadian Trade Rep explores opportunities with AU

VIS News Service

Trade Commissioner, Consulate General of Canada **Mr. Vikram Jain** recently met with Andhra University Vice-Chancellor and

discussed various prospects including teaching, research, student exchange programme and dual degree courses.

Mr. Jain said that

there are ample opportunities for the youth in Canada and explained about employment opportunities, ongoing research projects and universities in Canada. He

said they are willing to work in partnership with AU. Mr. Prasada informed Mr. Jain about MoUs inked with various universities and courses offered by the University.

SCR holds meeting with Cement Manufacturing Cos

Asks Cos to increase Freight Loading

VIS News Service

Mr. Gajanan Mallya, General Manager, South Central Railway recently held a meeting with Several major cement manufacturer representatives at Malkhed Road, Sedam and Tandur cement sidings of Secunderabad Division.

of cement manufacturers assured that they will take initiative to increase the cement loading in the coming months.

As per a release from SCR Mr. Mallya offered various options to increase the freight loading like containerization to make it attractive for cement customers to transport cement by rail which is very environment friendly and safe. He informed the representatives that Railways is expecting cement companies to increase their loading and unloading. Various options for movement of fly ash from power plants to cement plants was also explored in the meeting.



Representatives from major cement industries like Rajashree Cements, Vasavadatta Cements, Penna Cements, Vishaka Cements and Cement Corporation of India met GM, SCR at Malkhed Road, Sedam and Tandur Cement sidings. The representatives

CREDAI members seek RERA Official's help



VIS News Service

Mr. Chandu Samabasiva Rao, Member, AP, RERA recently interacted with the members of the CREDAI Visakhapatnam chapter wherein the members brought to his notice some pertinent issues being faced by builders.

As per an official release from CREDAI Mr Samabasiva Rao gave a patient hearing to all issues raised by the mem-

bers of the CREDAI, who included CREDAI-AP, President, Mr B.Raja Srinivas, Joint Secretary and AP,RERA sub-committee convener Mr P.Koteswara Rao, CREDAI - Visakhapatnam, Chairman Mr B. Srinivasa Rao, President, Mr KSRK Raju (Sai) and others.

Some of the issues brought to the notice of Mr Samabasiva Rao included project registration, convening of a meet-

ing of all stake holders, refund against cancellation, defect liability, quarterly updates etc. Mr Samabasiva Rao assured them that he would look into all issues connected with builders and shall initiate action to solve them at the earliest. He further informed the members of how some of the provisions are beneficial to builders. He apprised them that the responsibilities of RERA AP are simple and specific and that RERA would be there to help builders and they could represent any issues that are of concern to them and he would try to solve them within the framework of RERA Act.

Raveen Kumar Reddy at SCR

VIS News Service

Mr. K. Raveen Kumar Reddy recently assumed charge as Chief Administrative Officer (CAO), Systems, South Central Railway.



Mr Reddy belongs to Indian Railway Traffic Service (IRTS) of 1988 batch. Prior to the new assignment he was on deputation to Government of Andhra Pradesh.

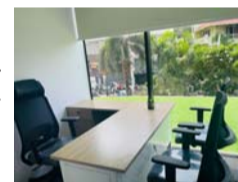
As per a release from SCR Mr Reddy will be responsible to create 100% Disaster Recovery (DR) tier III centre for all passenger,

freight, rolling stock, coaching, track maintenance, Human Resource Management Systems, MIS & ERP systems on Indian Railways network with full redundancy and latest technology in coordination with Centre for Railway Information System (CRIS) and other agencies.

New Co-working space opens

VIS News Service

The city of destiny recently witnessed the opening of a new co-working/business centre.



Inaugurated by Chairman of Varun Group of companies **Mr. Prabhukishore** and Located at Varun Inox Complex, the business centre boasts of 2000 sq ft of fully furnished office spaces with a magnificent view along with conference room, co-working spaces and pri-

private cabins for start-up and entrepreneurs.

Our Business Centre is in adherence to European standards of workplace where we have customized to ensure pleasing aesthetics, client's comfort and in providing a vibrant and friendly environment

stated a release from the centre. The centre is said to have various packages offering rates per hour, per day and per month.

'Maintain clean airport Environment'

VIS News Service

District Collector **Mr. A. Mallikarjun** has directed the authorities to take appropriate measures to keep the airport environment and surroundings clean.

He was speaking at a meeting of the Airport Environmental Management Committee held in his chamber. GVMC officials were ordered to keep the area around the airport clean, remove meat shops and carry out sanitation work. The meeting was attended by Airport Director **K. Srinivasa Rao**, Ajiam Stallone Kumar, INS Eagle Officer **Shashank Gupta** and others participated.

AU 1st state Uni. to make IPR mandatory

VIS News Service

Giving a major boost to IPR awareness in the region AU's Vice-Chancellor **Prof. PVGD Prasada Reddy** recently launched a course on Intellectual Property Rights (IPR). This course has been made a mandatory credit course for the first time to be taken by all the students of MSc Third Semester of Science College.

As per an official release from AU about 1200 students from A.U. College of Science and Technology representing 23 departments and 37 disciplines have registered and attended the course online. The course has been launched under DPIIT SPRIHA Scheme of Minis-



try of Commerce and Industry, Government of India.

Prof. PVGD Prasad Reddy informed that it is for the first time in India that a State University has introduced a mandatory credit course in IPR.

