

VPA sees 15% uptick in Cargo handled

Aditya Sabharwal

Major Port Visakhapatnam Port Authority has registered an overall growth in its cargo handled for the first 6 months of this fiscal i.e. April to Sept 2022.



As per the figures obtained from IPA, the port witnessed growth in POL, Coal and Container traffic. VPA handled POL of 8MT in H1FY23 compared to 6.6MT in the same period last year.

Coal Volumes Zoom

There was substantial in-

Contd. on Page ..6

AP's IT Industry evinces mixed emotions on Moonlighting

Vinita Chaudhary

The IT industry has often been at the forefront in adapting to new and innovative changes taking place in their industry and has many a times been the torchbearer for leading change. However a recent trend in the IT/ITES industry that has caught the fancy of many and has been garnering much publicity is that of Moonlighting.

For people who might not be fully aware of this term, Moonlighting in the IT parlance typically refers to one having a second job in addition to one's regular employment therefore implying the second work being carried out secretly.

The debate around moonlighting has cleaved the in-

dustry, depicting sharp reactions.

Swiggy, the popular food delivery platform, announced its policy of allow-



ing employees to work on other projects under certain conditions after working hours.

On the other hand Moonlighting made headlines when IT giant Wipro trashed the idea in tech industry and sacked 300 employees calling it cheating - plain and simple.

Many IT firms in AP have toughened their stand

against employees taking a second job after work hours and have made this amply clear to their employees.

'As an individual, I would say employees should have the integrity and loyalty towards the organisation they work with. From a customer's point of view as well, some

may go finicky if they come to know about multi-jobs ultimately jeopardising the relationship and brand.'

He further adds, '40% still work from home at Tech Mahindra. We have a robust background system and well-defined policy' said Mr Ravi Chandra, Vizag Head / India Delivery, Tech Mahindra speak-

Contd. on Page ..11

'India & France share a great level of Trust'

French Ambassador lauds AP, inaugurates Rs 350 cr French Unit in Vizag

VIS News Service

France's Ambassador to India Mr Emmanuel Lenain applauded the strong bonhomie that exists between the two countries and said that there was a great level of trust that exists between the two countries.

The ambassador who was in Vizag recently to inaugurate the French company, Imerys's state of the art greenfield manufacturing facility heaped praises on the strong relationship that persists between the two nations.

'Our Partnership is just outstanding. We've been partners with India for a long time both in their good and bad times. We've supported



and backed India in various international forums' said Mr Lenain.

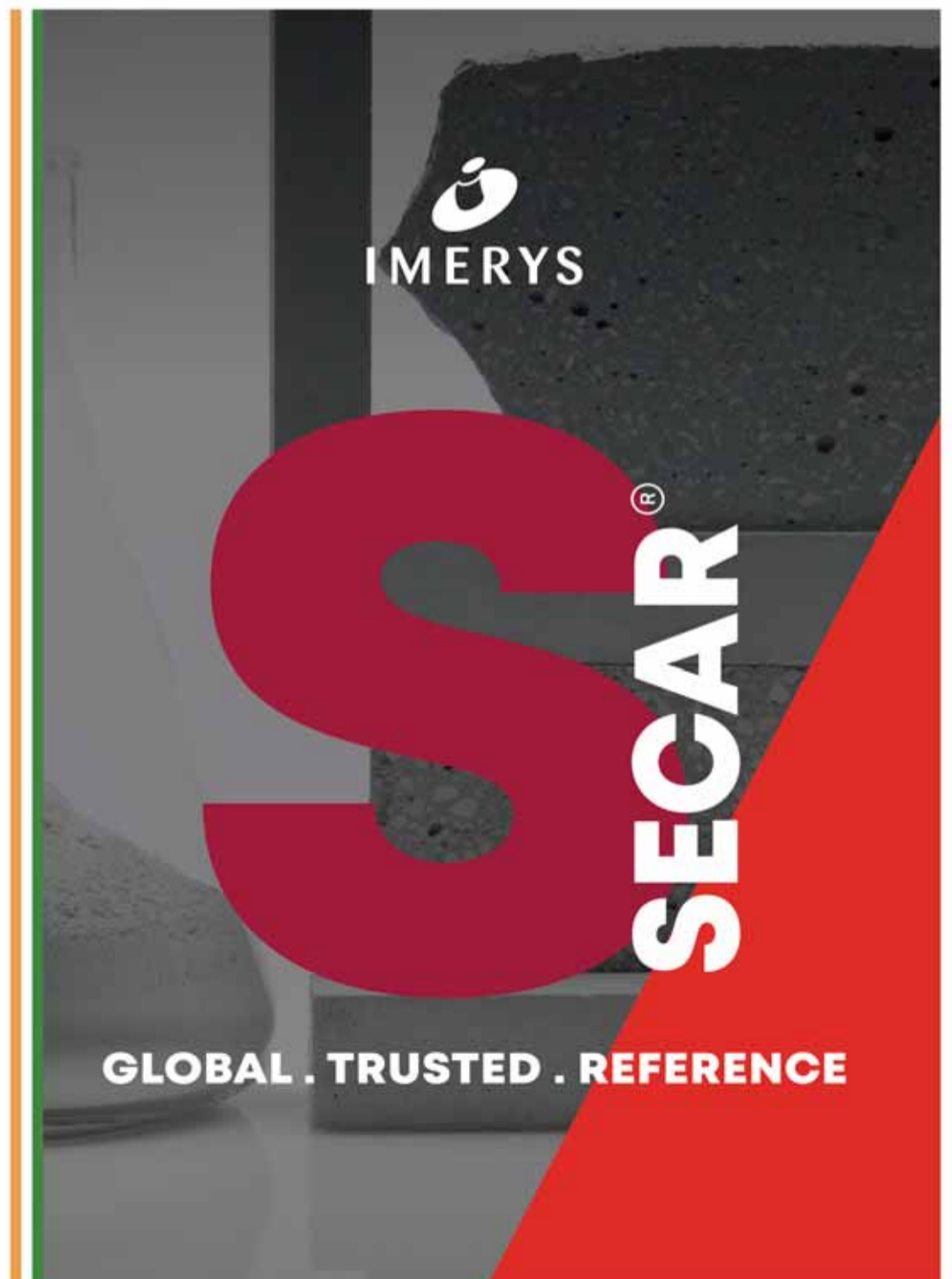
Speaking on trade and economic relations the ambassador said that France will be working closely with India on a wide range of sectors and more keenly in making Indian cities sus-

Contd. on Page ..10

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Coal Production Increases by 12% in September

25 Mines' Production Goes Beyond 100 Per Cent

VIS News Service

India's overall coal production increased by

the Ministry of Coal, during September 2022, CIL, SCCL and captive mines/

mines production level has been more than 100 per cent and another five mines' production stood between 80 and 100 per cent during September.

At the same time, coal despatch increased by 1.95 per cent to 61.18 Million Ton (MT) from 60.02 MT during September 2022 as compared to the same period last year. During September, 2022, CIL, SCCL and Captive mines /others registered a growth of 1.03, 4.13 and 6.84 per cent by despatching 48.88 MT, 4.77 MT and 7.53 MT respectively.

Power utilities despatch has increased to 51.71 MT during Sept 2022 as compared to 50.16 MT same time last year.

Coal-based power generation has registered a growth of 13.40 % in Sept 2022 as compared to the previous year.

The overall power generation in Sept 2022 has been 13.77% higher than the power generated in September 2021.



12.01 per cent to 57.93 Million Ton (MT) from 51.72 MT during September, 2022 as compared to September 2021. As per the provisional statistics of

others registered a growth of 12.35 %, 8.43% and 12.37 % by producing 45.67 MT, 4.93 MT and 7.33 MT respectively. Of the top 37 mines, 25

IN BRIEF

Rajneesh Narain takes over as Dir (Fin) of NCL

Mr. Rajneesh Narain has taken over as the Director (Finance) of Northern Coalfields Limited (NCL), The Miniratna company of the Government of



India. Mr. Rajneesh Narayan, having over 26 years of rich experience in the Coal Industry was serving as HOD of Corporate Accounts at the sister company of NCL i.e. South Eastern Coalfields Limited (SECL) before taking over as Director (Finance), NCL. Prior to Mr. Rajneesh

Narain, CMD NCL Mr. Bhola Singh was entrusted with the additional responsibility of Director (Finance)

CIL inks MoUs with leading PSUs

Union Minister of Coal, Mines and Parliamentary Affairs Mr. Pralhad Joshi said that in next few months India is likely to become Aatmanirbhar in thermal coal production. Forty million ton of coal stock will be available with thermal power plants by March next year and as on October 1st, 2022 the stock with thermal plants comes to 24 million ton. The Minister was recently addressing a function organized by Coal India Ltd., Ministry of Coal to sign MoUs with five leading PSUs for Coal gasification projects. For setting up four large scale coal-to-chemical projects through surface coal gasification route, Coal India Limited (CIL) signed three separate Memorandums of Understanding (MoU), one each, with three major PSUs of the country Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL), Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) and GAIL (India) Limited. In addition, NLC India Limited (NLCIL) is signing MoU with BHEL.

Manish Kumar Director (Personnel) of NCL

Mr. Manish Kumar assumed the charge as Director (Personnel) of Northern Coalfields Limited (NCL) recently. He has rich experience of more than 28 years of service in the Coal Sector where he has worked and held key positions in Mines, Washery and Headquarters. Prior to joining the NCL family, Mr. Kumar was serving the Ranchi-based Central Coalfields Limited the sister company of NCL as Head of the Department of Executive Establishment Section. Mr. Kumar has also worked in the Vigilance, Land and Revenue, Personnel, and Industrial Relations Department at CCL Headquarters. Along with this, he has worked in the Executive Establishment Department of Coal India Limited Headquarters.



