



# VIZAG INDUSTRIAL SCAN

An Industrial Fortnightly



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## “AP can aspire to become an Air Cargo Hub”

**Exporters urged to use AP Airports**

VIS News Service

Stating that the Air cargo sector has an important role to play in the overall logistics ecosystem, Rajya Sabha MP and Chairman Parliamentary standing committee on commerce, **Mr. Vijaysai Reddy** called on regional exporters to utilize the existing cargo facilities available at the 4 main airports in Andhra Pradesh.



webinar organized by Vizag Industrial Scan in association with FICCI.

Addressing the webinar he urged exporters to utilize the existing air cargo facilities at Vizag, Vijayawada, Tirupati and Rajahmundry.

‘At present there are 4 operational air cargo airports in the state hence I urge exporters to send cargo from these airports’ said Mr Vijaysai Reddy.

‘There is no need for our exporters to go to Hyderabad or Banagalore for their air cargo exports’ said the senior YSRCP leader speaking at the Air Cargoing Andhra Pradesh

The Rajya Sabha MP also spoke on the Act east policy and informed that India’s commerce minister Mr Piyush Goyal had recently announced that In-

Contd. on Page ..3

## Engg. exports cross US\$ 9 billion in Sept.

VIS News Service

Engineering goods shipments crossed US\$ 9 billion for the third month in a row in September with 22 out of 25 top export destinations such as China, UK and UAE recording positive growth.

Out of 33 engineering product categories (panels), 27 witnessed



positive growth in exports during September 2021 when compared with the same month last year stated an official release.

The share of engineering goods in total merchandise export was 26.65% in September 2021.

‘India’s engineering exports have cumulatively increased from US\$ 32.4 billion in April-

September 2020-21 to US\$ 52.3 billion in April-September 2021-22, registering a growth rate 61.4%. Annualising the figure means we are well on track to achieve our target of US\$ 105 billion in FY22. In the first six months, almost 49% of the target has been achieved so we are almost half-way mark,” EEPIC India Chairman **Mr. Mahesh Desai** said.

During September, the US remained top destination for engineering goods exports with the total value of the shipment at US\$ 1.29 billion, up 12.2 per cent compared to US\$ 1.15 billion in the same month last year. China was the second biggest market with total shipments growing 49% year-on-year to US\$ 568 million during this period.

## New Star Hotels set to make a splash in AP

VIS News Service

In what could be described as a major boost to investments in

Pradesh, **Mr. YS Jagan Mohan Reddy** cleared investment proposals of over Rs 2800 crores.

The cabinet under the

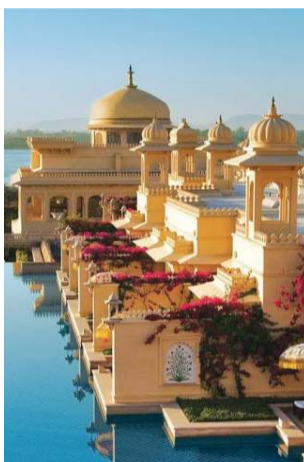
Spiritual Tourism Projects at various locations which are said to create employment opportunities for about 48000 people.

Commenting on this development Chief Minister Mr. Y. S. Jagan Mohan



We regard the Tourism Sector as one of the key growth engines for the development of economy.

**Mr. Jagan Mohan Reddy**  
CM Andhra Pradesh



### Star Hotels Queue Up

- Investment Proposals of over Rs 2800 crs cleared
- Oberoi group alone to pump in Rs 1350 crores across 5 properties
- Projects mix of PPP & Private investments
- About 1600 additional branded Star-category rooms on the Anvil

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the tourism sector and in specific in the hospitality sector the Chief Minister of Andhra

leadership of the CM recently approved the development of 10 projects including Luxury Resorts, Star Hotels, Mega

Reddy said “The Government of Andhra Pradesh is committed towards the socio-economic develop-

ment of the State and regards Tourism Sector

Contd. on Page ..6

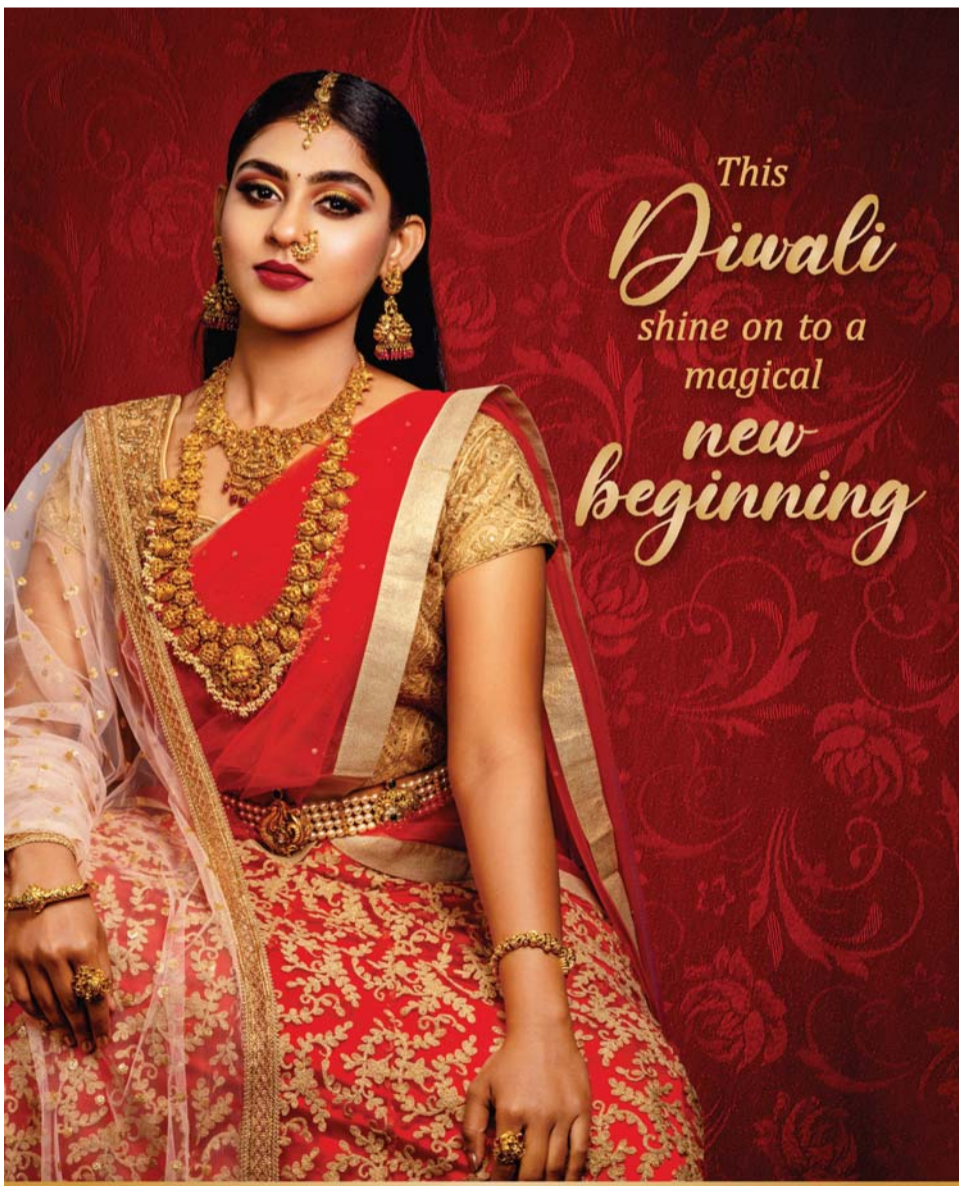
## New IT Commissioner



VIS News Service

**Mr. Asit Kumar Mohapatra, IRS** has been appointed as the new Principal Commissioner of Income Tax, Visakhapatnam Region. Mr. Mohapatra belongs to 1990 IRS batch and has taken over from Bhubaneswar where he was the Principal Commissioner. He is an engineer having done Mechanical engineering from REC, Rourkela and M. Tech from IIT Madras before joining Civil Services.