Commenting on the launch **Prof. H. Purushotham**, IPR Chair Professor, Andhra University said that understanding various dimensions of Intellectual Property is essential by the students in the current knowledge economy. He also appreciated the vision of the University to introduce the mandatory credit course in all branches of Science, Pharmacy, Engineering and Management in a phased manner.

Prof. V. Krishna Mohan, Registrar, AU highlighted various initiatives taken by the University in nurturing IP, Innovation, Entrepreneurship and Startups in the University campus.

Prof. K. Ram Mohan Rao, Vice-Chairman, Andhra Pradesh State Council for Higher Education (APSCHE) explained the importance of IPR awareness among students to become job providers and design their own careers rather than mere job seekers.

'AP first to implement WFHT concept'

VIS News Service

Andhra Pradesh is the first State in India to implement the Work From Home Town concept at 25 centres on pilot basis. This was recently stated by the Industries minister **Mr M Goutham Reddy**, at a virtual meeting of the WFHT committee.

Mr. Goutham Reddy approved taking up the project at 25 locations one in each parliamentary constituency on pilot basis under the supervision of Andhra Pradesh Technology Service (APTS) MD **Mr. Nanda Kishore** and IT



Advisors **Mr. Srinath Reddy** and **Mr. Vidya Sagar Reddy**.

Employees will have access to a co-working space and IT office facilities close to their homes, according to the plan. The committee felt that it also mitigates the issues connected with the work-from-home lifestyle.

Kinetic Green plans Rs 1,750 cr. unit in Vizag

VIS News Service

Kinetic Green Energy and Power Solutions Ltd Founder and CEO **Ms. Sulajja Firodia Motwani** and Co-Founder **Mr. Ritesh Mantri** recently met Chief Minister **Mr. YS Jagan Mohan Reddy** and expressed their keenness on setting up a premium electric manufacturing unit in Visakhapatnam at a cost of Rs. 1,750 crore.

As per an official release from the CMO Kinetic has come forward to set up electric two-wheelers, three-wheelers, ad-



vanced technology, battery manufacturing, battery swapping stations in Andhra Pradesh.

The company would also set up a skill development and research centre, the release added.

Kinetic has already set up a plant in Ahmednagar near Pune with a capacity to produce 6,000 electric

vehicles per month.

The meeting was attended by Municipal and Urban Development Department Special CS **Ms. Srilakshmi**, Industries Department Director **Jawadi Subrahmanyam** and CMVO officials.

CM tasks C&IG to revamp Dept's Image

VIS News Service

The recently appointed Commissioner and Inspector general **Mr. V. Ramakrishna IRS** has been asked by the Chief Minister to revamp both the image and perception of the department.

As per an official release from the CMs office it stated that the Chief Minister has directed the C & IG to improve the quality of the registration services and to clean up the system and to improve the image of the department as well as the government.

He has been advised to change the perception of the department in the eyes of the public and to see that the

services are reached to the grassroot level.

The Commissioner and Inspector General (R&S) conducted a review meeting with all the DIGs and



DRs in the state through video conference and reviewed the status of the Services rendered to public as well as the Revenue status.

The Commissioner &

Inspector General directed officials to provide quality services to the public without any corruption and by bringing in attitudinal changes in the employees which he said shall improve the image of the Department.

He stressed on the need to resolve Tax Payers' issues on priority and adopt Methods to increase the revenue while plug the leakages.

Additional revenue sources must be identified in achieving the targets said the release.

He also advised all the officers to instil confidence in the staff and to act as a leader to solve the problems of the staff as well as public at the district level itself.

Wish you a very Happy Dasara to all our valuable customers

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HPCL 1st to implement Prayaas program

VIS News Service

The Prayaas scheme, rolled out by the Government of India, to release pensions on the day of superannuation of the employees was formally launched by Hindustan Petroleum Corporation (HPCL) at

Visakhapatnam refinery. Regional Provident Fund Commissioner **Mr. Vijay Kumar Prasad** handed

over the PPO documents to the employees who have completed 58 years of age in HPCL in the presence of HPCL GM

(HR) **Mr. K Nagesh**.



HPCL Visakhapatnam Refinery is the first company in the city to carry out this program.

On the occasion international Women's FIDE Grandmaster **Ms. Sahitya Varshini** was felicitated.

Need Healthcare workers to be digitally enabled

VIS News Service

Global Hospitals Group Chairman **Dr. Ravindranaath Kancherla** has said that the rapidly increasing patient volumes and scope of healthcare needs, alongside technological innovations, were accelerating the need for a digitally enabled workforce to deliver the future of healthcare.

Mr Kancherla was the chief guest at the graduation ceremony of Graduation Ceremony of GITAM Institute of Medical Sciences and Research (GIMSR) Medical College.

He mentioned that the telemedicine, artificial intelligence, digital medical devices



are a few concrete examples of digital transformation in healthcare.

He further observed that the growing health technolo-

gies and research will improve the health standards of human particularly to sustain

up to 100 years of age. He advised the medical graduates to update their knowledge using new technologies.

In his address, GITAM

President **Mr. M. Sri Bharat** said that the health research output needs to be substantially increased in order to meet the challenges ahead. He said that the present covid19 pandemic has given an opportunity to focus on health care research to face the future pandemics.

GITAM Deemed to be University Vice-Chancellor **Prof. K. Sivarama Krishna** who presided over the graduation ceremony said Selflessness and dedication were the prominent attributes of the doctor seen during the pandemic. He advised the

medical graduates to update their knowledge to improve the professionalism.

GIMSR Pro Vice-Chancellor **Dr. C V Rao**, GIMSR Medical College Principal **Dr. I. Jyothi Padmaja** briefed about the teaching and research activities at GIMSR and presented an annual report.