NTPC and GE Gas Power Sign MoU

VIS News Service

In its efforts to adopt advanced powering tech-



nology to decarbonize power generation in India, NTPC Ltd., and GE Gas Power signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for feasibility to demonstrate of hydrogen (H2) co-firing blended with natural gas in GE's 9E gas turbines installed at NTPC's Kawas combined-cycle gas power plant in Gujarat. Under this significant collaboration, the two companies will jointly explore the pathways to reduce CO2 emissions from the Kawas gas power plant and further implementation at scale across NTPC's installed units in India.

SK Gupta new CMD of GAIL

VIS News Service

Mr. Sandeep Kumar Gupta recently assumed charge as Chairman and Managing Director, GAIL (India) Limited.

After joining the position of C & M D GAIL, he addressed the employees of the Company and recognized the balanced business portfolio of the company built over time and overall contribution to development of natural gas sector in the country, the contributions of his predecessors and support of stakeholders including Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas and employees, which have played a key role in the growth witnessed by GAIL over the years. He mentioned that the Company is aligned with Government's vision of having a gas-based economy wherein the share of natural gas in the energy mix is to be taken



to 15% by year 2030.

Mr. S.K Gupta is a Commerce Graduate and a Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India.

Before joining GAIL, Mr. Gupta held the position of Director (Finance) since August 2019 on the Board of Indian Oil Corporation Limited, and several group companies. He has wide experience of over 34 years of Oil and Gas Industry and handled F&A, Treasury, Pricing, International Trade, Optimisation, Information Systems, Corporate Affairs, Legal, Risk management, etc.

Mr. Gupta has received prestigious individual recognition such as "CA CFO-Large Corporate - Manufacturing and Infrastructure Category" in Jan., 2021 by ICAI for Financial and Risk Management during Pandemic and was adjudged among Top 30 CFOs in India by StartupLanes.com in May, 2022.

NMDC foraying into digitization

VIS News Service

National Miner NMDC recently conducted a Talk on Cyber Security Awareness at its Head Office in Hyderabad. The company was observing National Cyber Security Awareness Month, celebrated in October every year. NMDC CMD Mr. Sumit Deb, said that GoI's vision of Digital India is aimed at empowering people and organiza-

tions of the country. In line with this vision, NMDC is foraying towards digitization and automation, he said. Mr. Krishna Sastry P, presented statistics on global cost of cyber crime and next generation attacks and highlighted the need to build cyber discipline in individ-



als, organizations, and nations. He added that NMDC builds its digital infrastructure, cyber security will play a pivotal role for going forward. The company has put in place a robust Information Security Management and Governance System. NMDC employees must demonstrate cyber vigilance and strengthen the 'firewall' of the company and the country.

NCL achieves 19.8% growth

The Singrauli-based flagship subsidiary of CIL has struck stupendous growth in the current fiscal year 2022-23 till the quarter ended this Sept. NCL has achieved splendid 19.8% growth in coal production last year and has produced a whopping 64 MT of Coal which stood at 53.44 MT in the same period of the last fiscal.

Hindustan Zinc reports Q2 results

VIS News Service

Hindustan Zinc Limited recently announced its production numbers for the second quarter and half year ended September 30, 2022.

2QFY23

The company in an official release stated that it saw highest-ever second quarter mined metal production at 255kt, up 3% YoY which was driven by better grades and improved mill recoveries. Refined metal production stood at 246kt, which was an increase of 18% YoY with improved smelter performance, better mined metal availability and base



impact due to extended maintenance shutdown in the same period last year.

However, refined metal was lower by 6% QoQ because of lower roaster availability due to

breakdown of an acid storage tank at Chanderiya plant in 2QFY23 and time taken in ramp up of production post maintenance. Integrated zinc production was at 189kt, up 16% YoY and down 8% QoQ. Refined lead production was 57kt up 21% YoY and 5% QoQ. Saleable silver pro-

HZL Q2FY23 NOS GROWTH YOY

- > Metal Production ↑ 3%
- > Refined Metal Production ↑ 18%
- > Integrated Zinc production ↑ 16%
- > Refined Lead production ↑ 21%
- > Saleable Silver production ↑ 28%

duction was 6.2 moz, up 28% YoY and 10% QoQ in line with lead metal production and WIP liquidation.

1HFY23

First half mined metal production at 507kt was 8% higher YoY, on account of increase in ore production, further supported by better grades & improved operational efficiency.

offset by acid storage tank breakdown at Chanderiya plant in 2QFY23.

1HFY23 integrated zinc production was at 395kt, up 13% YoY and refined lead production was at 110kt, up 16% YoY.

Saleable silver production was 11.9 moz, up 19% YoY in-line with lead metal production.

IN BRIEF

Minister opens UHCs

The State Medical Health, Family Welfare and Medical Education Department Minister **Ms. Vidala Rajani** stated that Government's aim is to provide better healthcare to all. The minister inaugurated the newly built urban health centers in 94th & 95th wards with NUHM funds. District Collector **Dr A Mallikarjuna**, Mayor **Ms. Golagani Hari Venkat Kumari** and MLA **A. Adheep Raj** and others were present.



Waltair div. surpasses ticket checking records

Waltair Division has achieved the highest ever earnings in Ticket Checking, surpassing all previous records. The Division has earned Rs.17.59 Crores in ticket checking drives up to the month of Sept-2022 and 2.88 Lakh cases were detected. This is the best ever performance of the Division in its history and pre-Covid times. The earnings for the month of September-22 is Rs. 2.04 Crores which is also the highest earning in any September of previous years. 165 drives comprising fortress checks, ambush checks, mid-section checks, massive checks, special drives by railway board etc were conducted in this September. DRM **Mr. Anup Satpathy** appreciated the ticket checking team of Waltair Division for their relentless efforts in checking the ticketless travel.

AU inks pact with Togo universities

Andhra University and the Ministry of Education of Togo, a West African country, have signed an informal agreement for academic cooperation with Lome and Kara Universities of Togo. They will work in the field of science, engineering, space research, agriculture and environment. Prof. **Wateba** recently met AU Vice Chancellor **Prof. PVGD Prasada**



Reddy and said efforts would be made to send the students from Togo to India, especially to AU for higher studies. Prof. Wateba also visited AU incubation centre and pharmacy college. AU Registrar **Prof. Krishna Mohan** and others were present.

RINL organises Fit India Freedom Run

As part of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav and Swachhata Campaign 2.0, A 'Fit India Freedom Run' was organised for a distance of three km covering sector-6 and sector - 7 of Ukkunagaram to create an awareness about physical fitness and cleanliness (swachhta) amongst employees, family members and youth from surrounding villages. Over 100 persons including employees, housewives, children and youth actively participated in the Fit India Run. **Dr. K.H.Prakash**, CGM (Medical & Health Services) and **Mr. F.K.Lakra** CGM (T A, Law and Contracts) flagged off the event at Ukkunagaram.



Gandhi Jayanti at VSEZ

Visakhapatnam Special Economic Zone celebrated Birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi in the premises of Administrative Building at VSEZ. The programme was started with the lighting of the lamp and offered floral tributes to the father of the Nation on his Birth Anniversary by **Ms. O. Phani**, Deputy Development Commissioner, **Mr. K. V. Prasanna Kumar**, Asst. Development Commissioner & Head of Office, **Mr. K. Srinivas**, Asst. Development Commissioner, **Mr. Ch. Janaki Rama Rao**, P&A Officer and all the officers and staff. As part of celebrations, Sr. Officers and staff of VSEZ participated in the plantation drive.

5G services for AP sought



VIS News Service

Minister for Information Technology **Mr. Gudivada Amarnath** has sought the launch of 5G services in Andhra Pradesh. Mr. Amarnath, who participated in the launching of 5G services by Prime Minister Narendra Modi at the Digital India Conference in New Delhi recently, urged the Union IT Minister **Mr. Rajeev Chandrasekhar** to expand the 5G services to AP also. IT Ministers from various States, attended the digital conference.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Amarnath informed the Union Minister that the Information Technology and electronic sectors have been witnessing rapid development in Andhra Pradesh.

"If 5G services are launched, the two sectors will achieve further development," he said. Amarnath said the Union Minister responded positively to his plea for launch of 5G services in Andhra Pradesh.

GVL yet again calls on Centre for RINL

Meets Coal Minister seeks coal & Credit Extension for Steel Plant

VIS News Service

Rajya Sabha MP **Mr. GVL Narasimha Rao** recently called upon Union Minister for Coal and Mines **Mr. Pralhad Joshi**, and apprised him of some of the challenges being faced by RINL.

Handing over the letter to the coal minister the Rajya Sabha MP cited in his letter that it was due to the non availability of domestic coal for steel production and high cost of imported coal that the production at the steel plant had taken a hit

Noting that prime coking coal and medium coking coal are supplied to RINL by Bharat coal limited and boiler coal supplied by Mahanadi Coalfield Limited he sought the minister's intervention for adequate supply.

As both these are subsidiaries of coal India limited, a CPSE (Central Public

Sector Enterprise) under your ministry we seek your help the BJP leader wrote in his letter.

