



# VIZAG INDUSTRIAL SCAN

An Industrial Fortnightly

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## AP will play a leading role in Exports: CM

VIS News Service

Addressing 'Vanijya Utsavam'—organized at the state level commemorating "Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav" in Vijayawada AP's CM **Mr Jagan Mohan Reddy** spoke boldly on the state's exports plan ahead while also highlighting the state's achievements in the last 2 years amid the pandemic.



ing the 3 upcoming greenfield ports i.e. Bhavanapadu, Ramyapatnam and Machilipatnam that the state has undertaken. 'These 3 new ports are strategically located and will cater to specific regions' said the CM.

'AP currently contributes 5.8% of the total na-

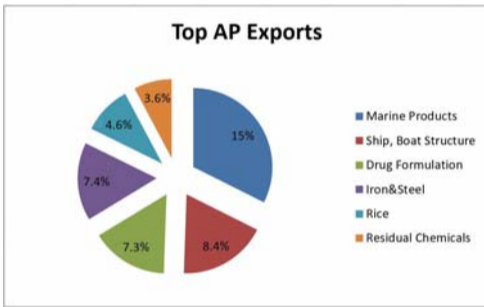
said that the state has chalked out a plan.

In addition the CM said

**CM lauds Industries Minister. Pg.11**

tional exports and we aim at doubling this by 2030' said the CM.

'To attain this goal we have prepared a comprehensive road map' said the CM highlight-



Contd. on Page ..6

## AP's Hotel Industry continues SOS call to CM

Mamta Sharma

There is no denying the fact that the hospitality sector, which functions as a powerful vehicle for economic growth, is directly and indirectly responsible for regional development,

numerous types of job creation and supporting many other industries and sub-in-

demic.

Having come to almost a standstill during the lockdown imposed in 2020, the hospitality business

**Sector burdened with High Taxation & Excessive Licensing**

dustries, is among the most affected sectors due to the ongoing Covid-19 pan-

started its journey to recov-

Contd. on Page ..5

## Export Award to Brandix

VIS News Service

Recognizing Brandix India Apparel's significant contribution to the regions exports the apparel city was recently awarded the 'Export Champion Award 2020-2021' at the Vanijya Utsav - 2021.



Ms. **Suchira Surendranath**, Director - Strategy & Investment, and **Mr. Saravanan Chandramouleeswaran**, Deputy Chief Operating Officer of Brandix India Apparel City.

Commenting on the award **Mr Neil**

Chief Minister **Mr Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy**, presented the award to

Contd. on Page ..6

## Mekapati lays out AP's 2030 vision for Exports

VIS News Service

Identifying Andhra Pradesh as being the preferred gateway to the east, Minister for Industries, commerce and IT and skill development **Mr Mekapati Goutham Reddy** said that the state Government looks to double its exports by 2030.

The minister said that AP will have to show a cumulative growth rate of



Our main focus is to increase value addition, identify new markets & improve quality of our goods.

**Mr. M. Goutham Reddy**  
Industries Minister

stakeholders involved.

'To achieve this target we are developing strategies for export led industri-

addressing a session at Vanijya Utsavam.

The minister spoke on a 10-year action plan with

Andhra Pradesh has gone up from Rank 7 in 19-20 to Rank 4 in 20-21 contributing 5.8% of total Indian Exports

8% annually, for which a clear well defined and SMART action plan is essential to on-board all the

alization while bringing in democratized development' said Mr Goutham Reddy

pit-stops every 2-3 years to

Contd. on Page .6.



- ◆ Steamer Agency
- ◆ Customs Broker
- ◆ Warehousing (NO.1 Warehouse Operator in Visakhapatnam)
- ◆ Container freight Station (First private sector container freight station (CFS) in Andhra Pradesh)
- ◆ Freight Forwarder
- ◆ Stevedoring
- ◆ Transportation
- ◆ End to End Logistics ( Cargo Handling)
- ◆ Containers Repairs (EMR)
- ◆ Cold Storage



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# NALCO's Mine bags Pollution Control Award

VIS News Service

Union Minister of Coal, Mines and Parliamentary Affairs **Mr. Pralhad Joshi** has congratulated National Aluminium Company Ltd (NALCO)'s Panchpatmali Bauxite Mine

**Arukha**, handed over the Award to the Mines team of National Aluminium Company Ltd (NALCO).

As part of AzadiKaAmritMahotsav celebrations, NALCO has recently distributed large number of saplings to the villagers of Kutudi, Mundagadati, Upergadati & Talagadati near its Mines & refinery Plant in Damanjodi, Odisha.