A total of 111 MBBS pass outs received their degrees while **Dr. K. Venkateswara Rao** was conferred the GITAM Presidential Gold Medal for the best outgoing student of GIMSR Medical College.

IN BRIEF

Tax Alert

In compliance with Section 139A(5)(c) of the Income Tax act all the sellers raising an invoice of INRs 2,00,000/- or more should display the 10 digit PAN number (of both vendor as well as a customer) on each such invoice as a separate field w.e.f October 1. In other words, in addition to GST number, sellers have to separately display theirs as well as their customers' PAN number.

New escalators inaugurated at Vizag rly. station

East Coast Railway General Manager **Mr. Vidya Bhushan** recently inaugurated escalators provided on platform No. 4/5 of Visakhapatnam railway station Divisional Railway Manager **Mr. Anup Satpathy** accompanied him. Later he inspected Over Head Equipment of Traction Distribution department and inaugurated the newly constructed building of office of Senior Section Engineer at Visakhapatnam. Green plantation drive to mark Swachhta Abhiyan was carried at the site.



FSSAI directive

The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India in a statement has informed that the FISSAI License / Registration number has to be mentioned on receipts/invoices/cash memo/bills etc by food businesses on sale of food products. It will become mandatory from January 1 2022. **Mr. Inoshi Sharma** ED FISSAI informed that the decision has been taken in view of the representation from various industries Association & Stakeholders. The order has been issued to all Food Business Operators, Associations, Food-Safety Mitra and other stakeholders, Commissioner of Food Safety of All States/UTs, Directors of all Regional Offices, FSSAI and CITO-to upload on FSSAI's website.

The interest amount will now be auto populated in the GSTR-3B

Soon GSTN will start autopulating the interest amount in GSTR-3B As on date, if a taxpayer who is liable to pay tax but fails to pay the tax or any part thereof within the prescribed period needs to pay interest for the period for which the tax or any part thereof remains unpaid under column '9' of table '6.1' of GSTR 3B. However, at present, the system has no facility in GSTR-3B to auto compute the interest or has no check whether the taxpayer calculated interest amount is correct or otherwise. The interest amount is manually calculated by the taxpayer. Now, the system computed interest will be auto populated in table 5.1 in subsequent tax period based on breakup provided in Monthly, Quarterly tax period.

ICSI organises Walkathon

The Institute of Company Secretaries of India Visakhapatnam Chapter recently organized a "Walkathon" from RK Beach NTR Statue to Yoga Village on account of "ICSI-53rd Foundation Day Celebrations. Speaking on the occasion, the Chief Guest **Mr. K K Chand** Commandant 198 CRPF, said ICSI-recognising the contribution of the Serving and Retired Personnel, and as a good will gesture of Martyrs is offering institute grand concession for Registration of CS course. Company Secretaries **AVVSSCHB Sekhar Babu**, Vice-Chairman, SIRC of the ICSI, **Ms. Swaroopa Meruva**, & others participated.



ISB joins hands with Govt for skill dev.



VIS News Service

The Indian School of Business (ISB) recently signed an MoU with Andhra Pradesh State Skill Development Corporation (APSSDC) and Andhra Pradesh In-

formation Technology Academy (APITA) to offer skilling programmes for citizens.

As part of this initiative, ISB is offering two joint certification courses in Business Literacy and Behavioural Skills through APSSDC and Digital Literacy and Entrepreneurial Literacy through APITA,

through which students of Andhra Pradesh could become more employable and industry ready

On this occasion, APSSDC MD **Mr. N. Bangaraju** said that in the current scenario, Behavioral Skills and Business Literacy Skills are required for every student for his career and hence training will be imparted in collaboration with ISB to empower the youth. He said that the Chief Minister **Mr. Y S Jagan Mohan Reddy** was determined to provide soft skills along with education to make them employable.

New Vice Chief of Air Staff



Air Marshal Sandeep Singh AVSM VM recently took over as Vice Chief of the Air Staff (VCAS). An alumnus of National Defence Academy, the Air Marshal was commissioned in the flying branch of IAF in Dec 1983 as a Fighter pilot. The Air Marshal is a recipient of Ati Vishisht Seva Medal and Vishisht Seva Medal.

Adityanath Das chief Adviser to Govt.



Mr. Adityanath Das has been appointed as the Chief Adviser to the Government of Andhra Pradesh. He recently assumed duties at his office at AP Bhavan, New Delhi.

Senior IAS officers visit Sri City

VIS News Service

Mr. Durga Shanker Mishra, IAS, Secretary, Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs, Government of India, and **Mr. Pola Bhaskar**, IAS, Commissioner of Collegiate Education, Government of Andhra Pradesh recently paid separate visits to Sri City.

Mr. Satish Kamat, President, President (Operations), Sri City briefed Mr. Mishra on the salient features of Sri City, its growth, and its impact on the economic development of the region.

Going round the park and witnessing the brisk works in progress Mr. Mishra appreciated the initiatives taken by

came by **Mr. Ravindra Sannareddy**, Founder Managing Director, Sri City and then visited Krea University



Sri City management in developing such a large integrated business city. Similarly Mr. Pola Bhaskar was wel-

wherein he had a discussion with **Dr. Mahesh Rangarajan**, Vice Chancellor.

AP's Commercial Taxes Rev. up 74%

Contd. from Page 1

All in all combined H1FY22 revenues for the

growth. In addition we have had a strong focus on return management which has

Narayan Sudagani IRS, Chief Commissioner ST speaking to *Vizag Indus-*

lowed by Chittoor with 63.46% and Vizianagaram with 54.25%.