Mr. Narasimha Rao also highlighted that the steel plant was facing severe capital crunch due to the rising costs of raw materials and tough market conditions and therefore called for coal PSUs to offer credit to RINL. 'Coal PSUs don't offer credit to RINL for its coal requirements.

I therefore write this letter requesting you to prevail upon PSUs in your ministry to offer adequate quantity of coal and also offer adequate credit to RINL to



overcome its working capital requirements' Mr. Narasimha wrote in his letter to the minister.

He further informed that the Minister Mr. Pralhad Joshi responded positively to his request and immediately instructed Ministry's officers to get the matter examined and assured GVL that he would do everything possible to help RINL with supply of Coal from Coal PSUs.

Plant Visit in Nellore



Mr. Venkaiah Naidu, former Vice President of India, recently visited the KisanKraft factory and interacted with the employees there. 'It was very humbling to see former VP stop and talk to most employees, took a lot of interest in our work and encouraged all of us to continue our work to support farmers' said KisanKraft's founder **Mr. Ravindra Agrawal**.

Canara Bank opens Central Processing Hub in Vizag

VIS News Service

Canara Bank's MD and CEO **Mr. L.V.Prabhakar** recently opened a Central Processing Hub at Kommadi in Visakhapatnam. The new division aims to serve the needs of new customers by speeding up the process of opening new accounts and delivering pass-books, cheque books and ATM cards.

Mr. Prabhakar explained that units like the new Central Processing Hub are an integral part of such verticals with focused customer attention. This is the seventh such unit in the country and the second in Andhra Pradesh.

In his address Bank's ED **Mr. Brij Mohan Sharma** gave details of its new digitalisation programs and added that all these new



Canara Bank as on September 2022 is the third largest Public Sector

programs were in full compliance to the guidelines of the Central Govt. and RBI. **Mr. G.V.N. Rao**, AGM Regional office I, Visakhapatnam provided details of the deposits and loans secured till the recent quarter (ending in September 2022) and also provided details of the home loans, vehicle loans and business loans sanctioned through the Regional Retail Assets Hub and MSME Sulabh units. Speaking on the bank's overall performance **Mr. Prabhakar** said that

Bank with a business of Rs. 19.57 lakh crores, through its network of 97321 domestic branches and three international branches. He said that he is also hopeful that by the end of this calendar year Canara Bank would be able to reach a business of Rs. 20 lakh crores.

Ms. K. Kalyani GM Circle office Vijayawada, GMs and DGMs from Canara Bank Head Office, AGMs from Regional Office II Visakhapatnam, and others were also present.

"CS'bridging the gap between corporates & Govt"

VIS News Service

The Institute of Company Secretaries of India (ICSI) recently celebrated its 54th Foundation Day on the theme "ICSI-building Governance Ecosystem for Sustainable Growth" in New Delhi. Minister of State for Finance, **Dr. Bhagwat Kishanrao Karad** lauded the Institute for making continuous concerted efforts towards creating an environment of transpar-



ency and accountability in Indian Inc. He mentioned that "Company Secretaries are bridging the gap between the Corporates and the Government, reforming performing and transforming the governance culture in the country."

Mr. Amarjeet Sinha, IAS (Retd.), Member Public Enterprises Selection Board & Former Advisor to Prime Minister of India also spoke.

CS. Devendra V. Deshpande, President, The ICSI, **CS. Ranjeet Pandey**, Former President and Chairman of the ICSI's Foundation Day organizing committee, and others attended.

VOC port strengthens Infra

Minister unveils slew of projects

VIS News Service

Union Minister of Ports, Shipping & Waterways **Mr. Sarbananda Sonowal**, laid the foundation stone for the Tuticorin SPEEDZ (Coastal Employment Unit) land for development of Port-based Industries, spanning 1300 acres, worth Rs. 100 Crores.

He also laid the foundation stone for inner Harbour development works (Widening the Port Entrance and dredging the widened portion) at a total cost of Rs. 65.53 Crores, inaugurated the Upgraded Coal Yard Road and Drainage System at a cost of Rs.16 Crores, Fixed Fire

the Smart Port projects, India's first indigenously developed Vessel Traffic System at the cost of Rs.2.29 Crores. The development of indigenous system would eliminate the need of relying on propri-



etary and costly foreign made software solutions. He also inaugurated the Optic Fibre connectivity at

sion into LED Lights, Induction of e-Cars, 140 KW Solar Roof Top Solar Power Plant and laid foundation stone for 2 MW Wind Farm, 400 KW Solar Roof Top Solar Power Plant, Public EV Charging Stations at a total cost of Rs.26.93 Crores, the re-

- *Tuticorin SPEEDZ Rs. 100 Cr.*
- *Inner Harbour Development Rs.65.53 Cr.*
- *Fixed Fire Fighting System at Oil Jetty Rs. 18.79 Cr.*
- *Container Scanner and 140 MT Electronic in-motion Weigh Bridge Rs. 46.51 Cr.*

lease added. Mr. Sonowal also inaugurated Ease of Doing Business Projects, Drive through Container Scanner and 140 MT Electronic in-motion Weigh Bridge, at a total Cost of Rs. 46.51 Crores. VOC Port Chairman **Mr. T.K. Ramachandra, IAS, Chairman, Dr. K. Senthil Raj**, Dist. Collector, along with other stakeholders of the Port, participated.

VOC Port to be developed as Transshipment hub on East coast of India

Fighting System at Oil Jetty at a cost of Rs. 18.79 Crores, Strengthened 22 KV HT Electrical Network at a total Cost of Rs. 1.15 Crores, according to a release.

Mr. Sonowal inaugurated

a cost of Rs.1.15 Crores. In line with the call given by the Prime Minister towards Net Zero initiatives, the Minister inaugurated an array of Green Port projects like 100% Conver-

JNPA bags PPP Ports award

VIS News Service

Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority (JNPA) was acclaimed as the Most Admired Central Entity promoting PPP (Ports) at the "Economic Times Infra Focus Awards 2022" held recently. The PPP mode of investment in the country's port sector



has witnessed significant progress in the last 25 years. Jawaharlal Nehru Port entered into a historic agreement with the private player, N h a v a Sheva International Container Terminal (NSICT), in July 1997, making it the first Port Terminal to be developed on a PPP basis

in Major Ports. JNPA was the first Port to enter this agreement, which resulted in capacity addition and improved productivity. For JNPCT a concession agreement was signed between JNPA and JM Baxi Ports and Logistics Ltd. - CMA Terminals on July 29, 2022, making JNPA India's first 100% Landlord- Major Port. The award was received by **Mr. Unmesh Sharad Wagh**, IRS, Dy. Chairman, JNPA.

IRClass-Ship Hub to build a digital platform

VIS News Service

Leading international classification society, Indian Register of Shipping (IRClass), has announced major initiatives towards digitalisation and offering its services through a unified digital platform. IRClass has signed a Memorandum of Agreement with Smart Ship© Hub (www.smartshiphub.com); a multi-tenant on demand digital platform and one stop solution provider to ship owners to customize as per their specific requirements, to collaboratively grow 'IRClass Digital' and to offer best-in-class solutions for the maritime commu-



nity. **Mr. Arun Sharma**, Executive Chairman of IR Class, said this tie-up with Smart Ship© Hub to develop 'IRClass-Digital' allows us to offer fully integrated and technology enabled service offerings to our customers and stakeholders." The 'IRClass Digital' initiative aims to build a world class digital framework based on 4 key pillars – technology, people, processes, and open innovation. Through this digital platform, IRClass plans to offer remote vessel and fleet monitoring, performance and voyage optimisation, remote maintenance assistance, predictive maintenance, condition monitoring and other services.

Maersk orders 6 new green vessels

VIS News Service

A.P. Moller - Maersk (Maersk) recently announced that it has ordered a further six large ocean-going vessels that can sail on green methanol. The six vessels will be built by Hyundai Heavy Industries (HHI) and have a nominal capacity of approx. 17,000 containers (Twenty Foot Equivalent Units - TEUs). They will replace existing capacity in the Maersk fleet, stated an official release from the company. 'Our customers are looking to us to decarbonise their supply chains, and these six vessels able to operate on green methanol will further accelerate the efforts to offer our customers cli-

Goa Shipyard nets Rs.1.45 Cr. Revenue

VIS News Service

The 56th Annual General Meeting (AGM) of Goa Shipyard Limited (GSL) was held recently. Announcing the financial results CMD **Mr. Brajesh Kumar Upadhyay**, informed that the overall performance of the Yard was positive. Net worth of the Company has reached an all-time high of Rs. 1,148 Cr and Gross Revenue of Rs. 865 Cr and Profit before Tax of Rs. 135 Cr during FY 2021-22.

He further mentioned that a final dividend of Rs. 1.10 per equity share of Rs. 5.00 each for FY 2021-22 was declared at the AGM, which is in addition to the interim dividend of Rs. 3.25 declared during the year. Thus, the total dividend for FY 2021-22 is Rs. 4.35 per equity share being 87% on Paid-up Share Capital. Mr Upadhyay further highlighted the healthy order book position and multiple projects in hand provide clear visibility of growing revenue.

Rlys records 115.80 MT freight loading in Sept.