The Visakhapatnam Income Tax jurisdictional region is headed by the Principal Commissioner of Income tax and comprises of 4 Ranges extending over 5 districts from Srikakulam district to West Godavari District.



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## DK Mohanty Dir. (Prod.) NMDC

VIS News Service

**Mr. D.K. Mohanty** recently assumed charge as Director (Production) of NMDC Limited.

In the year 2015, he joined NMDC Limited in the prestigious green field 3 M T P A NMDC Iron and Steel Plant (NISP) at Nagarnar, Bastar, Chhattisgarh. He was In-Charge of major packages and has played significant role for execution of works at NISP Project. As Chief General Manager (Operations) he has prepared the strategy for operation of plant by giving direction to various



O&M contracts, AMCs, manpower planning, budgeting, raw materials, spares, consumables etc. which are required for commissioning and operation of N I S P , Nagarnar. Mr. Mohanty started his career in Vizag Steel Plant, R a s h t r i y a Ispat Nigam Limited as Management Trainee (Technical) in the year 1987 after completing his BSc Engineering (Metallurgy) from NIT Rourkela. He has rich and varied experience spanning over 33 years in steel plant operations & projects. He has gained reputation to solve critical issues in Steel Making and Project Executions.

## MCL Scales New Heights in Coal Supply

Dispatches 6.04 lakh tonne coal to consumers

VIS News Service

**M**ahanadi Coalfields Limited (MCL) recently scripted new history by dispatching a record 6.04 lakh tonne coal to consumers.

Appreciating the efforts of MCL Union Minister of Coal, Mines and Parliamentary Affairs Mr Pralhad Joshi and Minister of State for Rail, Coal & Mines Mr RaosahebPatilDanve felicitated the Chairman-cum-Managing Directors (CMD) and functional directors.

Minister Joshi lauded the leadership of MCL and coordinated efforts of all the stakeholders including

coal miners, contractual workers, railways, trade union leaders and the local administration, for the ground breaking performance by MCL, which sup-

ure. The performance is vital as it accounts for 50% of total coal off-take of holding company of MCL and NCL i.e. Coal India Ltd.



plied an average of 5.25 lakh tonne of coal daily in Odisha. The Ministers appreciated Mr. Sinha, CMD Northern Coalfields Ltd (NCL) who holds additional responsibility of MCL, for ensuring that both the subsidiaries breached one million tonne coal dispatch fig-

At a time when the energy demand of the country was soaring, resulting in rising demand for dry fuel, the flagship MCL and MP-based sister subsidiary NCL raised the bar in the need of hour. The Ministry has acknowledged the same and given the appreciation letters to the Functional Directors of MCL and NCL.

During the current financial year, MCL has supplied over 95.7 million tonnes of coal to consumers, registering a growth of about 21% over last year.

## AK Mishra CEO EESL



**E**nergy Efficiency Services Ltd (EESL), a joint venture of NTPC Ltd and Power Grid Corp. of India Ltd, has appointed **Mr. Arun Kumar Mishra** as Chief Executive Officer (CEO) on deputation.

Mr. Mishra is a veteran in the energy sector, with more than three decades of experience in NTPC and Power Grid Corporation of India Limited including Policy perspective as Director, National Smart Grid Mission (NSGM) – Project Management Unit (PMU) and Vice Chair, International Smart Grid Action Network (ISGAN),” the statement said.

### IN BRIEF

#### Contribute to the growth of the Nation: RINL CMD

**S**peaking at the inaugural function of Trade Apprentices Training Programme at the (L&DC), RINL CMD **Mr. Atul Bhatt** stressed the importance of the steel industry for the development of India. He told trade apprentices that they have to not only learn, but also have to apply in the work areas & contribute to the growth of the nation. The CMD also emphasized on the history of steel and its importance in this global era. Earlier, the CMD, D(O) and ED(W)/c visited the Steel Museum and Central Library located at L&DC and appreciated the efforts made by L&DC in establishing and maintaining the facilities.



#### Vendor meeting held at RINL-VSP

VIS News Service

**R**INL-VSP recently conducted a Vendor Interface meeting at the “Centre for Human Resource Development in Ukkunagaram. The meeting was conducted to have direct interaction with all the ferro alloys suppliers and to understand the present Ferro Alloys market scenario and the constraints being faced and try to address them.

**Mr. D.K. Mohanty**, Director (Commercial) who presided over the meeting,

asked the manufacturers to actively participate in all upcoming Ferro Alloys Tenders. Further, he also informed all the manufacturers about the necessity to enlist in the GeM portal as RINL-VSP procurement of Ferro Alloys is being done through the GeM portal only.

**Ms. Sheela Priyadarshini**, CGM (MM), **Mr. Abhijith Chakravarthi** CGM (I/c) Steel, senior executives from MM, Marketing Dept and Works have attended the meeting.

#### NALCO inaugurates Lean Slurry Project



VIS News Service

**Mr. Alok Tandon**, MIAS, Secretary, Ministry of Mines, Govt. of India, recently inau-

gurated NALCO’s Lean Slurry Project at Angul, marking a significant milestone in the Navratna Company’s journey for Business Excellence. As per an official release Completion of the Lean Slurry Project will ensure 100% utilization of ash generated at the Company’s Captive Power Plant (CPP) and will mark a big step forward in its commitment towards environment-friendly & sustainable operations.

At the inauguration **Mr. Alok Tandon** was accompanied by NALCO CMD, **Mr. Sridhar Patra**.

National Aluminium Company Limited (NALCO) is a Navratna CPSE under Ministry of Mines and posted an impressive net turnover and net profit of Rs.8,869.29 crore and Rs.1,299.56 crore respectively in FY20-21.

#### BHEL wins Clarivate Innovation Award 2021

**B**harat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL) has been adjudged as winner of the Clarivate South and South East Asia Innovation Award 2021 under Corporations in India - Heavy Industries segment, recognising BHEL’s efforts as a leader in Innovation and placing the company among top innovators in India. The award has been won by BHEL earlier in the years 2018 and 2020 also. The Clarivate awards were announced at the Clarivate South & South East Asia Innovation Forum, held virtually. The award was received by **Ms. Renuka Gera**, Director (IS&P, addl. charge E, R&D) on behalf of BHEL, from **Mr. Rajat Sikka**, Director – Intellectual Property Group, South Asia & South East Asia of Clarivate Analytics.



#### NMDC’s records Best Ever Sept.

VIS News Service

**N**MDC continues to outperform itself with iron ore production of 2.69 MT and sales of 2.73 MT in the month of September.

8.93 MT iron ore. With a 56% increase in production and a 37% increase in sales over CPLY, the Navratna PSE surpassed its previous best Q2 performance.

last year.

Congratulating the NMDC team for another impressive performance, NMDC CMD **Mr. Sumit Deb**, said, “Our focus to enhance mine capacity

(in Million Tonnes)

	September 2020	September 2021	Up by %	Upto September 2020	Upto September 2021	Up by %
Production	1.83	2.69	47	12.24	17.71	45
Sales	2.11	2.73	30	12.91	18.50	43

The mining major registered a growth of 47% in production, the highest ever in any September month since inception and a rise of 30% in sales over CPLY.

In the second quarter of this fiscal, NMDC produced 8.80 MT and sold

Cumulative production and sales figures up to September 2021 stood at 17.71 MT and 18.50 MT respectively, recording the best ever half yearly performance. The company achieved a 45% increase in production and 43% in sales over the same period

and strengthen logistical support has significantly improved our operational efficiency. With the best ever Q2 and half-yearly performance, the team has proven that NMDC is on a strong, stable footing to beat the challenges and absorb cyclical volatility.”