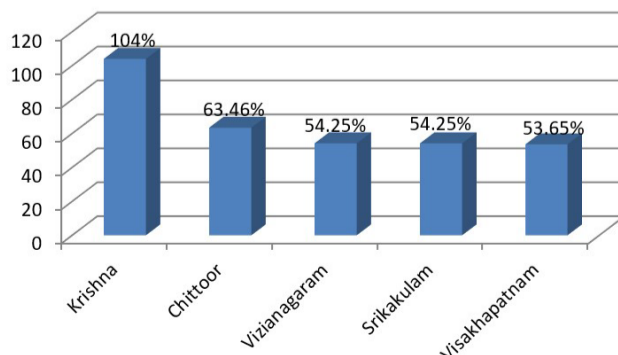
Revenue Collections for Q1&Q2 FY22

	Q1FY22 (In Rs crs)	Q2FY22 (In Rs crs)	Total
GST Revenue(With Adhoc&Compensation received)	5797.76	8863.34	14661.1
Petroleum Products	3482.07	3763.86	7245.93
Liquor	1879.66	2224.6	4104.26
Professional Tax	56.61	65.43	122.04
Total	11216.1	14917.23	26133.33

commercial taxes department stood at Rs 26,133.34 crores compared to Rs 14,977.59 crores in H 1 F Y 2 1 thus marking a growth of over 74%.

'There has definitely been a revival in activity which has led to this

Highest District Growth H1FY22



yielded us good results' said **Mr Ravi Shankar**

trial Scan.

'Return management' is a process where the department tracks down non-filers and defaulters.

In terms of growth Krishna district recorded the highest growth of 104% in H1FY22 compared to same period last year fol-

Q2FY22vsQ1FY22

The recovery in revenue collections continued to be strong even for Quarter i.e. Q2FY22vsQ1FY22 as it increased 33%. GST revenue with adhoc compensation increased to Rs 8863.34 crores in Q2FY22 from Rs 5797.76 crores in Q1FY22 (see table) while revenue from petroleum products increased to Rs 3763 crores from Rs 3482 crores. Collections from Liquor sales increased by 18% and professional tax collections by 15%.

Alex Koshy joins as GM Radisson Blu Resort

VIS News Service

Radisson Blu Resort Visakhapatnam Resort recently announced the appointment of **Mr. Alex Koshy** as the new General Manager of Radisson Blu Resort Visakhapatnam.



Mr Koshy with his rich experience in hospitality will spearhead the Radisson Blu Resort Visakhapatnam operations with a clear vision to create an experiential resort in the heart of the city stated an official release from the hotel.

An IHM Chennai Graduate and post-graduate in Business Studies from the Dublin Business School - Ireland, Alex comes with over two decades of managing a diverse portfolio.

Alex has been a part of Radisson Hotels Group for more than 5 years, starting with Radisson Blu Ahmedabad. His last assignment was with Ummed Hotels India where he managed The Ummed Ahmedabad and The Ummed Palace Resort & Spa, Jodhpur.

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Industry already in line with 75% quota: CII AP

VIS News Service

Addressing a recent virtual press brief CII AP mentioned that most of the industries in the state have been complying with the 75% requirement of employing locals.

‘At least in the manufacturing space I can easily say that most of the industries have been complying with this requirement. In fact I would say nearly 85% of the people employed in manufacturing are from the region itself’ said **Mr. Neeraj Sarda**, CII AP Vice Chairman.

Speaking on the matter of delay in payments to MSMEs CII AP said that it has already taken up the issue with the government and is working with them to ease the situation. ‘It has been a challenging year and a half for both the government and private sector with the pandemic. We must understand that Government revenue has also gone down. However going forward you shall see things ease out and the situation shall get better’ informed Mr Sarda.

CII Southern region Chairman **Mr. Ranganathan** apprised that they have taken up this matter with the government and are also working with the central government on this issue. Concurring **Mr. DT Raju** too affirmed that they are in touch with the relevant authorities on this and that delay in payments are being taken up by CII.

Talking on attracting Investments into the state Mr. Sarda said that the state government has been playing a proactive role in drawing investments into the state for which he said results have already started to yield.

AU inks MoU with Navy

AU Registrar **Mr. Krishna Mohan** and Navy Headquarters Chief Engineer Brigadier RS Rawal recently signed an MoU on Navy Projects. AU V-C **Mr. G. V. Prasada Reddy** was also present. **Brigadier Rawal** said that they will offer internships for PG engineering students.

AU DPIIT chair bags National Award

VIS News Service

AU's DPIIT chair for **AI P R Prof Hanumanth Purushotham** has been bestowed with the "IP Academician of the Year Award 2021". This award was given to him for his significant contributions in Andhra University in the area of IP and Innovation.

In order to recognize individuals, organisations and Start-ups in the area of Intellectual Property creation, promotion, education and research, Ahmedabad based organization Intellectual Property Promotion Outreach Foundation had instituted different national

awards.

As per an release from AU the jury selected Prof H. Purushotham for the said award in recognition of the outstanding contribution in the field of IP & Innovation.

The award was conferred during the well attended 5th edition of the IP Hall of Fame Awards 2021 function held on September 30, 2021 at Ahmedabad organised in association with TiE and Gujarat Chambers of Commerce and Industry. The award

was presented by **Mr. Sunil Parekh** Co-Chairman FICCI Gujarat State. The other recipients of the award includes faculty members from JNU Delhi, Pandit Deendayal Energy University and Nirma University Ahmedabad.