VIS News Service

Indian railways recorded its best ever September Monthly freight loading of 115.80 MT in 2022. As per an official release the incremental loading in the month of September has been 9.7 MT i.e. a growth of 9.15% over the previous best September figures achieved in 2021. With this, Indian Rail-

ways has had 25 straight months of best ever monthly freight loading. The Railways has achieved an incremental loading of 6.8 MT in Coal, followed by 1.2 in Iron Ore and 1.22 MT in Balance other goods, 0.4 MT in Cement & Clinker and 0.3 MT in Fertilizers. Increase in automobile loading has been another highlight of Freight Business in FY



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2022-23 and 2712 rakes have been loaded in FY 2022-23 till September as compared to 1575 rakes during the same period of last year i.e. a growth of 72.2 %, stated a press release. The cumulative freight loading from 1st April'2022 to 30th September'2022 has been 736.68 MT as against 668.86 MT achieved in 2021-22 i.e. an incremental loading of 67.83 MT, with a growth of 10.14 % over same period last year. The freight NTKMs (Net tonne kilometers) have increased from 63.43 Billion in September '21 to 69.97 Billion in September'22 registering a growth of 10.3 %. The cumulative NTKMs in the first Half of the year have also grown by 17.1 %. The sustained efforts of Indian Railways to increase supply of Coal to Power houses, in close coordination with Ministries of Power and Coal, has again been one of the key features of the freight performance in the month of September. The loading of Coal (both domestic and imported) to Power Houses has increased by 6.2 MT in Sept. with 42.00 MT Coal being moved to Power houses as against 35.8 MT last year, i.e. a growth of 17.3%. Cumulatively, in the first Half of the year, IR has loaded more than 64.53 MT extra coal to Power Houses as compared to same period of last year, with a growth of more than 29.3%.

Exports dip in Sept.

VIS News Service

FIEO said that the slow down in exports is a reflection of the toughening conditions of the global trade facing demand slowdown on account of high inventories, rising inflation, economies entering recession, high volatility in currencies and geopolitical tensions. Reacting to the Trade Data for the month of September, 2022, **Dr A Sakthivel**, President said that the drop in commodity

prices and restriction on some exports, with a view to stem the price increase in the domestic market, has also affected the growth numbers. He said that the decline in exports of engineering goods, apparels and textile sectors is of particular concern as these sectors are key to huge employment. At the same time, the growth in exports of electronic goods is a good sign, he said.

- *Maersk's 6 New Vessels*
- *To have a capacity of 17000 TEUs*
- *To be delivered in 2025*
- *Dual-fuel engines able to operate on green methanol*
- *Vessels to save about 800,000 tonnes of CO2 emissions annually*

business and has also set tangible near-term targets for 2030 to ensure significant progress. This includes a 50% reduction in emissions per trans-

ported container in the Maersk Ocean fleet compared to 2020 and a principle of only ordering new build vessels that can be operated on green fuels. **19 green methanol ves-**

is the best scalable green fuel solution for this decade, and we are excited to see several other ship-owners choosing this path' said **Mr Palle Laursen**, Chief Fleet & Technical Officer at Maersk. The six 17,000 TEU vessels are all to be delivered in 2025 and will sail under the flag of Denmark. When all 19 vessels on order are deployed and have replaced older vessels, they will generate annual CO2 emissions savings of around 2.3 million tonnes. Maersk further reiterates its strategy of maintaining a fleet capacity at a maximum of 4.3 million TEU, as a combination of Maersk managed and time-chartered vessels.

CM urges officials to accord priority to MSMEs

Calls for adopting best practices to benefit MSMEs

VIS News Service

The Chief Minister **Mr. YS. Jagan Mohan Reddy** has once again reiterated his keen focus on MSMEs and asked the officials of the Industries Department to accord top priority for the promotion of MSMEs which provide large scale employment.

He told the officials to take steps to ensure that the new industrial units get green signal by the State Investment Promotion Board (SIPB) and begin work at the earliest.

At the review meeting of industries, basic infrastructure, ports, industrial corridors and fishing harbours held recently, the Chief Minister ordered setting up of a special wing with CS and officials from the CMO to extend support to industrial units that get nod from the SIPB. All such units should be given necessary licenses before scheduled deadlines without delay said the CM.

Mr Jagan Mohan Reddy pointed out that no other state government has accorded as much importance as AP in the promotion of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) with a view to bringing in employment opportunities to the youth in a large scale.

He directed the officials to work for the promotion of MSMEs, and asked them



to turn the state of Andhra Pradesh into a perfect platform for their working.

If necessary, they should observe the working style of MSMEs in other countries for this purpose.

He suggested that officials should also explore the possibility of tying up with leading MSME Parks in other countries with a view to encouraging them in the state.

The methods and policies in vogue in other countries with regard to MSME parks should be adopted in the state.

Most of the products in the market should come from the MSMEs and for this, there is a need to provide basic infrastructure and extend all possible support to the units. He also asked the Chief Secretary to examine setting up a committee with two or three IAS officials to work on this.

Reviewing the development

of industrial corridors in the state, he ordered the concerned officials to develop the Ramayapatnam and Bhavanapadu Nodes as soon as possible.

Earlier, officials informed the Chief Minister about the progress in the works of industrial corridors, fishing harbours and the growth of MSMEs in the state. Minister for Industries and Infrastructure **Mr. Gudivada Amarnath**,

Chief Secretary **Dr Sameer Sharma**, Special CS (Industries) **R. Karikal Valaven**,

Special CS (Finance) **S.S. Rawath**, Director of Industries Department **Ms G. Srijana**, Vice Chairman and MD, APIIC **N. Bharat Gupta**, AP Maritime Board CEO **S. Shan Mohan** and Chairman **K. Venkata Reddy**, AP Fibernet Ltd MD **M. Madhusudha Reddy**, and others participated.

Green Building Congress from Oct. 20

VIS News Service

The Indian Green Building Council (IGBC), a part of the CII, in its efforts to further advance the Green Building Movement in the country, is organizing the 20th edition of the Green Building Congress 2022 at Hyderabad International Convention Centre (HICC) from October 20 - 22, 2022.

The key highlights of Green Building Congress 2022 - India's Annual Flagship event on Green Built Environment were announced by **Dr. S Vijaya Kumar**, Chairman, IGBC

Visakhapatnam Chapter & **Mr K Leela Prasad**, Co-chairman, IGBC

Visakhapatnam Chapter at a Curtain raiser program of CREDAI property show, organized in Visakhapatnam recently.

Mr B Srinivasa Rao, Chairman, CREDAI Visakhapatnam, **Mr KSR K Raju**, President, CREDAI Visakhapatnam & **Mr E Ashok Kumar**, Hon. Secretary, CREDAI VSP were present.

MLC lauds DRM

MLC Mr. PVN Madhav recently felicitated DRM and appreciated him for his relentless efforts in making the Division best among other Divisions. MLC thanked DRM **Mr. Anup Satpathy** for taking initiative to resolve several issues and playing a constructive role towards the early creation of new zonal infrastructure for the proposed South Coast Railway.

IN BRIEF

Law varsity students excel

Damodaram Sanjivayya National Law University won the 13th edition of the Chanakya National Law University National Parliamentary debate, which was held from September 25 to September 28, 2022. Two teams consisting of 10 members represented the uni-



versity in the competition. The university team comprising of **Anjali Gurumoorthy, Angela Elsa John and K.K. Prahalad** won the debate.

On the other hand, the runners-up won by the 2nd team of DSNLU, consisted of **Arthi, G, Elsa Sibiu and Eshita Milinda**. Elsa Sibiu also bagged the prestigious award of Best Speaker for the tournament. **Antara Ranjan** chaired the Open Grand Finals and won the accolade of 2nd best Adjudicator, while **Shreeya S Shekar** broke as an adjudicator and was a panelist in the Novice finals. Vice Chancellor Prof. **S. Surya Prakash** congratulated both the teams and the faculty convenor **Ms. Soma Bhattacharjia**.

MVGR's unique Book Distribution Program

The Volunteers of From The Youth For the People (FYFP) of MVGR College of Engineering have a unique initiative wherein they regularly collect used books from various sources of the college and give them for recycling to get new books. These new books are then distributed to the school children of various Government Schools under the "Project Kitab" Scheme.



For the year 2022-23 under this scheme the FYFP Student forum identified 320 students of 10 ZP High Schools located around MVGR College of Engineering and distributed 1200 note books and other Stationery. This was done on the occasion of **Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam** Birth Anniversary in observance of World Students Day as a mark of realising the motto of "Serve the Need and Serve the Cause". MVGR College Vice Principal **Dr. Y.M.C. Sekhar** said that rendering service to the community is a great sign of integrated character and that MVGR is very proud to have such a student forum.

NSTL celebrates

Dr. APJ's Birth Anniversary

Dr APJ Abdul Kalam's Birth Anniversary was celebrated at Naval Scientific & Technological Laboratory (NSTL) on 15 Oct 2022. The Chief Guest of the occasion **Mr. Durgesh Kumar Dubey**, Deputy Chairman of Visakhapatnam Port Authority said that the young generation should follow and make Dr Abdul Kalam their role model. Outstanding Scientists and Officiating Directors of NSTL along with many others participated on this occasion.



VPA celebrates 89th Formation Day

Visakhapatnam Port Authority recently celebrated its 89th Formation Day. It was on 7th October, 1933 that the Visakhapatnam Port had commissioned its operations and started its unending services to the nation. VPA is one among the 13 Major Ports in the country and the only Major Port in the State of Andhra Pradesh. On the occasion, Visakhapatnam Port Authority Chairman, **Mr. K.Rama Mohana Rao**, IAS, along with HoDs and employees of VPA garlanded the statues of Col. H. Cartwright Reid and **Mr. Wilfrid C. Ash**, Engineer-in-Chief of Construction of Visakhapatnam Harbour commemorating their services to VPA.