Starting under the Ministry of Mines, for winning the prestigious Pollution Control Excellence Award 2021 of the State Pollution Control Board, Odisha. In a tweet, the Minister has said that the award is the recognition of the Company's sustained efforts towards protection of the environment.

from implementing zero discharge system for effluent, NALCO's Bauxite Mine has adopted concurrent reclamation and rehabilitation of mined out areas. The Panchpatmali Bauxite Mine has planted more than 37 lakh trees so far. Steps have also been taken to improve biodiversity in the mined out areas.

At a function held at the State Pollution Control Board, in Bhubaneswar, Minister of Forest & Environment and Parliamentary Affairs, Govt. of Odisha **Mr. Mr. Bikram Keshari**

**Mr. Sridhar Patra**, CMD, NALCO congratulated the Mines Team & reaffirmed the Company's commitment towards effective environment management.

# Tata Steel commissions CO2 capture plant

VIS News Service

Tata Steel recently commissioned a 5 tonnes per day (TPD) carbon capture plant at its Jamshedpur Works, making it the country's first steel company to adopt such a carbon capture technology that extracts CO2 directly from

the Blast Furnace gas. Tata Steel will reuse the captured CO2 on site to promote the circular carbon economy.

This Carbon Capture and Utilisation plant was inaugurated by **Mr. T. V. Narendran**, CEO & MD, Tata Steel, in the presence of Company officials and other dignitaries.

# Alka Arora new CMD of NSIC

VIS News Service

**Ms. Alka Nangia Arora**, IDAS (91) has recently assumed the additional charge of the post of Chairman-cum-Managing Director (CMD) of The National Small Industries Corporation Ltd. (NSIC). On the occasion, she interacted with senior officers of NSIC and encouraged all employees to continue giving their best performance during 2021-22.

# JSPL Steel Sales jumps 6% in Aug.

VIS News Service

Notwithstanding subdued construction activities due to the ongoing monsoons in August, Jindal Steel & Power Limited (JSPL) maintained strong momentum in sales and production. Steel sales volume increased 6% M-o-M and 4% Y-o-Y to 7.1 lakh tonnes. Exports continue to boost JSPL's sales efforts as its share increased to 42% during the month.

Monthly production also rose 6% Y-o-Y to 6.6 lakh

# Ministry launches Dashboard 2.0

The Union Steel Minister, **Mr. Ram Chandra Prasad Singh** recently launched the Dashboard 2.0 of the Ministry of Steel developed by the NISCI. The Dashboard is an interactive and dynamic online platform that captures the performance on various parameters related to steel sector such as steel capacity utilisation, production and consumption, prices, raw



material production, trade, stocks and rail production etc. The Dashboard will help to monitor and analyse the performance of steel Companies on real time basis for different KPIs of Steel sector.

The Dashboard enables Ministry of Steel to get better insights to assist data driven decision making by way of extraction of Trends, Patterns and useful information.

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# Minister calls for coal gasification technology

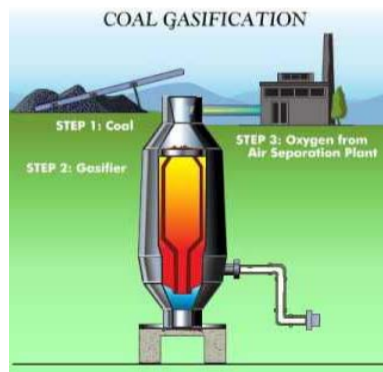
VIS News Service

The Union Steel Minister, **Mr. Ram Chandra Prasad Singh** recently chaired a meeting with the stakeholders from the steel industry, CSIR-Central Institute of Mining and Fuel Research (CIMFR) to deliberate on the prospects of using coal gasification in steel production through the Direct Reduced Iron (DRI) route.

The Steel Minister emphasised the need for development of indigenous coal gasification technology which is suited for the indigenously produced coal. Mr. Singh urged the stakeholders to come together in development of the technology which can be gainfully utilised by the steel industry and help in reducing the

dependence of imported coal and promote "Atmanirbhar Bharat".