# ROPI system at Kolkata Port

VIS News Service

In view of a much needed solution for providing effective long range Marine communication, the Radio over Internet Protocol (ROIP) System was recently inaugurated at Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port, Kolkata (SMP, Kolkata).



ROIP system is being introduced as a marine communication mode, for the first time in any Major Indian Port. It shall cover the entire Hoogly river Estuary from Kolkata to

Sandheads, having base stations at 4 Locations. With this facility, vessels at Sandheads can be directly communicated via Radio, from Kolkata, specially during storms and inclement weather.

Mr. Vinit Kumar, Chairman, SMP, Kolkata appreciated this development, stating that despite being the only riverine port in the country, SMP, Kolkata has been constantly maintaining its pivotal position in Indian Major Ports for the past 152 years.

# AP as Air Cargo Hub

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dia will soon have a free trade agreement with UK and Australia. 'This further gives us an opportunity to capitalize on this' said Mr Vijayasai Reddy

Bhogapuram Airport Top Priority for State

Mr Vijaysai Reddy went onto speak on the upcoming Bhogapuram airport and said that it will have best in class infrastructure and that the state government is giving it utmost priority.

'In order to further

boost the air exports from AP the Chief minister is giving top most priority to the Bhogapuram International airport which shall have a dedicated cargo facility with cutting edge technology' said Mr Reddy.

Leading Industry captains from the Air cargo industry spoke in the webinar and highlighted the various opportunities and challenges in the sector and offered valuable inputs in making AP an Air Cargo hub.

# 'MyPort App' launched

VIS News Service

Union Minister for Ports, Shipping and Waterways Mr Sarbanand Sonowal recently launched a port mobile application called MyPortApp in Kolkata.

As per the ministry of shipping the App possesses all port details digitally and monitors operations virtually. Targeted towards Port Users for availing various Port services, the App is aimed to promote transparency and easy access of port related information.

The app also has various information like Vessel Berthing, Rake & Indent, Rake Receipt, Container Status, Tariff, Bills, Port Holidays, etc. and can be accessed anywhere 24x7 and reach out directly to port. The Minister was on a 2-day visit to West Bengal where he inaugurated several projects worth Rs 352 crore.

# CONCOR does a 1<sup>st</sup> in Vizag

Moves HMS from Waltair div. to Punjab fetching Rs 3.8 million

VIS News Service

The first rake of Heavy Melting Steel (HMS) cargo, bound for Dappar (ICDP)/Punjab was recently moved from CONCOR Multi Modal Logistic Park in Visakhapatnam.

The cargo was stuffed at factory premises under the concept of first mile last mile (FMLM) transport of CONCOR. The maiden run of the cargo train was flagged off recently by Mr Anup Satpathy Divisional Railway Manager, Waltair at CONCOR siding, Visakhapatnam.

Speaking on the occasion DRM said "The revenue earned by Railways from this cargo movement by hauling about 2000 kms would be Rs 38,77,644/- per rake. The projected traffic for the same cargo would be on an average is 2 rakes per month. We



shall be moving at least 10 rakes shortly in this win-win venture for Waltair Division of Indian Railways and CONCOR.

This was possible with the intense marketing efforts of the CONCOR in coordination with the Business Development Unit (BDU) team of Waltair Division. The team of BDU and CONCOR tracked the movement of Heavy Melting Steel (HMS) scrap cargo from Dandugopalapuram in Srikakulam district towards Dhappar, Ahmedgarh & Phillaur in Punjab state, Indore in

Madhya Pradesh and Karambeli in Gujarat by Road. Efforts were made to convert the traffic by Rail mode which is safer and faster. To facilitate hassle free movement of containers on trailers, slight modifications at the height gauges at Level Crossing gates without compromising on the safety of train movement.

DRM Mr. Anup Satpathy congratulated the team members and appreciated the collective efforts of officers and the stakeholders.

# Vigilance week at DCI

VIS News Service

The Inaugural function of Vigilance Awareness Week (VAW) at Dredging Corporation of India Limited was held on October 26, with the theme – "Independent India



@ 75 : Self Reliance with Integrity".

Dr G.Y.V Victor MD & CEO, DCIL administered the Integrity Pledge to all the employees at HO, Visakhapatnam and at different projects across the country.

# Sonowal lays Stone for slew of projects at DPT



VIS News Service

Union Minister for Ports, Shipping & Waterways and AYUSH Mr. Sarbananda Sonowal laid the Foundation Stone for various capacity augmentation projects at Deendayal Port (DPT) at Kandla.

Vehicles with ancillary facilities being developed for pre-gate verification of documents to ease congestion of vehicles at these gates at a cost of Rs.14.59 crores. He also laid the foundations stone for Modernization of existing Pipeline Network, at a cost of

- 2 Dome Shaped Godowns
- Oil Jetty
- Parking Plaza for Trucks

Some of these projects include 2 Dome Shaped Godowns to be constructed within 12 months which will increase the cover at a cost of Rs.36 crore, Oil Jetty at a cost of Rs.99 crore, which will be constructed in 18 months' time, Parking Plaza for Trucks/

Rs.126.50 crore. As per an official release the project will increase the optimal capacity from 8 MMTPA to 23.8 MMTPA.

Mr. Sonowal inspected the progress of ongoing work Road-over-bridge at LC-236, Kandla being executed by M/s. IPRCL.

# SCR operated 78 Kisan Rails from Andhra Pradesh

VIS News Service

In order to help farmers double their agricultural income the government of India had introduced the Kisan Rail concept in the Union budget 2020-21. The initiative was successfully started by the Indian Railways to provide the safe, secure and fast mode of transportation with least en route damages to the agricultural products.

The first Kisan rail on South Central Railway was flagged off on September 9th, 2020 from Anantapur station of Andhra Pradesh state, which also happened to be South India's first Kisan Rail.

As per SCR a total of 78 Kisan rails have been

transported from Andhra Pradesh as of 24th October 2021. These rails offer a 50% concession in the freight charges for transportation of agricultural



products.

Kisan Rails over SCR have witnessed huge success, right from the date of their introduction and have been instrumental in transporting different varieties of Vegetables & fruits, especially to different desti-

nations located in farther states of the country stated a release from SCR.

All in all South Central Railway has successfully transported more than 500 Kisan Rails, since the date of its commencement over the Zone.

These 500 Kisan Rails have been operated from different Railway stations of the Zone covering the three states of Andhra Pradesh, Telangana and Maharashtra.

Till date, More than 1.6 lakh tons of agricultural

products have been transported to different parts of the country, majority being to the Eastern, Northern and North Eastern states. Mr. Gajanan Mallya, General Manager, SCR complimented Team SCR for achieving this great feat and stated that it is a proud moment for the Zone for taking part in the Nation's mission for assisting the farming sector.

These trains have helped in providing a major support for the agricultural farmers / traders to market their produce especially during the pandemic time of Covid-19 said the release. In total, 359 Kisan Rails have been transported from Maharashtra state, 78 Kisan Rails from Andhra Pradesh and 63 Kisan Rails from Telangana.

यो न हृष्यति न द्वेष्टि न सोचति न काङ्क्षति ।  
शुभाशुभपरित्यागी भावित्तमानु यः स मे प्रियः ॥ २७

He who neither rejoices, nor hates, nor grieves, nor desires, renouncing  
good and evil, and who is full of devotion, is dear to Me.



**Late Sri O.P. Sabharwal**

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## Efforts on to provide affordable Housing: CREDAI Vizag



VIS News Service

Emphasizing the need for affordable housing CREDAI Visakhapatnam, Chairman **Mr. Bayana Srinivasa Rao** said that the chapter has been making efforts to provide affordable houses to all sections in the society.