NCC gets 3 ISO

Certifications

New Coaching Complex, the coach maintenance wing of Waltair Division, got three ISO certificates for its best upkeep, safety and environment management. This is the first Coaching Depot in East Coast Railway to get these certificates and very few in Indian Railway got these. Divisional Railway Manager **Mr. Anup Satpathy** congratulated the team of New Coaching Complex, Visakhapatnam for their efforts in achieving this feat. This New Coaching Complex (NCC) Waltair Division, ECoR, Visakhapatnam got ISO 9001:2015 for the QMS; ISO 14001:2015 certification for EM System and ISO 45001:2018 certification for OHSM.

Waltair Div. taking big stride on e-Auctions of commercial assets

VIS News Service

Indian Railways has taken steps to bring Commercial Earning and Non-Fare Revenue contracts under the ambit of electronic auction through Indian Railway e-Procurement System

tion portal for commercial assets, auctions have been conducted 1,200 contracts have been awarded covering 8,500 assets. Total value of contracts awarded: Rs 844 Crore. 68 Divisions have conducted e-

contracts, 4 were Pay & Use toilets, 2 were of Cloak Room and One was parcel contract.

Divisional Railway Manager **Mr. Anup Satpathy** said that earning assets were created in e-auction like Parcel Van, Pay & Use Toilets, Advertisement rights on station circulating area and coaches, AC waiting rooms, Cloak rooms, Parking lots, Plastic Bottle crushers, ATMs, Station co-branding, Video screens for content on demand etc. These assets will be mapped location-wise in the portal once, and the system will remember forever if it is covered for earning or not. This will improve monitoring of assets on real time basis and will minimize asset-iddling.

➤ Since the launch of e-auction for Commercial assets, 16 contracts have been awarded covering 96 assets

➤ The e-auction portal has resulted in realization of true value of the assets

(IREPS). **Mr. Ashwini Vaishnav** had launched e-auction for commercial earning in June 2022. This e-auction portal has increased Railways earning and helped in realization of true value of the assets. Since the launch of e-auc-

Auctions. Waltair Division has created 199 assets in e-auction module and 96 assets were called for e-auction.

Till date 16 contracts have been awarded by Waltair Division. Out of 16 contracts, 9 were of Parking

Ship Modeling contest

VIS News Service

As part of the recently held all India Nau Sainik NCC Camp-2022, Ship Modeling Competition was held. Seventeen teams participated in the Ship Modeling Competition wherein the cadets made a



powered scaled-down model of the Indian Naval Ship Talwar capable of floating and being propelled by battery power. In the Tent pitching competition all teams rigged field tents with perfection. The Drill, Semaphore, Service Subjects, Seamanship Practical and Firing competitions were also held during the camp.

General Anil Chauhan New CDS

VIS News Service

General Anil Chauhan, PVSM, U Y S M , AVSM, SM, VSM recently assumed office as the Chief of Defence Staff (CDS). As per an official release General Chauhan will also be the Principal Military Advisor to the Raksha Mantri on all Tri-Service matters as well as head Department of Military Affairs as Secretary. In addition he will also be Permanent Chairman,



his abilities. He added that the security challenges facing the nation will be dealt with jointly by the Services.

Chiefs of Staff Committee (COSC). In a brief interaction with media before taking charge, General Chauhan said that it was a matter of pride for him to be nominated as CDS. There are hopes and expectations among the three Services, government and citizens from the new CDS which, he said, he would fulfil to the best of

his abilities. He added that the security challenges facing the nation will be dealt with jointly by the Services.

He added that the security challenges facing the nation will be dealt with jointly by the Services.

IIM Nagpur to skill Navy personnel in Mgmt. courses

VIS News Service

Indian Navy and IIM Nagpur have recently signed an MoU to explore Opportunities to train, up-skill and re-skill Armed Forces Personnel, Indian Navy personnel in particular, in emerging areas of Business Management, Financial Management, Block Chain, Project Management, Strategic Management, Digital Marketing, Supply chain, Logistic management and research.



As per an official press release it stated that a Naval Headquarters team will

shortly visit IIM Nagpur to custom design executive education programmes to meet specific requirements of the Navy. Speaking on the occasion Dr Bhimaraya Ambanna Metri, Director IIM Nagpur, said that IIM Nagpur will jointly collaborate with the

Indian Navy to design a bouquet of on-campus/off-campus program / workshop in areas of mutual interest. Vice Admiral Dinesh K Tripathi, the Chief of Personnel Indian Navy said that the Indian Navy is looking forward to see the end results of this program.

New DG Ordnance (C&S)



VIS News Service

Mr. Sanjeev Kishore, a 1985 batch officer of the Indian Ordnance Factory Service (IOFS), has taken over as the Director General Ordnance (C&S) with effect from October 1. He succeeded Mr. M.K.Garg upon the superannuation.. Before taking over the charge of DGO (C &S), Mr. Kishore was the Additional Director General Ordnance at the Directorate of Ordnance (Coordination & Services), Kolkata. Mr. Kishore has held many senior positions, including that of the first CMD of Armoured Vehicles Nigam Ltd (AVNL), one of the seven new DPSUs formed by the Govt of India in 2021.

Navies of India & New Zealand sign pact

VIS News Service

Chief of the Naval Staff (CNS), Adm R Hari Kumar, recently visited New Zealand where in he held detailed deliberations with Rear Admiral David Proctor, Chief of Navy, RNZN. The discussions covered a wide spectrum of maritime cooperation opportunities. Both leaders exhibited enthusiasm to-

wards expanding the scale and scope of bilateral engagements in the coming years. In a milestone de-



velopment, an Agreement on White Shipping Infor-

mation Exchange was signed during this visit. Closer collaboration towards enhancing shared

Maritime Domain Awareness, is in keeping with convergent views of both countries with regard to promoting greater transparency in the maritime domain. The visit

coincided with the Anniversary Celebrations of RNZN. The CNS was delighted to be the Special Guest at the 'Beat Retreat and Ceremonial Sunset Ceremony' held at Auckland to mark this special occasion. The CNS was also provided a comprehensive tour of the Maritime Museum of New Zealand.

Our acquisition of GPL will boost Andhra's industrialization: Karan Adani

VIS News Service

Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone Ltd ("APSEZ"), part of Adani Group, recently received approvals from NCLT Ahmedabad and NCLT Hyderabad for acquiring the remaining 58.1% stake in Gangavaram Port Limited (GPL) through the composite scheme of arrangement. With this stake purchase, GPL will become a 100% subsidiary of



Gangavaram Port has excellent rail & road network connectivity.

Mr Karan Adani CEO, APSEZ

share swap arrangement and will result in issuance of around 47.7mn APSEZ shares to the erstwhile GPL promoters stated an official release from GPL. Commenting on the occasion, Mr Karan Adani,

business gateway to the hinterland spread over eight states. The recent addition of a container handling terminal will enable us to accelerate our growth of cargo volumes".

APSEZ also brings world-class logistics synergies to the table, which will propel Gangavaram Port to a potential cargo volume of 250 MMT. This will boost the pace of industrialization of Andhra Pradesh, added Mr Adani and said that GPL will benefit from APSEZ's pan-India footprint, logistics integration, customer centric philosophy and operational efficiencies. In FY2022, the port handled cargo volumes of around 30 million metric tonnes, generated revenue of Rs 1,206 crore and EBITDA of Rs 796 crore, which resulted in an EBITDA margin of 66%. GPL is a debt-free company with a cash balance of Rs 1,293 crore as of March'22 end.

- GPL 3rd largest non-major port in Andhra Pradesh with a 64 MMT capacity
- Has 9 berths & freehold land of 1,800 acres
- GPL in FY2022
- Handled cargo volumes of around 30 million metric tonnes
- Generated revenue of Rs 1,206 crore
- GPL a debt-free company with a cash balance of Rs 1,293 crore as of March'22 end

APSEZ. APSEZ has already acquired 31.5% stake in the company from Warburg Pincus and another 10.4% from the Government of Andhra Pradesh in FY22. The acquisition of 58.1% stake from DVS Raju & family will be through a

CEO and Whole-time Director, APSEZ said, "Acquisition of GPL is a key milestone in consolidating our position as India's largest transport utility and in achieving East Coast & West Coast parity. Gangavaram Port has excellent rail & road network connectivity and is the busi-

Govt. taking steps for completion of irrigation projects

VIS News Service

State Water Resources Department Engineer-in-Chief C. Narayana Reddy clarified that the government has given top priority to the development of the irrigation sector in the Uttarandhra region of the state and is taking necessary steps to complete the irrigation projects. Speaking to mediapersons in Amaravati recently, he dismissed reports in a section of the media that there was a delay in the execution of the projects and they were moving at a snail's pace. First of all, irrigation projects are of longer duration of construction phase, so as to provide benefits to people for several decades," he averred. Elaborating further, he said Post bifurcation, from 2014 to 2019, Rs 1,571 crore was spent, but irrigation water was provided to only 69,000 acres. From 2019 to till date under the YSRC government, Rs 488 crore was spent and irrigation water was provided to 11,649 acres. "The amount spent might look small, but the benefit is more in the last three years.