The Vice Chancellor **Prof P V G D Prasada Reddy** and Registrar **Prof V Krishna Mohan** congratulated Prof Purushotham for the award and recognition. The award was handed over to Prof. H. Purushotham by the Vice-Chancellor, Registrar and **Prof. Krishna Manjari Pawar**, EC Member

Waltair div. sends 246 T onions to Bihar

The first onion special train carrying just onions recently left Visakhapatnam to reach Jalalgarh in Katihar Division of Northeast Frontier Railway.

Flagged off by Divisional Railway Manager **Mr. Anup Satpathy**, the train is an initiative of of the Waltair Division of East Coast Railway to help the farmers of this region to transport onions in a safe and faster mode and also get a fair price for their crop. The train on its maiden journey carried 246 tonnes of onions to Jalalgarh in Purnia district of Bihar.

The train contains 10 parcel van coaches each having a capacity to carry 23 tonnes of onions and two second class cum luggage coaches having carrying capacity of 8 tonnes said a release from the division.

Cmde Warikoo takes over as Station Commander

VIS News Service

Commodore Naresh Warikoo recently took over as the Commanding Officer INS Kalinga and as the Station Commander, Naval Station Bheemunipatnam. He took over from **Cmde Neeraj Uday** during a ceremony held at INS Kalinga.

Cmde Naresh Warikoo is an alumnus of

Naval War College, Goa, DSSC Wellington and Naval College of Engineering, was commissioned into the Indian Navy on 30 Nov 1991. The officer has served on board frontline Indian Naval Ships Taragiri, Kulish and Rajput. The Officer has tenanted Staff Appointments at IHQ MoD & has also served in Fleet Maintenance Unit (Vizag) and Naval Dockyard, Mumbai.

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Form-IV (See Rule 8)

- Place of Publication : Visakhapatnam
- Periodicity of its publication : Fortnightly
- Printer's Name : D.S.V.R.K. Raju
 Whether citizen of India : Yes
 Address : G.K. Press, Rednam Gardens Ramnagar Visakhapatnam-3
- Editor's Name : A.K. Sabharwal
 Whether citizen of India : Yes
 Address : 101, Aspen Heights Daspalla Hills Visakhapatnam-530 003
- Name and address of Individuals who own the Newspaper : Shravani Publications Private Limited
 101, Aspen Heights Daspalla Hills Visakhapatnam-530 003
 and
- Shareholders holding more than one per cent of the total capital : Mrs. Meena Sabharwal

I, A.K.Sabharwal, here declare that the particulars given above are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

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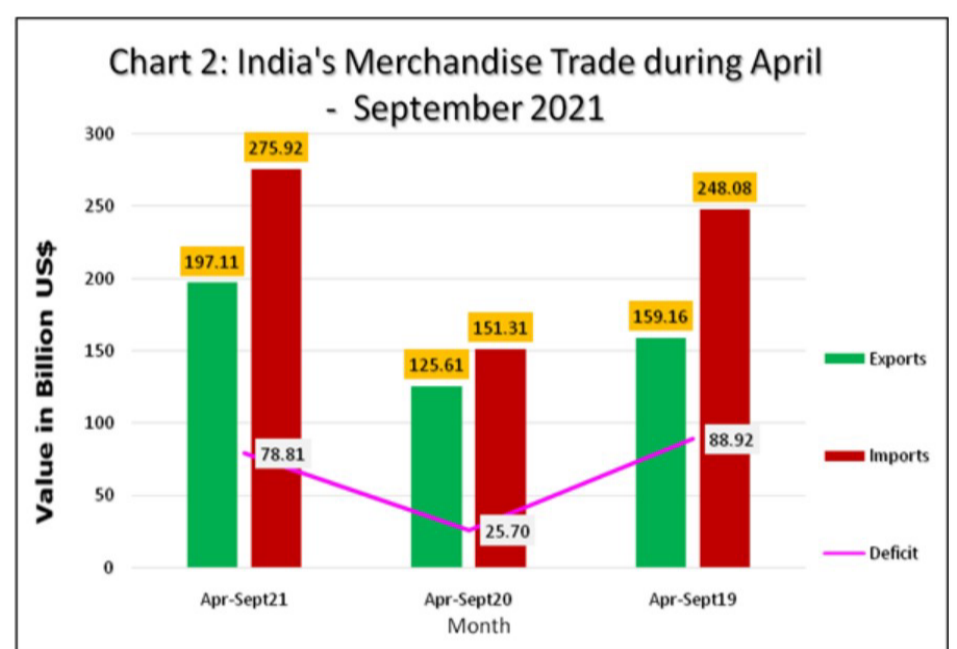
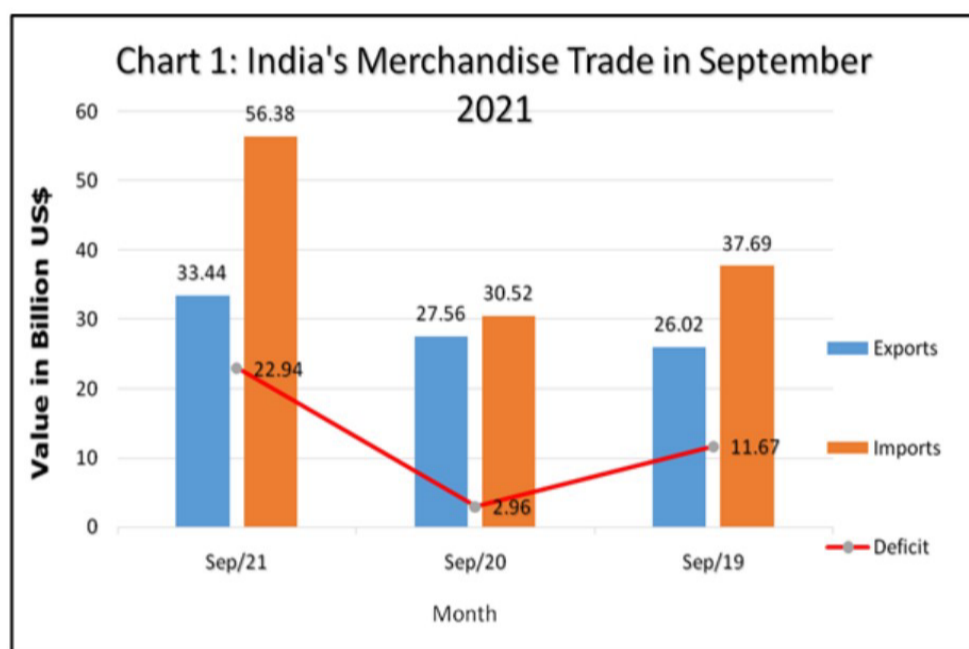
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SL. No.	Major Commodity Group	Value of Export (Million USD)		Share %	Growth %
		Sept '21	Sept '20	Sept '21	Sept '21 over Sept '20
1.	Engineering Goods	9426.89	6896.27	28.19	36.70
2.	Petroleum Products	4913.73	3527.01	14.69	39.32
3.	Gems And Jewellery	3235.24	2702.57	9.67	19.71
4.	Organic And Inorganic Chemicals	2377.07	1833.99	7.11	29.61
5.	Drugs And Pharmaceuticals	2053.35	2243.48	6.14	-8.47
6.	Cotton Yarn/Fabrics/Made-ups, Handloom Products Etc.	1308.63	932.41	3.91	40.35
7.	RMG Of All Textiles	1300.32	1190.38	3.89	9.24
8.	Electronic Goods	1169.65	926.20	3.50	26.28
9.	Rice	761.61	729.27	2.28	4.44
10.	Plastic And Linoleum	751.20	634.19	2.25	18.45
	Total of 10 Major Commodity Groups	27297.71	21615.78	81.62	26.29
	Rest	6145.95	5943.27	18.38	3.41
	Total Exports	33443.66	27559.04	100.00	21.35