Discussions were held on the present scenario and the way forward for



promoting coal gasification in the steel sector. Various Coal Gasification Technologies commercially available, their pros & cons, and their suitability for Indian high-ash non-coking coal were dis-

# Top honour for RINL in cost mgmt.

Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited- Visakhapatnam Steel Plant has bagged the top honour in cost management by the ICAI. VSP was presented with the award of First Position under the category, 'Manufacturing-Public-Mega' at the 17th National Awards for excellence in Cost Management-2019.

# New CMD at KIOCL Ltd.



VIS News Service

**Mr. T. Saminathan**, Director (Commercial) has assumed charge of Chairman-cum-Managing Director of KIOCL Limited, (a Govt. of India Enterprise), under Ministry of Steel, at Corporate Office, Bengaluru.

He holds a Degree in Mechanical Engineering and Post Graduate Diploma in Business Management and has more than 3 decades of experience in KIOCL Ltd in the field of Iron Ore Mining, Beneficiation, Pelletization, and Pig Iron Making since joining KIOCL Limited in the year 1986 as Graduate Engineer.

# RINL bags Rajbhasha Awards

VIS News Service

RINL-VSP is bestowed with 'Rajbhasha Keerti Puraskar'-FIRST PRIZE for effective implementation of Official Language Hindi for the year 2020-21. **Mr. DK Mohanty**, D(C) recently received the award from Union Minister of State for Home Affairs, **Mr. Nityanand Rai**, in the presence of Union Minister of Home Affairs **Mr. Amit Shah**, on the occasion of National Hindi Day Celebrations at New Delhi. TOLIC (Town Official

Language Implementation Committee) - Undertaking, Visakhapatnam under the aegis of RINL also bagged 'Rajbhasha Keerti

Minister of State for Home Affairs **Mr. Nishit Pramanik**, in the presence of Union Minister of Home Affairs and Co-operative **Mr. Amit Shah**, at New Delhi.



Puraskar' - First Prize for the year 2020-21. The award was received by **Mr. DK Mohanty**, Chairman, TOLIC (PSU) and D(C) & D(P) Addl Charge, RINL from Union

RINL-VSP has also received 'Rajbhasha Keerti Puraskar - First Prize' for effective implementation of Hindi for the year 2019-20. **Mr. G. Gandhi**, Chief General Manager (HR) & Admn., RINL received the award.

On this occasion, RINL CMD **Mr. Atul Bhatt**, congratulated RINL collective for bringing laurels to the company.



## Misra CMD of IRCON



VIS News Service

**Mr. Yogesh Kumar Misra** has recently taken over as Chairman & Managing Director of Indian Railway Construction Company (IRCON) IRCON International Limited. Born in 1965, Mr. Yogesh Kumar Misra graduated in Civil Engineering from the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Delhi.

He is an officer of the Indian Railway Service of Engineers (IRSE), 1987 batch, and has over 35 years of rich and varied experience in infrastructure works. He joined IRCON in 2006 and subsequently took absorption in IRCON. He has made a valuable contribution while working earlier on the Design & Construction of the J&K Rail Link Project and on other Railway capacity enhancement works.

## PIL launches South China India Express

VIS News Service

Responding to the needs of its customers for more direct and efficient services Pacific International Lines (PIL) recently announced the launch of a new weekly direct service connecting South China and North Vietnam to India's West Coast.

As per an official statement from PIL this new service known as South China India Express (SIX) will come into effect from 22 October 2021 and will be offered by a consortium of five vessels of 2800 TEUs each, jointly deployed by PIL, Regional Container Lines (RCL), CULines (CUL) and InterAsia Lines (IAL).

This new service SIX will provide the fastest transit time from South China to India's West Coast. This service will also include a direct call from Haiphong to Nhava Sheva/Mundra and vice versa, enabling its customers to reap commercial benefits, especially for refrigerated cargoes from India to Haiphong

which are time-sensitive said PIL.

The ports of call for this SIX service include the following:

South China India Express (SIX) Service Rotation:

Nansha - Shekou - Singapore - Port Kelang (West port) - Port Kelang (North port) - Nhava Sheva - Mundra - Port



Kelang (Westport) - Haiphong

PIL owns and operates a fleet of around 100 container and multi-purpose vessels, serving over 500 locations in more than 90 countries worldwide.

## ECoR crosses 100 MT freight loading

VIS News Service

The East Coast Railway, recently accomplished freight loading of 100.30MT between the period from April 1 to September 10, 2021. This was against a freight loading of 77.58MT carried in the corresponding period of last fiscal. With this, it has loaded 22.72 MT incremental cargo during the current financial year by registering an increase of 29.3%. This has also surpassed the loading target 95.09 MT fixed by Railway Board during the period, stated a release from ECoR.