VPA sees 15% growth in Cargo handled

Contd. from Page 1

crease in Coal volumes. Thermal coal more than doubled from 4.1MT in H1FY22 to 8.3MT in H1FY23 while coking coal increased from 2.4MT to 2.7MT in the same period. VPA's Deputy chairman, Mr Durgesh Kumar Dubey attributed the substantial growth in coal to GoI's earlier mandate to state gencos to import at least 10% of their total coal requirement for blending purposes. 'Due to the 10%



responding period last year. Raw fertilizers too increased marginally from 0.734 MT to 0.794 MT. Iron Ore pellets however declined during this period wherein it fell from 7.5MT handled in April-Sept 2021

VPA Cargo Traffic

H1FY22	15.39%	H1FY23
33.40MT	↑	38.54MT

mandate given by the government of India to power houses to import coal for blending purposes we saw a surge in our coal handling' said the deputy chairman speaking to Vizag Industrial Scan. Container traffic witnessed a slight increase with the port handling 262,000 TEUs in the first 6 months of FY 23 compared to 256,000 TEUs in the cor-

to 6.9MT in April-Sept 2022. Overall VPA handled a total of 38.54 MT of cargo between the April-Sept 2022 period compared to 33.40MT in the same period last year thereby registering a growth of 15.39%. VPA recorded the second highest growth among all major ports in this period while Kamarajar Port recorded the highest growth at 16.40%.

Leading Eye Hospital in Vizag initiates AI & Tele-Ophthalmology

VIS News Service

Sankar Foundation, Visakhapatnam, a Super Specialty Eye hospital and known for its quality eye care services has now started research on Artificial Intelligence & Tele Ophthalmology in its operations to achieve global stan-

dards in eye care management. As per Ms KBN Manimala, Managing Trustee & Group CEO, Sankar Foundation the R & D Department of the hospital is working towards this objective by utilizing the technological advancements in Ophthalmology under the leadership of Dr T Ravindara. Ms KBN Manimala noted that in an over populated country like India, the Ophthalmologist to patient ra-

tio stands at a somber 1:100000. The fact that the country also has the highest number of blind people in the world. It has been observed that almost 88% of blindness is avoidable, however, lack of infrastructure, medical personnel and awareness are delaying timely treatment. To bring a change to the situation, tele-ophthalmology services can serve as a viable option, she opined and added that with tele-ophthalmology, an Ophthalmologist can provide consultation anywhere in the country. She lauded the State Govt for their continuous support to the hospital particularly the Government Paramedical Ophthalmic Officers.

Curing India's Blindness

- ▶ India's Ophthalmologist to patient ratio stands at a somber 1:100000
- ▶ 88% of blindness is avoidable
- ▶ Lack of infrastructure, medical personnel & awareness delaying timely treatment



Andhra Pradesh The eye hospital achieved a commendable performance during the first Half Yearly of the 2022-23 financial year in all types of eye surgeries. Sankar Foundation Eye Hospital has performed 17,357 Eye Surgeries in the 1st Half of the current Financial Year (April to September 2022). This was achieved due to the committed efforts of all doctors and paramedical staff of the hospital.

It was further informed that the highest surgical performance was also achieved under the leadership of Dr Nasrin. She congratulated all the doctors and para medical staff for this remarkable show. Highest number of Eye Surgeries in Coastal

Chairman ISTD Advisory Panel



VIS News Service

RINL CMD Mr. Atul Bhatt, has been nominated as the Chairman of the Advisory Committee of Indian Society for Training & Development (ISTD), ISTD – Vizag Chapter. At a program held at RINL recently Chairman of ISTD Visakhapatnam Chapter, Dr ORM Rao, Honorary Secretary, Dr. Hema Yadavalli, Honorary Treasurer, Mr. Saraswati Rao, GM(HR)-IR, RINL & National Council Member Mr. Sanjeev Rao, along with other officials of RINL met Mr. Atul Bhatt and formally welcomed him to the Board of Advisory Committee. They also discussed the plan of action for the coming two years. Many training programs and HR related events and activities would be taken up together by ISTD and RINL.

IndusInd Bank opens 43rd branch in AP

VIS News Service

IndusInd Bank recently inaugurated its 10th branch in Visakhapatnam and 43rd in Andhra Pradesh. The new branch was inaugurated by Mr UJM Rao, MD AP metro rail corporation, along with Mr Vamsi Krishna, MLC and Mr Rajesh Tiwari, JMD Abhijeet Ferro Alloys



houses an ATM that will be available 24x7 and will provide services like savings & current accounts, loan products, wealth management services and credit cards. In fact the new branch will also offer its customers innovative facilities like Video branch, my account, my number, choice money ATM, cash on mobile, finger printing etc. IndusInd bank also has an innovative social banking platform called

'OnTheGo' which offers a suite of banking services through multiple -social networks as an extension to its digital services. 'We are delighted to inaugurate a new branch in Visakhapatnam which is a constantly evolving market for the bank. The new branch aims to deepen relationships and attract new customers thus strengthening IndusInd bank's client base across the region. As we expand our reach to serve the local populace we look forward to bringing a whole new world of convenience and flexibility to customers' said Mr Soumitra Sen, Head- Consumer Banking and Marketing, IndusInd bank. IndusInd bank commenced operations in 1994 and caters to the needs of both consumer and corporate customers.

NCC Directorate of AP, T awarded

VIS News Service

Lieutenant General Gurbirpal Singh, AVSM, VSM Director General NCC awarded the coveted 'Best Naval Directorate Trophy' to the Andhra Pradesh & Telangana NCC Directorate for being the overall Winner in various competitions conducted during the All India Nau Sainik Camp-2022 in Visakhapatnam on Oct 11, 2022. Lt Gen Gurbirpal Singh was the Chief Guest for the Closing Ceremony, where he presented trophies to the winners of all competitions. He also awarded DG Commendations to outstanding Cadets and Training Staff for dedication to duty and facilitated the NCC alumni who attended the function. While addressing the cadets he exhorted them to work hard with passion and belongingness. Earlier on 10 Oct, 22, the Boat Pulling competition was fiercely contested by all, and the team from Madhya Pradesh & Chhattisgarh Directorate emerged winners.

Course in fire & Industrial Safety

VIS News Service

A Diploma course in Fire & Industrial Safety Engineering for Indian Armed Forces was recently commenced at the Centre for Defence Studies, AU. 60 members from Indian Army, Navy and Air Force participated. The programme was inaugurated by Ms. Girija Augustine EC member of

Executive Council. The programme was being organised for the academic development of Armed Personnel. Ms. Augustine said that several Research programmes with Defence will be organised by the Centre for Defence Studies. Dr. Ujjwal Kumar Ghatak, academic advisor, Defence JERP was also present.

State agri minister meets Aus. Minister

VIS News Service

The State Agriculture and Co-operative, Marketing and Food Processing Minister Mr. Kakani Govardhan Reddy recently met the Agriculture Minister of Western Australia Alanna MacTiernan. Mr. Kakani explained the various development and welfare programmes implemented by State Government and Chief Minister Mr. YS Jaganmohan Reddy to

the Australian Minister Alanna MacTiernan. Alanna MacTiernan congratulated the Chief Minister Mr. Y.S. Jaganmohan Reddy for the welfare programs in Andhra State. Minister Kakani wanted Australia to provide modern technology cooperation to AP and requested his counterpart to provide opportunity to Andhra students for agricultural research in Australia.



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

NRDC, a Premier Technology Transfer Organisation under the Govt. of India has licensed more than 2000 innovative technologies to industries. NRDC executed more than 5000 technology transfer agreements with Entrepreneurs / Start-ups / MSME's / Industries. NRDC also supports end to end IP facilitation and commercialisation.

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Welcomhotel Devee Grandbay	Vizag	Mr.Hormuzdyr Gabba (GM)	0891-6600101
Hotel The Park	Vizag	Mr. Jaydeep Biswas (GM)	0891-3045678
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'India a very important Market for Imerys'

Aditya Sabharwal

Refractories play a key role in the steel and construction Industry and are said to perform a salient role in their production. With the demand for steel & cement set to surge and with the Indian government having set an ambitious steel production target of 300 MTPA by 2030 refractories therefore have a significant role to play, thereby also presenting a lucrative business opportunity for

Refractories have huge Potential in India

we intend to cater to the needs of our customers here' said Imerys's senior Vice president, **Mr Philippe Bourg** speaking exclusively to *Vizag Industrial Scan*.

Mr Bourg was recently in Vizag to celebrate the 1 year completion of its state of the art greenfield manufacturing facility in Visakhapatnam. The Vizag



MTPA that itself presents a huge opportunity' opined Imerys's India Managing director. Concurred Mr Philippe and said that the company has huge plans for India and wants their India business to substantially grow from their present numbers.

Imerys' Indian business currently contributes a mere Euros 25 million to the group's overall Euros 600 million. 'We want this number to remarkably grow from the present' said Mr Philippe.

Its thus no surprise that Imerys plans to expand the Vizag plant's capacity to 50 thousand tonnes by 2030 to serve the rising demand

from the domestic steel and cement sectors, and continue to add capacities across the country. This makes the Vizag facility, the single largest site and investment in India for Imerys' refractory, and construction businesses.



Team Imerys along with the French ambassador to India Mr Emmanuel Lenain at the Inauguration of Imerys Vizag Plant.

The company is investing an additional Rs. 12 Crore in equipment to further increase operations to produce Secar 71. Imerys is also in the pro-

cess of setting up a regional Research & Development Centre at Vizag. The centre will support local product development and innovation for specific customer mandates in India, and Imerys expects that it will also contribute to augmenting the company's global technical and manufacturing standards.