Imports of Top 10 Major Commodity Groups

SL. No.	Major Commodity Group	Value of Import (Million USD)		Share %	Growth %
		Sept.'21	Sept.'20	Sept.'21	Sept.'21 over Sept.'20
1.	Petroleum, Crude & products	17436.42	5826.28	30.92	199.27
2.	Electronic goods	6888.00	5873.06	12.22	17.28
3.	Gold	5115.76	601.43	9.07	750.60
4.	Machinery, electrical & non-electrical	3198.45	2252.34	5.67	42.01
5.	Pearls, precious & Semi-precious stones	2571.63	2086.70	4.56	23.24
6.	Organic & Inorganic Chemicals	2485.01	1589.39	4.41	56.35
7.	Coal, Coke & Briquettes, etc.	2187.33	1195.95	3.88	82.89
8.	Vegetable Oil	1988.93	858.18	3.53	131.76
9.	Artificial resins, plastic materials, etc.	1646.11	1081.46	2.92	52.21
10.	Non-ferrous metals	1461.24	940.70	2.59	55.34
	Total of 10 Major Commodity Groups	44978.87	22305.50	79.77	101.65
	Rest	11404.45	8212.85	20.23	38.86
	Total Imports	56383.32	30518.35	100.00	84.75

Rajiv Bansal as new MoCA Secy.



VIS News Service

Mr. Rajiv Bansal IAS (NL:88) recently assumed charge as the Secretary, Ministry of Civil Aviation, Government of India.

Mr. Bansal is an Indian Administrative Services Officer of 1988 batch, from Nagaland cadre.

He has held many important positions in the Union Government including Chairman and Managing Director, Air India Ltd., Ministry of Civil Aviation; Additional Secretary, M/o Petroleum & Natural Gas; Joint Secretary, M/o Electronics & Information Technology; Secretary, Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC); and Joint Secretary, D/o Heavy Industry, M/o Heavy Industries & Public Enterprises.

AIC-SKU's awareness programme

VIS News Service

Atal Incubation Centre at Sri Krishnadevaraya University is on a mission to promote and support Innovation & Start-up Ecosystem in the Higher Educational Institutions (HEI) in the region.

As part of our flagship program IGNITE 2.0 and also to build an Incubation ecosystem, Atal Incubation Centre – Sri Krishnadevaraya University conducted a series of activities programs at various colleges.

As part of the programme **Dr. M.S. Sivakiran** CEO, AIC-SKU, **Mr. Karthik Sekar**, Incubation Manager, AIC-SKU and **Dr. Chandramouli**, (Technical Executive) addressed the gathering and motivated the students towards innovation activities.

They trio visited **Raghu Institute of Technology Visakhapatnam, Kuppam Engineering College, JNTU College of Engineering and KSRM College of Engineering** and motivated them to take Entrepreneurship as a Career Opportunity

RHI Magnesita bets big on Vizag

Contd. from Page 1

with the Atmanirbhar India call of the Govt. of India.”