He further mentioned the steep hike in price of construction materials like cement, steel, sand etc., and once the rate for the buyer is finalised, the price hike is absorbed by the builder to avoid additional burden to the buyer.

**Mr. Srinivasa Rao** along with President **Mr. KSRK Raju** and other members were addressing the media to announce the 7th Edition of the CREDAI Visakhapatnam Property Expo to be held in December.

Giving details of the event he said that CREDAI

Visakhapatnam had successfully organized its last six Property Expos and it continued to organize this annual event this year also with the aim of bringing all stakeholders under one roof and provide an opportunity to buyers.

The Brochure of the Property Expo, containing all details, was released by the SBI DGM, **Mr. Manmaya Pandab**.

**Mr. KSRK Raju** said that quality and timely delivery had been the hall marks of construction by the members of CREDAI Visakhapatnam and it has become a symbol of trust and confidence among buyers.

Secretary **Mr. E. Ashok Kumar** and Convener of Property Expo **Mr. V. Sreenu** informed that reputed construction companies would participate and COVID-19 guidelines would be strictly adhered to at Property Show.

### IN BRIEF

#### HPCL Dir. Inaugurates training classes at SDI

HPCL Director, (HR), **Mr. Pushp Kumar Joshi**, recently visited Skill Development Centre in Anakapalle enquired about the skill training programs offered to the students, the details of the courses, and the approach to job creation. He then inspected the laboratories and equipment at the Skill Development Centre and spoke to the students. The youth should be equipped with employable skills and should get full placements, he said. On the occasion, **Mr. Joshi** started the Covid Frontline Workers Basic Care Support training classes. Subsequently, MoUs were signed with Medicare Hospital, RK Foods, Vizag Central, Synaptics Labs Pvt. Ltd.

#### Sri City MD pats Krea University VC

Founder Managing Director, Sri City **Mr. Ravindra Sannareddy**, congratulated **Prof. Mahesh Rangarajan**, Vice-Chancellor and Professor of History and Environmental Studies, Krea University, Sri City for being conferred the distinction of 'Honorary Foreign Member' by the American Historical Association (AHA). "We are all pleased to have a globally recognised academic among us. Only three eminent Indian historians have received this honour so far: **Sir Jadunath Sarkar**, **Prof Romila Thapar**, and **Prof Ramachandra Guha**, and now **Prof. Mahesh Rangarajan** has joined them. Two of these four great historians are from Krea, which is extremely encouraging," he noted in a statement.

## AP initiates Cyber Security training for employees

VIS News Service

Keeping in mind the growing Cyber Security crimes the State Govt. recently launched a Cyber Security Foundation course for APSBCL staff. Launching the course Special Chief Secretary, Revenue (CT, Excise, Regn. & Stamps) **Dr. Rajat Bhargava, IAS**, said, "There have been a worrying increase in data breaches, accidental sending of sensitive information and use of private emails for official communications across both public and private sector institutions.

The types of cyber-attacks in each of these sectors differ from each other.

Any breach into these sectors would not only carry a heavy financial cost but also impact Public services of Government to citizens. Realising the need for qualified manpower to handle in-



formation security issues in each of these sectors the government has decided to initiate this training programme on a massive scale to help every department, PSUs, Government undertakings in securing themselves from these lurking cyber threats, he said. Andhra Pradesh was the first State in the country to initiate the training on such massive scale for safe computing, **Mr. Bhargava** said.

APSBCL MD, **Mr. Vasudev Reddy**, said,

With the growing volume and sophistication of cyberattacks, ongoing attention is required to protect sensitive business and personal information, as well as safeguard national security. The Government & large enterprises need to be geared up mainly to counter the threats and improve security, he said.

**Mr. P.V. Srekanth**, Regional Director, Telecommunications Consultants India Limited (TCIL), Chief Mission Integrator & Innovator, FISST, **C Mohan Ram**, also spoke.

## DS Varma takes helm at NHRD Network Vizag

VIS News Service

**Mr D.S.Varma** was recently elected as the president for National HRD Network Visakhapatnam Chapter for the period -2021-23.

In its general body meeting held on October 23rd 2021 the National HRD Network Visakhapatnam Chapter announced its new office bearers for the period 2021-23. The Office Bearers for 2021-23 include President – **Mr. D.S.Varma**, Head - HR & Admin – **Vizag Asset, ArcelorMittal Nippon Steel Ltd**, Vice President –



**Mr.K.V.Rao**, General Manger, Vizag Steel Plant **Mr V. Bhaskar Srinivas Rao**, GM,

Shriram Financial, **Dr. P. Ramu Naidu**, Treasurer.

The National HRD Network is an association of professionals committed to promoting the HRD movement in the country and enhancing the capability of human resource professionals in order to enable them to make an impactful contribution to enhancing competitiveness and creating value for society.

## 'Focus on research in renewable energies'

VIS News Service

Indian Institute of Petroleum and Energy (IPE), Visakhapatnam recently celebrated its 6<sup>th</sup> Foundation Day.

Speaking on the occasion Vice Chancellor **Dr. Damodaram Sanjivayya National Law University**, Visakhapatnam **Prof. S Surya Prakash**, appealed to the students to inculcate the competitive spirit and to remain focused on their goals.

**Mr. V Ratanraj**, ED, Visakha Refinery appealed to the faculty and students to focus on research in the fields of non-conventional & renewable energies

and carbon-neutral synthetic fuels like green hydrogen etc. He assured that HPCL being one of the promoting Oil PSUs of IPE, always extends its cooperation and guidance to the institute in all spheres.

**Prof. VSRK Prasad**, Director IPE informed that the placements in the institute have been significantly increased from the previous year and expressed confidence for further increase. The students who achieved good academic excellence during the previous academic year have been awarded with cash prizes.



## 'SBI market leader in Home Finance'

VIS News Service

SBI's DGM **Mr. Manmaya Pandab**, said that the bank has been the market leader in providing home finance to buyers and caters to the needs of various types of buyers.

**Mr. Pandab** was addressing the media during the unveiling of the CREDAI property show program.

He said that home finance for houses ranging from Rs. 30 lakh to Rs 1 crore can be availed from the bank. SBI is one of the main sponsors of the CREDAI property show to be held in December 2021.

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.

## 'Focus on 100% occupancy'



VIS News Service

Minister of State Tourism, Culture and Youth Affairs **Mr. Muttam setti Srinivasa Rao** has directed his officials to focus on achieving 100 per cent occupancy in state owned tourist hotels.

The minister had recently met officials of the tourism and sports departments to review the progress of the work being done department-wise.

As per an official release it stated that the minister had asked his State-level officials to visit at least two districts every day to constantly monitor the improvement of facilities in tourist hotels and resorts.

He said, officials should pay special attention to bring about complete changes in tourist hotels and resorts within a month.

**Mr. Srinivasa Rao** urged them to talk to private operators and see if the boating facility is available to tourists.

# Amit Rastogi takes charge at NRDC

VIS News Service

In a significant and much waited appointment, **Commodore Amit Rastogi (Retd)**, recently took charge as the Chairman & Managing Director of National Research Development Corporation.



In an illustrious career spanning 34 years with the Indian Navy Commodore Rastogi has held diverse portfolios and carries rich experience in induction of missile systems, state-of-the-art technology intensive combat systems, Phased array radars, Communication equipment etc. for warships through Indigenous development and TOT route and simultaneous engagement of

R&D community, Academia and Industry.

Commodore Rastogi was earlier, Director, Electrical Engineering at Integrated Headquarters, Ministry of Defence for five years and Additional General Manager Tech Services at Naval Dockyard for two years. He also held the position of Deputy Director General Quality Assurance for five years

and Director, Electrical Trials Modification Authority for two years.