Domestic & Export Markets

Although the company is currently focusing on catering to the needs of its domestic clients, the Vizag manufacturing facility is well

equipped for servicing overseas markets such as Asia Pacific and the Middle East, contributing to India's efforts to strengthen

its position in the global manufacturing supply chain. **Sustainability** Mr Philippe cited sustainability to be an area of focus and informed that Imerys is committed to growing its India business sustainably and thus has commenced work to cre-

- **Imerys @ Vizag**
- **Investment- Rs 350 crores**
- **Capacity- 30,000 tonnes**
- **Total Employment- 200**

ate solar powered energy to power its plant in Vizag. He stated that Imerys is committed to reducing scope 1 and scope 2 green-



Imerys's growth story is intertwined with India's growth story.

Mr Segi Idicula
Managing Director,
Imerys India,

them. One such company that has been playing a substantial role in this sector is Imerys, a world leader in mineral-based specialty solutions for industry.

Having been in India for 30 years with 17 plants across the country the company has been ramping up its capacity so as to gear up for the huge opportunity that the market presents.

'India is a very important market for us. High quality and high performing steel needs high performing solutions. This is where Imerys has been playing a significant role in India and

facility armed with a capacity to produce 30 thousand tonnes of calcium aluminate binder is for use in the Indian refractory and construction industries.

'Imerys's growth story is intertwined with India's growth story' said Imerys India, Managing Director, **Mr Segi Idicula**.

Adding that the growth of their business is very closely related to the growth in the steel and cement industry Mr Idicula highlighted India's 300 MTPA steel production target by 2030.

'Even if the country did 200

'India & France share a great level of Trust'

Contd. from Page 1

tainable. With massive migration to cities he said Indian cities would need many technological solutions to become sustainable and efficient, thereby hoping French companies could assist India in its mass urbanization needs.

'Lot of business will happen between France and India going forward' said Mr Lenain.

The ambassador also lauded India's unflinching support to France during the Covid-19 pandemic in providing the required medicines.

'India has been very generous in providing France medicines during the COVID-19 pandemic' he said.

Hails Andhra Pradesh

Talking on the new facility he hailed the Imerys for

having a presence in India for over 30 years and hoped that it would further build on this going forward. The ambassador was very appreciative of the state government's support and its administration and called Andhra Pradesh a dynamic state and stated that many French companies would want to invest here.

'This is a great State of Andhra Pradesh and the government has

been very supportive of this investment' said the ambassador. Imerys, the world leader in mineral-based specialty solutions for industry, has made an investment of Rs 350 crores in its greenfield facility in Atchutapuram close to Visakhapatnam. This facility of calcium aluminate binder is used in the Indian refractory and construction industries.



AU Prof. selected for US program

VIS News Service

Dr A Krishnamanjari Pawar, Associate Professor of Pharmaceuticals Sciences and Member of Executive Council of Andhra University, has been selected for International Visitor Leadership Program-IVLP 2022. The IVLP programme is sponsored by the U.S. Department of State and is one of the U.S. government's most prestigious professional exchange programs for foreign opinion leaders.

A 3-week group project entitled "Hidden No More: Empowering Women Leaders in STEM-Science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. This program explores the best practices in the effective recruitment, training, and development of women. Dr. Pawar, was among the 50 selected women participants from various countries.

FAPCCI to organise an Open House Trade Meet

VIS News Service

The Federation of Andhra Pradesh Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FAPCCI) & Visakhapatnam Port Au-



thority jointly in partnership with World Trade Centre Visakhapatnam is organizing an Open House Trade Meet in Visakhapatnam on 27th October 2022.

FAPCCI's president, **Mr Karunendra S Jasti**, recently met with **Mr. K Rama Mohana Rao, IAS** Chairman, Visakhapatnam Port Authority and extended an invitation to address the event as the Chief Guest.

The President also extended invitations to **Mr.**

MRR Reddy, IRS Commissioner GST, Visakhapatnam, **Mr. K Engineer, IRS** Commissioner - Customs, Visakhapatnam, **Mr. Durgesh Kumar Dubey, IRTS, Dy. Chairman**, Visakhapatnam Port Authority and **Dr. B N Ramesh, ITS** Jt. Director General of Foreign Trade, Visakhapatnam to address the event as

Guests of Honour. As per FAPCCI the aim of this meet is to create a forum that would address issues & concerns being faced by the trade & industry and also to support the Government of India objective to reach a \$1 trillion export-driven economy in 2030.

The Association looks to promote and protect the interests of trade, commerce and industry in Andhra Pradesh.

New coach restaurant @ Guntur Rly. Stn

VIS News Service

As part of providing enhanced passenger services and novel experience to the rail users, South Central Railway has conceptualized an innovative idea by starting a Coach restaurant in the circulating area of Guntur Railway station. Guntur Division authorities have modified one sleeper coach on rails setup at circulating areas of the station with full AC provision and modified interiors to suit the dining requirements. As per an official release from SCR this is a first of its kind initiative in the SCR jurisdiction in AP wherein rail commuters and General Public will have a unique and pleasant dining experience at this restaurant.

Speaking on the occasion, DRM, Guntur **Mr. R. Mohanraja**, said that this innovative idea had been conceptualized by Guntur Division to provide premium experience to Rail commuters.

AP's IT Industry evinces mixed emotions on Moonlighting

Contd. from Page 1

ing to *Vizag Industrial Scan*.

Concurred **Mr Souvik**

echoed similar sentiments and said that Employees should be transparent about their side hustle or

should have a more transparent framework to make it a win-win for both' said the ITAAP President.

company deal with it. **Mr RL Narayana**, Chairman Investment Committee, ITAAP opined that

employees to become entrepreneurs. We have flexible work timings and work environment. As long as

employees to office. **As Ms Lakshmi Mukkavilli**, MD, Patra India said that 'We never



As an individual, I would say employees should have the integrity and loyalty towards the organisation they work with.

Mr Ravi Chandra

Vizag Head / India Delivery, Tech Mahindra



Taking advantage of WFH and working for 2 or more companies as a full-time employee is completely unethical.

Mr Sreedhar Kosaraju

State President ITAAP



We always encourage our employees to become entrepreneurs themselves and we have a policy for that as well.

Mr Murali Krishna Gannamani

Chairman & MD, Fluentgrid Ltd

Nandi, Director Operations, Concentrix and said, 'It is not ok for employees to indulge in multiple jobs.

other freelancing work and should make sure that it is not conflicting with the interests of the primary em-

However amid the COVID-19 pandemic employees taking up multiple jobs witnessed an upward

'An individual is entitled to multiple source of income - that's not a problem. Problem arises when it im-

our employees deliver their outcomes, we do not have a problem. Currently, 35-40% of our employees are

had the concept of work from home. Today, only 5% of our employees are working from office. It is a



An individual is entitled to multiple sources of income - that's not a problem until it starts to impact his commitments.

Mr R L Narayana

Chairman Investment Committee, ITTAP



Moonlighting remains a major concern for BPOs. It is a challenge and we are gradually trying to get back employees to office.

Ms Lakshmi Mukkavilli

MD, Patra India.



It is not ok for employees to indulge in multiple jobs. It is a strict no-no.

Mr Souvik Nandi

Director Operations, Concentrix

It is a strict no-no. If you are an employee of one company, you enter the organisation with an understanding and contract stating you cannot simultaneously have employment anywhere else'.

ITAAP's President, **Mr Sreedhar Kosaraju** too

ployer. 'Integrity of work should not be in question. Taking advantage of WFH and working for 2 or more companies as a full-time employee is completely unethical.

With the changing scenario, employers and employees

trend when work from home became the norm. According to a survey of 400 people across IT industries, 65% of the respondents knew of people pursuing part time jobs or moonlighting while working from home. So if this trend is rampant how does an IT

pacts his commitment, delivery, and integrity towards the assignments.' Some of the IT companies have in fact tweaked their HR policies to become more adaptable to the changing needs of their employees.

'We always encourage our

working from home and we have policies for the same' said **Mr Murali Krishna Gannamani**, Chairman & MD, Fluentgrid Ltd.

Moonlighting though still remains to be a concern for BPOs as they are still trying to get back their em-

challenge and we are gradually trying to get back people to work from office'. She however did state that for companies to adopt this concept, they would need to come up with policies or laws bringing in more transparency, trust and commitment.

RINL calls on Startups to find solutions

VIS News Service

As a part of the Open Challenge Program-1 (OCP-1) RINL hosted an outreach webinar, giving more insights on the challenge program statements from RINL.

Dr. P.Chandra Sekhar, GM (IT& ERP)/ RINL, gave a detailed outline of

lution Consultant Siemens Ltd. gave a presentation on the relevance of Industry 4.0 for steel industry, with specific emphasis on Digital Twins(simulation), relevance to steel industry.

Mr Anil Kumar Kadam, Director-EcoStruxure & Cyber Security, Schneider Electric, gave a presentation on the relevance of Industrial IOT, its applications leading to Predictive and Prescriptive Maintenance. **Mr C V D**



the problem statements posed on the open challenge program.

Similarly **Mr AK Saxena**, Director (Operations), RINL & Member of Project Management Group, Kalpataru, emphasized on providing a holistic incubation facility for the start-ups to grow. He further stated that "Being an integrated steel plant, RINL offers start-ups a wide scope to develop and offer innovative Industry 4.0 products and solutions".