The work on the expansion project is currently in final stages. The company aims at operationalizing the new Tunnel Kiln and the Shuttle Kiln at the plant shortly. With this expansion the capacity of the plant would increase to 81,200 Tons per annum from the current capacity of 67,200 Tons per annum. In absolute value terms, about 37% of the

products from the plant are exported to various customers of RHI Magnesita in the international markets, while

Capacity of plant to increase to 81,200 TPA from 67,200 TPA

rest are supplied to large steel, cement, glass and non-ferrous metals makers in India.

“We would continue to further our investments in the plant next

year to scale it up in terms of its productivity and quality. There would be special emphasis on bringing in more modern automation technologies into the plant.” – Mr. Sagar added.

It may be mentioned that the plant was under the man-

agement control of erstwhile RHI Clasil Pvt Ltd., a subsidiary of RHI Magnesita. Through a legal merger process, the erstwhile private company has recently been merged into Orient Refractories Ltd., another Indian subsidiary of the global refractory maker, to form one amalgamated public listed entity called RHI Magnesita India Ltd. The plant, henceforth, is under the direct management control of RHI Magnesita India Ltd.

Automatic Coach Washing Plant

A coach washing plant was recently inaugurated at Secunderabad Railway Station.

The Plant is a multistage external cleaning system, which uses vertical rotating brushes as well as pressurized water and soap solution jets for cleaning of coach exterior. It can wash 24 coaches in about 8-10 minutes. It also scales down the manpower requirement. The fresh water consumption for automatic coach washing gets reduced by around 85% as compared to the normal manual washing method, a press release stated.

Air Traffic at AP's Airports surge 80% in Q2

Contd. from Page 1

even further once the new winter schedule comes into play.

Due to the low base effect of last fiscal all the 4 air-

Cumulatively all the four airports (Vizag, Vijayawada, Tirupati & Rajahmundry) put together handled passenger traffic of 738,007 in Q2FY22 compared to 411,680 in Q1FY22 thus marking a stupendous growth of about

Tirupati for Darshan at Tirumala.

The growth at the other 3 main airports has been pretty impressive too with Vizag seeing a 69.25% rise, Rajahmundry 65% and Vijayawada 61.39%.

And with the winter schedule expected to come into play from the last week of October these numbers could well surge ahead.

Vizag's airport director Mr Srinivasa Rao informed that Indigo has already opened bookings for 2 more flights for the winter schedule.

‘Indigo is currently operating 16 flights and has proposed to increase this to 18 flights a day from Vizag in the new winter schedule’ said Mr Srinivasa Rao.

Tirupati's airport director Mr Suresh too reiterates stating that the winter schedule which is yet to come into effect has seen an increase in the number of flights.

Infra Push

With the growth in mind Vizag airport has agrandized its infrastructure from commissioning a new taxi track (N5) to adding 6 new parking bays.

‘With the commissioning of the new N5 taxi track we can handle 11-12 aircraft movements per hour from the present 9 movements per hour’ said Vizag's airport director.

And with the addition of the 6 new parking bays Mr Srinivasa informed that interested airlines can use 4 parking bays for overnight halt.

From strengthening infrastructure to handling bigger aircrafts, Vijayawada airport recently got approved to handle bigger Code-E size aircrafts i.e. 777-300 aircraft.

‘The 777-300 type of aircraft is usually used for long distance international

routes and can carry up to 450 passengers. With this clearance we become the 1st airport in AP equipped to handle code-e size aircrafts’ said Vijayawada's airport director in charge **Mr. PV Rama Rao**.

uled to have 3 international connections under the air bubble tie up.

Tourism Push

Industry insiders however say that tourism stakeholders need to also give a



With the new N5 taxi track we can handle 11-12 aircraft movements per hour as against 9 earlier.

Mr. K. Srinivasa Rao
Vizag Airport Director

ports registered substantial growth in H1FY22 compared to the same period last year.

However what is even

80%.

‘Flights are going absolutely full’ said Tirupati's Airport director **Mr. Suresh**.

This was most evident at



Passenger traffic is reviving and will grow even further once the new

winter schedule comes into play.

Mr. Manoj Kumar Nayak
Rajahmundry Airport Director

more encouraging is that the numbers in the current fiscal i.e. FY 22 have seen a remarkable quarter on quarter growth i.e. Q2FY22 vs Q1FY22.

Tirupati airport which recorded a whopping 150% growth in Q2FY22 over Q1FY22.

Mr Suresh credits most of the traffic coming to



Flights are going absolutely full. Most of the traffic is for Darshan at

Tirumala.

Mr. Suresh
Tirupati Airport Director

International Flights

In terms of International connectivity Vijayawada airport currently seems to be the only airport in the state with

further push so that the numbers can grow even further.

‘The Tourism sector needs to ramp up their activities and attract tourists



VGA can now handle Code E size aircrafts which can carry upto 450

passengers.

Mr. PV Rama Rao
Vijayawada Airport, Incharge

International flights. The airport is said to have an air bubble with Muscat wherein it operates a weekly flight to Muscat and from November onwards the airport is sched-

with special packages. This shall further increase passenger numbers’ said Rajahmundry's airport director Mr Manoj Kumar Nayak.

Bangladesh honours 1971 war veterans



VIS News Service

As part of the Birth Centenary celebrations of Bangladesh's Father of the Nation, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, the high commissioner of Bangladesh to India, Mr Muhammad Imran recently honoured 10 Indian Naval War Veterans from across the country. At a function hosted onboard BNS Somudra Avijan in

Visakhapatnam the High Commissioner of Bangladesh acknowledged the Indian naval war veterans contribution in the liberation of Bangladesh in 1971. Rear Adm Tarun Sobti, VSM, Flag Officer Commanding Eastern Fleet was the Chief Guest for the event which was attended by Rear Adm Jyotin Raina, NM, VSM CSO (Ops) and other senior officers of the ENC.