An avid technologist he holds a Bachelor's degree in Electrical Engineering from JNU, Master's degree in Electronics & Telecommunication from Poona University and M.Sc. (Defence & strategic studies) from Madras University. He is also a distinguished alumnus of Defence Services Staff College Wellington and College of Defence Management, Secunderabad.

NRDC is an enterprise of DSIR, Ministry of Science & Technology, Government of India. It engages in the development, promotion and transfer of technologies emanating from various national R&D institutions.

## IIM-V holds MDP for IOCL officers

VIS News Service

The three-day virtual Management Development Program (MDP) on 'Working with Change Resistance' for the senior management officers of Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) concluded recently. The programme was conducted by the Indian Institute of Management

Visakhapatnam (IIMV) in collaboration with the Indian Oil Institute of Petroleum Management (IIPM).

The customized training program, the first of its genre by IIPM was led by **Prof. M V Anuradha**, who has acknowledged expertise in Organization Behavior and Human Resources Management.

The program led by **Prof. M V Anuradha**, focused on overcoming resistance to change upfront, rather than managing change later.

Addressing the virtual gathering during the valedictory, **Prof. M Chandrasekhar**, Director, IIM Visakhapatnam, spoke about the Institute's growing collaborative initiatives with IOCL & IIPM.

## Gitam sets up cold Storage facility for fruit vendors

VIS News Service

**GITAM** Deemed to be University Vice-Chancellor **Prof.K.Sivaramakrishna** recently inaugurated a low cost controlled atmosphere

Deemed to be University to train the fruit vendors on packaging methods for fruit preservation using the natural and synthetic packaging materials.

Addressing the gathering he mentioned that the university is always trying to connect with community for the benefit of the society. He informed that the biotechnology department is actively engaged with several training program which are directly helpful to the farmers and unemployed youth in and around Visakhapatnam. He announced that after the tenure of the present SEED project, the university is planning to establish a "fruit vendor's cooperative society" to handover the storage facility for future maintenance.

The project Principal Investigator **Prof.Sk.Khasim Beebi** also spoke.



storage facility for fruit vendors. The project has been set up by the university biotechnology department.

To improve the income of levels of scheduled caste fruit vendors of Visakhapatnam district the Department of Science and Technology (DST), Government of India has sanctioned a project to GITAM

## CM sets the stage for new Star Hotels

Contd. from Page 1

as one of the key growth engines for the development of economy and generation of employment. It is the vision of the Government to develop luxury resorts and hotels at prominent tourist destinations of the State, to position the State as a premier tourist

also considered as the birthplace of Mahayana Buddhism, and boasts of a vibrant and rich culture and heritage.

As per the government Tourism contributes about 7% to the GSDP of Andhra Pradesh and is one of the most important levers to bring investments and to generate employment while also enabling sectors such as Agriculture, Transport, Handloom, and Consumer Goods to grow due to its strong backward linkages.

The Department of Tourism has been interact-

*This is a landmark day for AP Tourism and will pave way for more investments in tourism in the State*

**Dr. Rajat Bhargava, IAS, Spl. Chief Secy. Revenue**

"The decisions of the Cabinet reaffirm the vision of the Government of Andhra Pradesh under the dynamic leadership of the Hon'ble Chief Minister, to de-

velop tourism in the State through investments in

### The Oberoi (Vilas) Resorts

- At Annavaram, Tirupati, Kadapa, Chittoor, East Godavari
- Proposed Investment of Rs 1350 crores

ist destination, and to aid in the development of these regions".

Blessed with the country's second longest coastline Andhra Pradesh has perennial rivers, scenic backwaters, hills and forests and is home to one of the world's most visited religious destinations. It is

ing with all the leading luxury hotel groups in the country,

over the past 1 year. The Department has received 10 proposals for development of Hotels & Resorts in the State. The projects are a mix of

### Hyatt Hotels

- At Visakhapatnam, Vijayawada & Tirupati
- Proposed Investments Rs 496.61 crores

Luxury Hotels & Resorts.

"I'm quite sure that today is a breakthrough day for AP Tourism and will pave way for more investments in tourism in the State." said Dr. Rajat Bhargava, Spl. Chief Secretary, Youth Advancement, Tourism & Culture, Government of Andhra Pradesh.

**Taj Group**

- Visakhapatnam
- Proposed Investment of Rs 722 crores

PPP proposals and private investments.

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## BIS celebrates World Standards Day

VIS News Service

Bureau of Indian Standards, Visakhapatnam recently celebrated the World Standards Day on the theme Standards for Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 'Shared Vision for a better world'.

Speaking on the occasion **Mr. M.A.J Vinod**, Sc-E & Head, BIS, VZBO emphasised on the need for implementation of national standards brought out by the BIS with respect to Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by implementation of the standards both in personal as well as professional activities.

**Ms. T. Sujatha**, Scientist-D, **Prof.**

**Deepika Gupta**, Asst. Prof. (Corporate Strategy & Policy) IIM, Visakhapatnam, **Mr. Sundara Vadan**, HPCL Chief Regional Manager, Visakhapatnam and **Mr. Tirumala Rao Sc-D** also spoke.

Consumer organisations, Industries and academicians expressed happiness for conducting a programme on the role of standards for Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 'Shared vision for a better world' and appreciated the programme with a motivation that they also would implement the standards both in their personal and professional activities and actively contribute to Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).



## Jain reviews Housing Program



VIS News Service

Reviewing the progress of housing in Srikakulam, Special Chief Secretary for Housing, **Mr. Ajay Jain** said that the total estimated cost for construction of each house including the site is around Rs. 10 lakh.

Mr. Jain who met the officials at Collector office in Srikakulam said that the government has allocated Rs. 1.10 lakh crore for housing. In the first and second phases Rs. 25,000 each was allocated for housing, he said and added that Rs. 60,000 crore is allocated to provide basic amenities at the housing colonies.

District Collector **Mr. Srikesh Lathakar**, housing and revenue and other department officials attended.

# RM lauds Indian Navy on Indigenisation



VIS News Service

Addressing the Naval Commanders during the inaugural session for the Commanders conference 2021 Raksha Mantri **Rajnath Singh** stressed on the role of the Indian navy in maintaining peace and security in the region.

“Only those nations have been successful in gaining dominance across

in our maritime and national security” said the RM **Aatma Nirbhar Bharat Mission**

Appreciating the Indian Navy’s indigenisation efforts he said “I am pleased to note that in consonance with PMs vision of ‘Aatma Nirbhar Bharat’ our Navy has already been ahead in the field of self-reliance, indigenisation in shipbuild-

*In the last 5 years, more than two-thirds of the Navy’s Modernisation Budget has been spent on indigenous procurement*

the world, whose Navies have been strong and I am happy to say that our Navy is playing an important role

ing, and manufacturing of submarines etc. It is worth mentioning that in the last five financial years, more than two-thirds of the

## ‘We look to double exports from AP’

VIS News Service

Recently appointed VC&MD of APIIC, **Mr. JVN Subramanyam, IAS** has said that the state government is looking to double



its exports from USD 16.4 billion to USD 33 billion.

He mentioned that in the overall exports basked marine exports stood number 1 followed by Pharma.

Mr Subramanyam was addressing the audience at the opening of the IIP chapter in Visakhapatnam wherein he called for the imminent need for value added packaging. ‘If we are looking to expand our ex-

ports we need to do this by enhancing our brand value and packaging plays a crucial role in this’ he said.

Mr Subramanyam cited the example of Vietnam wherein he noted that a huge chunk of our shrimp exports goes to South East Asian countries wherein packaging is done and then re-exported to other countries.

‘If Vietnam can do it why cant we do it in AP’ said APIIC’s VC&MD.