This was made possible due to outstanding perfor-

mance of all the three Divisions of East Coast Railway, i.e. Khurda Road, Waltair and Sambalpur. The ECoR has loaded 55.28 MT of Coal, 3.66MT of Raw material for



Steel Plants, 9.62 MT of Iron & Steel, 14.26MT of Iron Ore, 0.57MT of Cement, 1.41MT of Food Grains, 2.43MT of Fertilizer, 1.07MT of POL, 1.87MT of freight loaded in Containers and 10.14MT of other cargo.

Major contributors of freight include Talcher,

Paradeep, Dhamara, Visakhapatnam, Gangavaram, Keonjhar, KK Line, Steel Plants, Aluminium plants and from other places of ECoR jurisdiction.

During the period, 67.19MT of freight was carried from Khurda Road Division, 28.24MT of freight from Waltair Division and 4.83MT of freight carried from Sambalpur Di-

vision.

During the first 10 days of September, i.e., from September 1 to 10, 2021, East Coast Railway carried 6.01MT of freight as against 5.30 MT carried in same time of 2020 by registering an increase of 13.3% more freight said the release.

## Parliamentary panel visits VPT

VIS News Service

Parliamentary Standing Committee on Empowerment of Women, headed by **Dr. Heena**

Rao, IAS.

The Parliamentary Committee was taken for a Launch Cruise, wherein the Chairman, explained about the Port operations, facilities and infrastructure available.



**Vijaykumar Gavit**, Member of Parliament and Chairperson of the Committee, along with other Parliamentarians, recently visited Visakhapatnam Port Trust. The team was received by VPT Chairman **Mr. K. Rama Mohana**

The Committee had a discussion with VPT officials on the CSR activities undertaken by the Visakhapatnam Port Trust for the welfare of the women in connection with the examination of the subject 'Corporate Social Responsibility towards Women'.

## Gupta New ADRM

VIS News Service

An officer of Indian Railway Services Engineers (IRSE) of 1997 batch, **Mr. Sudhir Kumar Gupta** recently assumed the charge of Additional Divisional Railway Manager (Infrastructure) of Waltair Division of East Coast Railway.

Mr. Sudhir Kumar Gupta completed his graduation in Civil Engineering and Masters in Structural Engineering. He joined railways in June-2000 as Assistant Divisional Engineer/Mysore Division. Mr. Sudhir Kumar has varied

experience over 24 years in Railways and served in various positions over South Central Railway, South Western railway, East Central Railway South Eastern Railway 6 and East Coast Railway in Open line as well

as in Construction in various capacities. Prior to his posting as ADRM, Waltair he was Chief Project Manager-II of East Coast Railway since December-2020.

He has also attended the Advance Management Programme in Singapore & Malaysia and done Strategic Management Programme at ISB/Hyderabad.



### IN BRIEF

#### Soil lab inaugurated at DCI

Dredging Corporation of India has recently celebrated Engineer's Day by launching the state-of-the-art Soil Lab. The soil lab which is a step in the direction of Maritime India Vision 2030 of the Prime Minister, will help in assessing the quality of dredged material at various project sites and also help in turning Waste into Wealth by recycling of dredged material for reuse which was hitherto being dumped at sea. The soil lab was inaugurated by **Capt. S. Divakar**, CGM. The function was attended by DCI MD & CEO **Dr. G.Y.V. Victor**, and the HoDs of DCI.



#### Record sale of scrap in Waltair Division

Waltair Division of East Coast Railway adopted several innovative measures to cope up with the crisis and rebuild economy. On the line to generate additional revenue, the Materials Management department of Waltair Division initiated several new ways through the sale of unserviceable materials (Scrap) released from various activities of the railways during the harsh times of Corona virus infection. Recently, it has sold the scrap that fetched highest revenue in a single auction which is Rs 10.59 Crores.

## Dwarf Container Train at JNPT

VIS News Service

The Union Minister for Ports, Shipping, and Waterways, **Mr. Sarbananda Sonowal**, virtually flagged-off the dwarf container train service from JNPT. The first consignment of laden Dwarf containers from Dwarf container depot (DCD) at the port was being moved by train to ICD Kanpur.