Mr Ujwal Ramdurg, So-

Ramprasad, Director STPI - Hyderabad, said that COE Kalpataru, the 21st COE of STPI, is a unique project, which is supported by RINL. He also said that many start-ups are showing keen interest to work on RINL problem statements.

Dr. Suresh Batha, Addl. Director & OIC (Officer in charge), STPI-Visakhapatnam was present.

Mr A.V.Malleswara Rao, Addl. Director, STPI-Visakhapatnam, proposed vote of thanks.

IIPE hosts 2nd expert panel meet of SERB

VIS News Service

The second Expert Committee meeting of the Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB) of Department of Science & Technology, GoI on Earth & Atmospheric Sciences (E&AS) was recently held at Indian Institute of Petroleum and Energy, Visakhapatnam. On this occasion, **Prof. Shalivahan**, Director, IIPE said in a short duration after its establishment, the Institute hosted this high-level Expert Committee meeting of the SERB-DST, GoI.

The Expert Committee, during the 3-day meeting, reviewed about 300 National Post-Doctoral Fellowship (N-PDF) proposals received at SERB and make necessary recommendations for sanction of SERB--N-PDF Fellowship. The Expert Committee (E&AS) comprises of members from ISRO, IITs, Institutions of National Importance and other prominent organisations. **Prof. Talat Ahmad**, a renowned Indian Earth Scientist, is the Chairman of the Expert Committee.

Offshore Security Exercise at KG Basin

VIS News Service

An offshore security exercise, 'Prasthan' was recently conducted in the Krishna Godavari Basin Offshore Development Area (ODA) under the aegis of Headquarters, Eastern Naval Command. Conducted every six



The exercise was conducted onboard Drill rigs Platinum Explorer and DDKG- of ONGC and RIL located about 40 nm south of Kakinada.

months, this exercise is an important element of ensuring offshore security and aims to integrate the efforts of all maritime stakeholders involved in offshore defence.

Led by the Navy, the exercise saw participation from the various oil operators, like ONGC, RIL, Vedanta, and other stakeholders in the domain of maritime se-

curity including AP Marine Police, AP fisheries department and the Coast Guard. As per the Indian Navy the two-day exercise resulted in refining standard operating procedures (SOPs) and response actions to several contingencies in the Offshore Defence Area off Kakinada

The exercise was conducted onboard Drill rigs Platinum Explorer and DDKG- of ONGC and RIL located about 40 nm south of Kakinada. Contingencies such as terrorist intrusion, bomb explosion, casualty evacuation, search and rescue, man overboard, major fire, oil spill and mass evacuation were exercised said a release from the Navy. The exercise provided all stakeholders with a realistic opportunity to assess their readiness to respond and combat contingencies in the Eastern ODA, as also to operate together in a coordinated and synergised manner.

Meet on Biz of Mineral Development

VIS News Service

Mineral Information and development centre (MIDC), an independent organization specializing in the minerals and minerals based industries is organizing an international conference and exhibition on mineral business development. As per MBD the conference is being done keeping the importance of mineral based products and valorization of mineral waste in the world.

The conference will highlight the major advances in value addition of minerals and utilization of waste. Among other topics some of the speakers will talk on Industrial minerals, ferrous minerals, non-ferrous minerals, waste utilization and general. It is said that despite having vast mineral resources and qualified technical manpower, India is lagging behind in the production of value-added mineral products leading to import of several high-end mineral based products, which can be produced in India. This conference is taking place in Nagpur from Nov 10th-12, 2022.

DGNCC meets ENC chief



VIS News Service

Lieutenant General **Gurbirpal Singh AVSM, VSM** Director General National Cadet Corps (NCC), recently paid a courtesy visit to **Vice Adm Biswajit Dasgupta, AVSM, YSM, VSM** Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief Eastern Naval Command.

The DG briefed the CinC on the NCC activities within the ENC AOR and the ongoing All India Nau Sainik NCC Camp which is being conducted at

Visakhapatnam after a gap of two years.

The CinC expressed satisfaction at the overwhelming participation of 612 cadets from 17 Directorates from across the country. Lt Gen Gurbirpal Singh was on a two-day maiden visit to Visakhapatnam after he took over as the Director General NCC. The NCC aims at developing character, comradeship, discipline, a secular outlook, the spirit of adventure and ideals of selfless service amongst young citizens.

Starting a New Chapter

VIS News Service

Rajya Sabha MP and senior YSRCP leader,

Mr Vijayasai Reddy recently took over as the Chairman of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Transport, Tourism & Culture. He was earlier the chairman of the Parliamentary standing committee on commerce.



Having taken over Mr Reddy said that he is looking forward to deliberating

on issues faced by the people and coming out with possible solutions for the Govt. of India to implement. Mr. Vijayasai Reddy is the National General Secretary of the Yuvajana Sramika Rythu Congress Party and is also a Chartered Accountant.

India to have 200 airports in next 5 years

VIS News Service

Speaking on the future of the Indian Civil Aviation market, **Mr Jyotiraditya M Scindia**, Minister for Civil Aviation and Steel, GoI said that civil aviation across the world today forms a very important cog of the wheel of economic dev. In 2014, India had 74 airports and in the last 8 years, we have added 67 new airports, water aerodromes and heliports.

"In the next 5 years, we will go from the current 141 airports to 200 airports in the country," he said.

Vizag & Tirupati bag 5 star Swachh Bharat Certifications

VIS News Service

Celebrating 8 years of Swachh Bharat Mission and the first anniversary of SBM-Urban 2.0 in grand style President **Droupadi Murmu** felicitated the awardees of the cleanest States and cities at the award ceremony of Azadi@75 Swachh Survekshan 2022, New Delhi.

The award ceremony, saw more than 160 awards under various categories being given away through the day. Visakhapatnam, and Tirupati along with Surat,



Bhopal, Mysuru, Navi Mumbai earned 5-star Garbage Free certifications while Indore further cemented its position by emerging as India's first 7-star Garbage Free city. Tirupati in fact also received the best city award in Safai Mitra Suraksha. Over the years, Swachh Survekshan (SS) has emerged as an effective tool for transforming the urban landscape. This year's Survekshan participated by 4,355 cities, also

saw an unprecedented number of citizens' feedback – over 9 crores, compared to 5 cores last year. The vision of a Garbage Free India under SBM-U 2.0 was given further impetus by announcing the results of 7-star and 5-star rated cities under the Star Rating Protocol of Garbage Free Cities. The revised Star Rating Protocol of Garbage Free Cities was launched in 2021 to evaluate cities across solid waste management parameters.

At the Capital

VIS News Service

The Minister of Industries, Infrastructure, Investment & Commerce, Information Technology, **Mr Gudivada Amarnath** had participated in the Digital India Conference of State IT Ministers at New Delhi as part of the launch of 5G Services in the country by the Prime Minister. The MLA from Anapakalli, Andhra Pradesh has urged the cen-

tre to also launch 5 services in AP at the earliest.

The 5G Non-Standalone (NSA) Core has been indigenously designed and developed by C-DOT. C-DOT reiterated its firm commitment to building an indigenous Telecom ecosystem powered by novel research, cutting-edge innovation and mutually-productive collaboration.



Skill hub sought in AU

VIS News Service

AU Vice Chancellor, **Prof. PVGD Prasada Reddy** recently met Union Skill Development and Entrepreneurship Ministry Secretary, **Mr. Atul Kumar Tiwari** in New Delhi and discussed setting up a skill hub at AU. Mr. Prasada Reddy explained the development programmes being carried out at AU. The AU VC said that setting up a skill hub would enrich students with skills and that the University would extend its support for Skill Hub. AICTE Chief Coordinating Officer **Buddha Chandrasekhar** was also present.

Vaibhav Jewellers unveils new Branding Campaign

VIS News Service

Manoj Vaibhav Gems 'N' Jewellers Limited, (Vaibhav Jewellers) recently launched its new branding campaign



"Parampara Vaibhavam" (Vaibhavam over Generations). To mark this special occasion Vaibhav Jewellers invited some of its most loyal customers who have been with the brand over generations to unveil their new branding campaign. Customers shared some of their most valuable

experiences and ever ending relationships with Vaibhav.

The event showcased Evolution of Traditional yet contemporary Jewellery designs over generations like Kasulaperu, Black Beads, Vaddanams & Diamond jewellery that suits every generation.

Speaking on the occasion Vaibhav jewellers Whole Time Director **Mrs Sai Keerthana Grandhi** thanked all its esteemed customers for gracing the occasion and for their valued support through these years thus truly making "Relationships, by Design".

GVL meets Indian Amb. to US brings up issue of VISA delays

VIS News Service

On a recent visit to the United States, **Mr GVL Narasimha Rao**, Rajya Sabha MP and Member of the Consultative Committee of Ministry of External Affairs met the Indian Ambassador to the United States of America **Mr. Taranjit Singh Sandhu** at the Indian Embassy in Washington D.C. A statement from the MP's office stated that Mr Rao raised the issues of long wait for Visa interviews for people seeking to travel to the United States which he said is causing severe hardship to people. MP GVL enquired about the reasons for the delay and requested possible interventions to ease problems faced by lakhs of

people in India. Apart from the strategic issues, the two also discussed



how Universities and students in India can immensely benefit from exploring academic partnerships with top rated Universities in different academic disciplines in the United States. The Ambassador highlighted how the contribution of three million strong

NRI's in the United States are making a strong impact and helping strengthen ties between the two largest democracies. The statement also mentioned that although Mr Rao was on a personal visit he still utilised the opportunity of visiting the Embassy to discuss issues of public interest.