Stating that the packaging industry is growing at 15% he lauded the role of IIP and said that the state government shall work closely with them in getting the desired results.

He also called on the various associations to work with IIP.

Andhra Pradesh currently contributes 5.8% of the total exports from the country.

Navy’s Modernisation Budget has been spent on indigenous procurement.”

“It is a matter of great pride to know that out of 41

ships and submarines ordered by our Navy, 39 are from Indian shipyards. This is a testament to the Navy’s commitment to ‘Aatma Nirbhar Bharat’. It is important for us to maintain the momentum of the success we have achieved so far and I am sure that the steps taken by the government will give it more strength”.

### Proceedings of Commanders’ Conference

Chairing the conference, the Chief of the Na-

val Staff Admiral **Karambir Singh** addressed the Naval Commanders on various important issues pertaining to combat readiness, capability enhancement, credibility as Maritime Force, safety, maintenance, op logistics philosophy, infrastructure development and human resource management. He also drew attention to the prevalent secu-

*39 out of 41 ships and submarines are being made at Indian shipyards*

rity situation and the increasing mandate of IN in the contested environment of the IOR.

The Commanders deliberated on methods to optimize outcomes and fulfill operational requirements within the available resource envelope, in all facets such as operations, acquisitions, infrastructure, maintenance, logistics, HR management and training.

# Waltair Div. meets Freight Customers

VIS News Service

Waltair Division of the East Coast Railway recently conducted a meeting with Railway freight customers and stakeholders to discuss various modalities to improve the freight traffic i.e. Non-Fare Revenue.

Divisional Railway Man-

agery Mr Anup Satpathy

chaired the meeting wherein they explored potential areas for revenue generation, assistance required from both ends and mutual coordination for a better healthy environment to improve the freight traffic.



agement Mr Anup Satpathy chaired the meeting wherein they explored potential areas for revenue generation, assistance required from both ends and mutual coordination for a better healthy environment to improve the freight traffic.

Speaking on the occasion DRM **Mr. Anup Satpathy** said that effective decision making, mutual trust, cost savings measures, risk management, transparency and accountability are the key issues to be focused to ac-

complish set targets.

Stakeholders from esteemed companies like National Mineral Development Corporation, Vizag Steel plant, Gangavaram port, Vizag sea port, Vedanta, Food Corporation of India, National Alumina Company, Utkal Alumina, Visakhapatnam Container Terminal etc participated in the meet.

Also as part of Vigilance awareness week, various policies and initiatives were discussed elaborately and a presentation was given for enhancing the business strategy. The meeting was convened to emphasize on railways Vision, Mission, Strategy, Values and Behavior.

ADRM **Mr. Sudhir Kumar Gupta**, Branch Officers from Operations & Commercial also attended the meeting.

## Students tour Dockyard

Forty Seven students along with four teaching staff from Kendriya Vidyalaya-II, Nausena Baugh, Visakhapatnam recently visited Naval Dockyard, Visakhapatnam.

The aim of the educational visit was to inspire youth to take up a career in the Indian Navy stated a release from the Indian Navy. As per the release the students were taken to various facilities such as Dockyard Operations Centre and Prerna Sthal (Motivation Hall). The students were then taken to Dry Docks where Lt Marlin John, a proficient dockmaster with an accomplishment of maximum dockings by a lady Officer, explained the Docking and Undocking procedure to the students at the dry docks.

In addition the students got to interact with **CMde Kari Muralidhar**, Senior General Manager and other Officers of the Dockyard. Many students expressed interest in joining the Indian Navy and were keen to know about the Sainik Schools of the country stated the release.



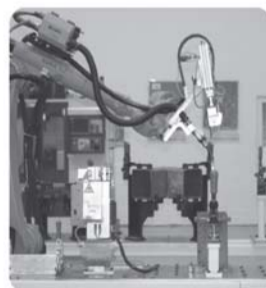
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# Connectivity & Infra key to AP's Air Cargo Sector

Aditya Sabharwal

The air cargo sector plays a crucial role in spurring economic activity of a region while making sure that time sensitive and

The air cargo sector in India has grown leaps and bounds over the last few decades with Delhi and Mumbai contributing half of the total air freight in India.

While there are many

'Vizag airport has sufficient infrastructure for both Domestic and International cargo' informed Vizag's airport director **Mr. K Srinivasa Rao**.

Similarly Tirupati's airport director too highlighted having the necessary infrastructure to handle domestic air cargo.

'Albeit we are very new entrant to air cargo space as we recently started our cargo terminal we do have the necessary infrastructure to handle cargo' said **Mr. S Suresh**, Tirupati's airport director.

Similarly Vijayawada airport and Rajahmundry

stores. With right connectivity Air cargo solutions can do magic for us' said Brandix's Director Strategy & Investments.

Another sector with huge potential for Air cargo is the pharma sector. Identifying Pharma exports as lucrative **Mr. Tulasi Prasad**, Chairman ACAAAI, Hyderabad sub region said 'Pharma as a sector has huge potential for Air cargo from Andhra Pradesh. Many esteemed pharma companies have presence in Vizag and I estimate a volume of 600-700 tonnes/month just out of Vizag'.

Reiterating pharma's po-

issues/challenges discussed pertinently in the webinar.

'The air cargo sector in AP is still very nascent. There is a lot of cohesive work that needs to be undertaken by all the stakeholders' said **Mr. S**

'My suggestion is that Airports here should invest and set up a modern air freight station. In fact airports should look at the Liege airport in Belgium as to how they are operating an



*Vizag airport has sufficient infrastructure for both Domestic and International cargo.*

**Mr. K.Srinivasa Rao**  
Vizag Airport Director



*We recently inaugurated our cargo terminal and we have the necessary infrastructure to handle cargo.*

**Mr. Suresh**  
Tirupati Airport Director



*There is a lot of cohesive work that needs to be undertaken by all the stakeholders.*

**Mr. S Faheem Ahmed, IRS**  
Principal Commissioner, Customs

**Faheem Ahmed, IRS.**

Customs though a vital component in the overall picture is probably the last piece

efficient Air cargo hub' opined Mr Padhya.

Explaining on the crucial compliance involved in this



*Many products are available for exports from here but connectivity is hindering us.*

**Mr. G Samba Siva Rao**  
MD, Sravan Shipping

in the puzzle said Mr Ahmed.

'Infra and connectivity are two main pillars for an efficient Air Cargo sector' said **Mr. Nishchal Padhya**, MD,

sector, **Mr. Vivek Vardhan**, Product manager, ICICI Bank gave a detailed presentation on the necessary documentation required while exporting goods.



*We gave Vizag airport a dedicated freighter and operated Boeing and bombardier both from VTZ & VGA.*

**Mr. Rajesh Singh**  
SpiceJet's Assistant Vice President  
Cargo & Logistics operations

Siddhartha Logistics FTWZ Pvt Ltd.

He urged the state and central governments to explore airports abroad that are leading Air cargo airports and cited Belgium's Liege airport as a fine example.

Overall the webinar saw over 11 leading panelists speak on the immense opportunities that the air cargo sector presents in the state while also debated on some of the pertinent challenges that the sector faces.

other high value goods are transported in an efficient and swift manner.

As per industry sources

other airports and regions that have huge potential in becoming air cargo hubs *Vizag Industrial Scan* in association with FICCI thus



*Air cargo solutions can do magic for us if done right in this region.*

**Mr. Suchira Surendranath**  
Director  
Strategy & Investments, Brandix

airport too possess air cargo terminals.

'Ground infrastructure is not a problem in the state' reiterated Sravan Shipping's MD, **Mr. G Sambasiva Rao**.

**So then why are air shipments from the state so miniscule?**

Well most stakeholders cited the lack of international air connectivity to various destinations as one of the biggest impediments.