As per an official release the 'Dwarf' containers provide a 67% increase in volume when double-stacked and can carry a

weight of 71 tons, against 40 tons by an ISO container. In addition, Indian Railways has offered 17% discount on haulage cost



compared to double stack ISO container trains, resulting in an overall 33% discount to shippers making

Indian Railways competitive. Thus the rail movement of cargo through Dwarf containers has the potential to lower the EXIM logistics costs, making Indian exports globally competitive.

Speaking at the inaugural event, the Union Minister **Mr. Sonowal** said, "This will give the EXIM community a competitive cost advantage by lowering hinterland logistical costs, while

simultaneously enhancing rail-cargo traffic at JNPT. Pristine Mega Logistics Park Pvt. Ltd, was appointed as the operator through a public tender floated by JNPT for 'management, maintenance and operations of a dedicated dwarf container depot (D-Depot) inside the Port area.

Other officials present at the flag off included **Dr. Sanjeev Ranjan, IAS**, Secretary, Ministry of Ports, Shipping, and Waterways, JNPT Chairman **Mr. Sanjay Sethi, IAS**, and JNPT Dy. Chairman **Mr. Unmesh Sharad Wagh, IRS**.



# Japanese AC Major Daikin sets foot in Sri City

VIS News Service

The world's leading air-conditioning company Daikin Air-conditioning India Pvt. Ltd., a 100% subsidiary of Daikin Industries Ltd. recently signed the land lease deed at Sri City for manufacturing air-conditioners (AC) and components.

Part of the recently announced Production Linked Incentive Scheme (PLI) by the Government of India for promoting domestic manufacturing in the AC manufacturing sector Daikin India is the first Japanese AC company to take this pioneering and



*This investment reaffirms the fact that Andhra Pradesh remains at the top of investors' minds around the globe and across various sectors.*

**Mr. Ravindra Sannareddy, Founder Managing Director, Sri City.**

lease from Sri City.

## Diakin Sri City Plant

- To be 1st Plant in South India
- Total Area 75.5 Acres
- To create over 3000 jobs
- Operations from Year 2023

leadership step to invest in India, with a view to give prominence to – 'Atmanirbhar' India (self-reliant) stated a re-

This will be Daikin's 3rd factory in India and will serve both domestic & international markets with its cutting edge India-manufactured products.

tial for air conditioner, and consumers are looking for energy-efficient products with a lower total cost of ownership.

Appreciating the infrastructure and business environment in the state he said, "The favourable business environment here, coupled with world class infrastructure, talent pool and support from both the state and central governments, etc., will certainly pave the way for some more investments from the small, medium and large scale companies of Japan."

Welcoming Diakin India, Sri City's Founder Managing Director **Mr Ravindra Sannareddy** said "We feel extremely glad to welcome Daikin Group. This is the first major investment in Sri City this year, with a potential to create over 3000 jobs. This investment reaffirms the fact that Andhra Pradesh, with its very competitive incentive policy and investor-friendly business environment, remains at the top of investors' minds around the globe and across various sectors.

Speaking on the occasion Daikin India's MD&CEO **Mr Kanwaljeet Jawa** said 'We believe India has the potential to become our offshore delivery centre for R&D and exports. We believe it can serve as a regional hub for markets such South America, Middle East and Africa' said Mr Jawa.

He further informed that AC penetrations is still at 5-6% in India and that there is huge poten-

# KK Ghosh takes over as CSI Chairman



VIS News Service

Computer Society of India, Visakhapatnam Chapter at its recent Annual General Meeting elected the new office-bearers. RINL Director (Projects) **Mr. KK Ghosh**, has been elected as the new Chairman, RINL Director (Operations) **Mr. AK Saxena**, as Vice Chairman HPCL, GM(HR), **Mr.**

**Nagesh**, as Secretary and DGM(IT & ERP) **Mr. D Ramesh**, has been elected as the new Treasurer.

Addressing the members Mr. Ghosh said that he would take forward the roadmap for the chapter activities. He also suggested CSI members to come forward voluntarily to act as mentors for the next generation.

# VSEZ notches up over Rs 50,000 crs in Exports

VIS News Service

Visakhapatnam Special Economic Zone spread over AP, Telangana and Chhattisgarh has recorded exports of Rs 53858 Cr in this fiscal up to 23rd September. This when compared to the same period last year is a growth of 26 %.

Similarly investments made so far stood at Rs. 78242 Cr while employment generated was 4.50 lakhs as per VSEZ's development commissioner **Mr ARM Reddy**.