DoP releases special cover on AP's freedom fighter

VIS News Service

A special cover was released on freedom fighter Dr. Sardar Gouthu Latchanna on 13 October 2021 in Srikakulam as part of celebrations of 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav'.

Mr. Dharmana Krishnadas, Deputy Chief Minister & Minister for Revenue, Registrations & Stamps, Govt. of AP released the special cover.



Speaking on the occasion Dr.M.Venkateswarlu, Postmaster General, Visakhapatnam Region said that DoP has released special covers on freedom fighters with special reference to

Andhra Pradesh and released special covers on Mahatma Gandhi, Baba Saheb and Alluri Sitarama Raju. DoP has also released special covers on unsung heroes of Andhra Pradesh like Desabandhavi Duvvuri Subbamma, latest being a special cover on Dr.Sardar Gouthu Latchanna as part of celebrations of Philately Day and Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav.

"Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav" is an initiative of Prime Minister of India to celebrate and commemorate 75 years of progressive India and the glorious history of it's people, culture and achievements.

Food Fete held at Radisson Blu

VIS News Service

Radisson Blu Resort Visakhapatnam recently held its debut food festival 'Akaal Bodhan' from Oct.7-17.

With an aim of celebrating the 'power behind the victory of Dussehra,' the event



was planned to promote a special array of food from the regions of Marwar, Gujarat, and Bengal. The tailored meal was served on a traditional thali for lunch and dinner respectively.

Food lovers relished 10 different menus on all the 10 days.

Skill contest in Vizag

VIS News Service

To develop the skills of the youth and make them innovators the city of Visakhapatnam will host the Regional Skill Competition. It is informed that youth from six states are said to participate in these competitions.

The competition is being jointly organized by the National Skill Development Corporation and the AP Skill Development Corporation. HPCL GM (HR) Mr. K Nagesh, Chairman, Organizing Committee, recently met Andhra University Vice-Chancellor Prof PVGD Prasada Reddy to discuss about the Regional Skill Competition. The event will be conducted in 52 trades from November 30 to December 4.

Prashant Kumar Mishra sworn in as CJ

VIS News Service

Justice Prashant Kumar Mishra was recently sworn in as the new Chief Justice of the Andhra Pradesh High Court. Governor Bishwa Bhushan Harichandan administered the oath of office to Justice Mishra.

Justice Mishra who has been transferred from Chhattisgarh High Court succeeded Justice Arup Kumar Goswami who has been transferred as CJ of Chhattisgarh High Court.

Chief Justice Prashant



Kumar Mishra was born on August 29, 1964 at Raigarh in Chhattisgarh and did his BSc and LLB from Guru Ghasidas University. He enrolled as an advocate on Spetember 4, 1987 and practised at Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh High Courts.

The swearing-in ceremony was attended by Chief Minister Mr. YS Jagan Mohan Reddy, Municipal and Urban Development Minister Mr. Botsa Satyanarayana, Revenue Minister Velampally Srinivas, CS Dr Sameer Sharma and other High Court judges.



SBI conducts Mega Loan Mela

VIS News Service

State Bank of India (SBI) Region-II, Vizag Central Region recently conducted a Mega Loan Mela Under Govt. of India, DFS campaign, in Visakhapatnam.

The mela was inaugurated by Mr. Manmay Panda B, DGM (B&O) A.O. wherein the DGM handed over sanction letters to the prospective borrowers of SHG Car, Loan, Xpress Credit, Education loan etc. VSP. Mr. Nageswara Rao was also present.



SBI is the 43rd largest bank in the world and ranked 221st in the Fortune Global 500 list of the world's biggest corporations of 2020, being the only Indian bank on the list.

Tourism Minister hails HRAAP

Unveils New Logo

VIS News Service

Tourism Minister Mr. Muttamsetti Srinivas Rao recently presented Certificate of Appreciation to Hotel and Restaurant Association of Andhra Pradesh (HRAAP) for promotion of Tourism in Andhra Pradesh for



Visakhapatnam.

HRAAP is the apex organization of the Andhra Pradesh hospitality industry with its membership extending from the major hotel groups, boutique hotels, heritage hotels, large and medium sized hotels, it represents the entire spectrum of the industry in the State.

The HRAAP is the voice of the hospitality industry and provides an interface between the hospitality industry, political leadership, Academics, national associations and other stake holders.



the year 2020-21. The award was received by HRAAP vice-president and General Manager Keys Hotel Mr. Pavaan Karheek during the World Tourism Day event

Mr. Muttamsetti Srinivas Rao also unveiled the new logo of Hotel and Restaurant Association of Andhra Pradesh (HRAAP) during the World Tourism Day fete in

Waltair Div. bags 6 Efficiency Shields

VIS News Service

The Waltair Division of the East Coast Railway has bagged Six efficiency shields at the 66th Railway Week celebrations held at Bhubaneswar recently.

Mr. Vidya Bhushan, General Manager of the East Coast Railway along with AGM Mr. Sudhir Kumar handed over Merit awards and Shields to various officers & staff for outstanding performance.

The Division bagged shields in Coaching Depot, Finance, Personnel, Stores (Scrap Disposal), Signal & Telecom and Sports.

Waltair division DRM, Mr. Anup Satpathy received the shields

and congratulated all the award winners and departments for their valuable contribution for the growth of Railways and advised them to continue the spirit to achieve more heights in future.