'Chilled exports are about USD 65 million while live exports about USD 33 million. In addition Tuna is a big commodity of the coast of Vizag and Kakinada for exports' said **Mr. Venkat Rao Nekkanti**, MD Nekkanti Sea foods.

He further informed that Out of the total USD 6 billion of exports less than 1% is exported by air freight in value terms thereby showcasing the large potential that exists.

'AP needs consistency in flights and connectivity. Flights need to be everyday or else our clients will miss out' said Mr Venkat.

Concurred Brandix's **Mr. Suchira Surendranath** 'Air cargo plays a vital role in our sector' and highlighted the rapidly changing dynamics of the Fast Fashion industry. 'We need to be quick in sending our garments from our factory to our client's

potential Hetero Drugs, Head Logistics, **Mr. Sriramulu Chandu** highlighted that Vizag is one of the biggest pharma hubs in India and that many leading pharma companies operate in this region.

'Hetero Drugs has its biggest API manufacturing plant in Nakkapalli in Andhra Pradesh around 70kms from Vizag. Out of the total 3500 MT/year we produce 900-1000 Metric tonnes/year is for export and out of this 80% is for Air Cargo' said Mr Sriramulu.

Addressing the connectivity issue SpiceJet's **Mr. Rajesh Singh** highlighted that SpiceJet is one of leading players in this space.

'We got our freighters in 2018 and now we operate them to many countries worldwide' said SpiceJet's Assistant Vice President, Cargo & Logistics operations.

Elaborating on their operations in Andhra Pradesh he said that Spicejet had brought a freighter aircraft to Vizag.

'We wanted to give Vizag airport a dedicated freighter which we did and operated Boeing and bombardier from both Vizag and Vijayawada airport' said Mr Singh.

He further informed that the airline was keen on starting a freighter aircraft from Tirupati as well.

**Challenges/Hurdles**

Infrastructure and airline connectivity were the top two

the Global Air freight market was valued at USD 270 billion in 2019 and is projected to reach USD 377 billion by 2027.

organized the "Air Cargo'ing Andhra Pradesh" webinar aiming to explore the opportunities present in this sector which



*AP needs consistency in flights and connectivity. International connectivity need to be everyday or else our clients will miss out.*

**Mr. Venkat Rao Nekkanti**  
MD, Nekkanti Sea foods

The air cargo sector has gained even more prominence amid the COVID-19 pandemic by playing a vital role in the transportation of medical equipment, essentials, e-commerce etc.

was aptly supported by ICICI Bank.

Andhra Pradesh currently has 4 main airports with cargo operations with Vizag being the main followed by Vijayawada, Rajahmundry and Tirupati.

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### Your Smart 'Fuelling' Station



Chavi Kaul

Helping industry and large corporates get their bulk fuel requirements fulfilled right at their doorstep is this IOT enabled startup called Pepfuels.

This app-based startup claims to be the first company facilitated by an OMC (Oil Marketing Company) for delivery of petroleum products at your doorstep.

Pepfuels with its unique software gives real time monitoring access to its customers wherein they can track their orders, delivery time and also the quality of the fuel.

The startup primarily delivers fuel to its customers who are mostly industries i.e. Diesel for vehicles, DG sets, manufacturing plants etc. with the appropriate quality and quantity checks in place.

'Earlier there was no support from the govt, but a change in policies and guidelines of the government in 2016 opened up this space for startups to bring in new integration in the market' said Mr. Sandeep Thakur, cofounder of Pepfuels.

PESO (Petroleum Explosive and Safety Organisation) approved MDU (Mobile Dispensing Unit-Delivery Vehicle) Pepfuels claims to have an active customer base of 350+ clients in sectors ranging from Ports&Shipping, Construction, warehousing etc.

In terms of revenue Pepfuels charges a commission to the OMC in addition it charges a delivery fee to its customers.

How this works is that the customer first needs to sign up and register on their app after which a field executive is assigned for site verification to ensure safety norms. Post the approvals done by the field executive the customer can order and get the fuel with quality and quantity checks at their sites. Minimum order quantity is 200 litres.

And With MIS REPORTING customers get consumption Report of all locations in single screen.

Going forward the startup is looking to increase its presence in the ports and shipping sector in the regions of Vizag and Nellore while also in Vijayawada.

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

**Founders Name :** Mr. Tikendra Yadav, Mr. Sandeep Thakur, Mr. Prateek Kathil

**Incubated/Started (Year) :** 2019 August

**Industry / Space :** Petroleum, Oil & Gas

**Funding Received :** Seed funding from ONGC startup fund

**Looking for:** Series A funding

**Market of Operation:** Pan India

**Revenues:** Over Rs. 25 cr

**Claim of Fame :** any certifications / awards : Recognized by DPIIT

**Company's culture :**

Aggressive  Easy Going  Methodical

**PTIM (Person that inspires me):** One of the persons I truly admire is Mr. Ratan Tata. His thoughts and leadership skills inspire me a lot.

# Geospatial Energy Map launched

VIS News Service

NITI Aayog in collaboration with Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has developed a comprehensive Geographic Information System (GIS) Energy Map of India with the support of Energy Ministries of Government of India.

The Geospatial Energy Map of India will be useful in planning and making investment decisions. It will also

resources of the country which enables visualisation of energy installations such as conventional power plants, oil and gas wells, petroleum refineries, coal fields and coal blocks, district-wise data on renewable energy power plants and renewable energy resource potential, etc through 27 thematic layers.

It was recently launched by **Dr Rajiv**



GIS mapping will be useful for ensuring real-time and integrated planning of energy sector of India.

**Dr. Rajiv Kumar**  
Vice Chairman, NITI Aayog

**Sivan**, Chairman ISRO & Secretary Department of Space attended the launch event.

Dr Rajiv Kumar, Vice

integrated planning of energy sector of India, given its large geographical distribution and interdependence.

"Energy markets have immense potential to bring in efficiency gains. Going forward, GIS-based mapping of energy assets will be advantageous to all concerned stakeholders and will help in accelerating the policy-making process. Fragmented data has been brought together; this will be a great research instrument."

GIS map to provide a holistic picture of all energy resources of the country

aid in disaster management using available energy assets.

As per an official release the GIS map provides a holistic picture of all energy

**Kumar** (Vice Chairman, NITI Aayog), **Dr V K Saraswat** (Member, NITI Aayog), and **Mr. Amitabh Kant** (CEO, NITI Aayog). **Dr K**

Chairman, NITI Aayog, while launching the GIS-based Energy Map of India, stated GIS-mapping of energy assets will be useful for ensuring real-time and

## AU Prof. on Indian Oil Startup panel

**Prof. Hanumanth Purushotham** DPIIT-IPR Chair of Andhra University has been invited by Indian Oil Corporation to serve as a one of the nine external members of the Committee for evaluating applications received under Indian



Oil Startup Scheme Round 3-Open Innovation Challenge. The Committee evaluates the eligible startup proposals and recommends to IOCL for funding.

**Prof PVGD Prasad Reddy** the Vice Chancellor and **Prof V. Krishna Mohan** Registrar congratulated Prof Purushotham for being nominated as committee member of this prestigious programme of Indian Oil Corporation Ltd.

## AIM's Digi-book launched

NITI Aayog's Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) has launched - "Innovations for You" an attempt to showcase the success stories of Atal Innovation Mission's Startups in different domains. The first edition of this book is focused on innovations in Health Care and soon other sectors shall follow.

The book is a compilation of 45 health tech startups, incubated at Atal Incubation Centres spread across the country.

## 'AI, a Kinetic enabler for IT growth'

Artificial Intelligence is a Kinetic enabler for the growth of Indian technology ecosystem" stated **Mr. Rajeev Chandrasekhar**, Minister of State for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship and Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), Government of India at the 5th ASSOCHAM Conference - Artificial Intelligence for Resilient Growth, organized by the

ASSOCHAM through Virtual mode.

Speaking at the event, Mr. Chandrasekhar highlighted three major factors that shall create tremendous momentum for the growth of AI in India. First, He mentioned about India soon becoming the largest connected Nation as the rural broadband connectivity Second, the Digital India Campaign and third, the accelerated digitilisation of the Government.

## Spl. CS visits AIC-SKU



VIS News Service

**Mr. Satish Chandra**, Spl. Chief Secretary, Higher Education, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh and **Prof. Hema Chandra Reddy**, Chairman, AP State Council of Higher Education recently visited Atal Incubation Centre, Sri Krishnadevaraya University, Anantapur.

The visiting dignitaries witnessed the state-of-the-art incubation facilities at the university and also interacted with the team and discussed various startup's progress and activities

at AIC SKU.

Mr. Satish Chandra suggested the AIC SKU team to tie up with other such facilities in AP in order to increase their network.

Prof. Hemachandra discussed the collaboration between Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) of AP with AIC SKU for Innovation and Startup activities and requested AIC SKU to support HEIs in this regard. He appreciated the initiatives taken by AIC-SKU to promote entrepreneurship in the region.

## MeitY organises "AI Pe Charcha"

VIS News Service

The National e Governance Division (NeGD) of the Ministry of Electronics and IT recently organised yet another AI Pe Charcha (AI Dialogue) on the theme, "AI for Data Driven Governance". The session aimed at covering the importance of data driven and AI-enabled governance along with the global best practices.

## Women in Agri Startups

The Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare recently organized a webinar on "Women in Agri-startups: Creating Value with Supply Chain Management" in the series of events for celebrating Mahila Kisan Diwas 2021.

During the webinar, Minister of State for Agriculture & Farmers Welfare **Mr. Kailash Choudhary** released an e-book depicting "Success Stories of 75 progressive women farmers and women entrepreneurs to commemorate 75 years of 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav'.

Mr. Choudhary stated that women's contribution to the development of agriculture has increased manifold. Women play a decisive role in ensuring Food Security and Preserving local Agro-Biodiversity.

# Packaging it Right



lied industries to showcase the development of newer packaging materials and packaging media. The new centre will be in operation with an area of 5135 sq.ft. with state-of-the-art facilities for package testing, quality evaluation, training etc. and well equipped

VIS News Service

The Indian Institute of Packaging centre recently got inaugurated in Atchutapuram, Visakhapatnam by **Dr. S. Kishore, IAS**, Special Secretary, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Govt. of India along with **Mr. J.V.N. Subramanyam, IAS**, Vice Chairman & Managing Director Andhra Pradesh Industrial Infra-

structure Corporation Ltd.

Lauding the institute Dr Kishore labelled it as an excellent institute and stated that it is industry driven. 'The institute has a 100% placement record' said the special secretary, GoI.

Also speaking on the occasion **Dr. Tanweer Alam**, Director IIP said that IIP's new centre will provide a unique platform for the packaging and al-

with installations of lab testing facilities.

The Indian packaging industry has grown leaps and bounds and it was stated that today, the industry is growing at an annual rate of 15% as against 5-6% in the rest of the world.

Packaging plays a vital role in building the brand image of the product along with other functions of Protection, Preservation and Presentation.

# Abdul Kalam Prerana Sthal at NSTL

As part of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, and on the occasion of 90<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of **Bharat Ratna Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam**, "Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam Prerana



Sthal" was recently inaugurated at Naval Science & Technological Laboratory (NSTL). On this occasion, a statue of Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam was unveiled by **Dr. Samir V Kamat**, Distinguished Scientist & Director General (Naval Systems & Materials) in the presence of **Dr. Y Sreenivas Rao**, Outstanding Scientist & Director NSTL. Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Y Sreenivas, Director NSTL said that 'Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam Prerana Sthal' will provide motivation to the NSTL fraternity as well as the public of Visakhapatnam.

# At the Secretariat



VIS News Service

Team Lease MD, CEO **Mr. N. Ashok Reddy** recently met CM **Mr. Y S Jagan Mohan Reddy**. Team Lease is a leading company in the country in the field of skill development

Team Lease representatives have come forward to give suggestions and advice on setting up of Skill Universities and Skill

Colleges in the State. The Company representatives held preliminary talks with the Chief Minister.

Team Lease Project Incharge **Nithi Sharma**, CM Principal Secretary **Mr. Praveen Prakash**, Principal Secretary (Skill Development, Training) **Ms. G Jayalakshmi**, APSEHE Chairman **Mr. K Hemachandra Reddy** participated in the meeting.

# Handicrafts exports up 60%

VIS News Service

The Handicrafts exports during the first Six months of current financial year i.e. April to September, 2021-22 stood at Rs. 15995.73 Crores thereby registering a growth of over 60.34% over the same period in last year.

In fact the 52nd edition of IHGF-DELHI FAIR – AUTUMN 2021 was recently held from 28th to 31st October 2021 at India Expo Centre & Mart, Noida.

# NCN at ENC

VIS News Service

Naval Communication Network (NCN) Centre was recently inaugurated in Visakhapatnam by **Vice Admiral Ajendra Bahadur Singh, AVSM, VSM**, Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Eastern Naval Command.

As per an official release from the Navy the inauguration of this NCN Centre will ensure a modern, secure and robust net-



work for the Indian Navy, on the Eastern Seaboard.

Apart from senior officials from the Indian Navy, the event was also attended by representatives from M/s Sterlite, BSNL and TCIL.

# HPCL inks MoU with AU

VIS News Service

Industan Petroleum Corporation Limited Visakh Refinery signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Andhra University. As part of this, the two organizations will work in mutual interest areas cooperation and coordination in the fields of teaching and research.

**Prof P V G D Prasada Reddy**, HPCL HR Director **Dr Pushp Kumar Joshi**, AU



Registrar **Prof V Krishna Mohan** and HPCL GM (HR) **Mr. K. Nagesh** signed the MoU.

casation, Pushpa Kumar Joshi said that HPCL offers internships to AU students in all fields. In the same way, senior executives and professionals working in HPCL will give training and teach the AU students.

He said that he would work with AU in the field of digital and research. In future also HPCL will work as a sister concern to AU, he said.

Speaking on the oc-

# Cake mixing held at Radisson Blu

VIS News Service

The festive season has rung in at Radisson Blu Resort Visakhapatnam with the Cake Mixing and Grape Stomping Ceremony.

Cake mixing involved soaking rich and flavoursome cake batter in liquor while



grape stomping saw the barefoot crushing of grapes to make the finest wines.

The event paved way for the guests to unfold the festive spirit amidst the goodness and authenticity of age-old traditions.

# Assist Govt. Depts: Collector to Banks

VIS News Service

Vizag's District Collector **Dr. A. Mallikarjuna** recently launched a loan disbursement drive of the State Bank of India wherein DGMs of various other banks also attended the event.

Speaking on the occasion, the District Collector said it was commendable that the loan disbursement festival, which started from the 12th of this month, was going on successfully. He said the provision of services of all banks in one place would allay the doubts of those who want to avail loans and welfare schemes.

The Collector urged banks to provide continuous assistance to government departments and said that



many development and welfare programs are being implemented by government departments like Agriculture, Horticulture, Industries, DRDA, etc. for the Jagananna Housing Program.

The District Collector also presented loan checks sanctioned from various

banks to the officers of the respective departments.

SBI, DGMs, **Mr. Manmaya Pandab**, **Mr. A. Venkata Ramaiah** and other GMs and CEOs of various banks addressed the function. Several district officials, LDM **Mr. Srinath Prasad** and several officials were present on the occasion.