Mr. Reddy said that, during last 2 ½ years, 121 new units had been approved and they are all in the process of setting up while some have already started functioning. He further informed that they expect an investment of Rs 61000 crores to be infused into SEZs which will lead to exports of 1.55 lakh Cr and will generate an employment of 9.64 lakhs over

the next five years.

'VSEZ has shown a growth of 52% in just 2 years i.e., 2018-19 to 2020-21' highlighted Mr Reddy.

The zone recently held an awards function for the SEZs and EoUs under the jurisdiction of VSEZ.



The occasion was chaired by Secretary commerce to Govt of India **Dr BVR Subrahmanyam**.

Sixty Seven awards were distributed by the Commerce Secretary to achievers for their performance during 2019-20 and 2021-22.

Secretary Commerce appreciated the developers and units of VSEZ for achieving outstanding exports from VSEZ.

## VANIJYA UTSAVAM



The Chief Minister **Mr. Y.S.Jagan Mohan Reddy** presenting exporter Award to Managing Director of Pattabhi Agro Foods, **Mr. B.V. Krishna Rao** during the Vanijya Utsavam held in Vijayawada.



The Chief Minister **Mr. Y.S.Jagan Mohan Reddy** presenting Exporter Award to General Manager of SNF India **Mr. Pandava Prasad** during the Vanijya Utsavam held in Vijayawada.

# CII AP hails Infra boost to economy

VIS News Service

CII Andhra Pradesh recently organized a Conference on Infrastructure Development with the theme of Smart Technology & Infrastructure Development.

Addressing at the Inaugural Session, **Mr V Suresh**, National Chairman, Indian Green Building Council said that the infrastructure sector is highly responsible for propelling India's overall development and Government has an intense focus on initiating policies that would ensure time bound creation of world class infrastructure in the country.

He mentioned that India is expected to become world's third-largest construction market by 2022 and initiatives like 'Hous-

ing for All' & Smart Cities initiatives would boost the infrastructure development in the country.

It was informed that the vision of Indian Green Building Council is to enable a sustainable built environment for all and facilitate India to be one of the global leaders in the sustainable built environment by 2025.

**Mr D Tirupathi Raju**, Chairman, CII

Andhra Pradesh in his address said that Andhra Pradesh is pioneered in Infrastructure Development and with the proposed Sea Ports and International Airport at Bhogapuram would immensely benefit all stakeholders. The proposed projects would transform Industrial landscape of Visakhapatnam and benefit Andhra Pradesh as well.





# AU releases New IPR policy

VIS News Service

Andhra University has come out with a comprehensive Intellectual Property (IP) Policy 2021 for the first time to be implemented in all University colleges of Andhra University. The IPR policy was released during the APSCH board meeting held

at Andhra University by **Prof. Hema Chandra Reddy**, Chairman, APSCH.

Prof. Hema Chandra Reddy complimented Andhra University for bringing out the IPR



policy and said it can be

adopted by other State Universities in Andhra Pradesh.

The IPR policy was brought out by Centre for Intellectual Property Rights (CIPR), Andhra University and the policy is expected to promote IPR culture in the Andhra University and the State of AP.

# 50 Million Ton Park at RINL

In order to mark the milestone achievement of 50 million Hot metal production of GODAVARI, BF-1 since its commission in 1990 RINL inaugurated 50 Million Ton Park near Blast Furnace 1 (BF-1) complex today in the presence of Senior officers, Union Leaders and Employees of Vizag Steel

As per an official release from RINL GODAVARI, BF-

1 was commissioned on 28th March, 1990 by Mr B Kannayya, the then senior most employee of Vizag Steel. This furnace was put down in October 2013 for up gradation and modernization and its Second campaign started in July 2014 and produced 12.26 Million ton so far. The technical knowhow was given by the erstwhile USSR.

# AP's Hotel Industry continues SOS call to CM

Contd. from Page 1

ery when the restrictions were eased, only to be again hit hard by the brutal second wave of Covid-19.

Considering the damage has been extensive, the hospitality players in the state say the sector requires a helping hand from the government to find its feet. Expressing gratitude

status to the hospitality sector in line with other states like

Karnataka and Maharashtra. In the light of the uncertain scenario we are facing, it is imperative for the survival and revival of the Industry. The entire industry

According "Industry" status to the hospitality sector will fasten post-

The sector is burdened with high taxation and excessive licensing and

said while the AP government had extended relief measures and announced

businesses," he said.

Stating that the pandemic is still far from being over yet, it's a wait and watch situation, **Mr Ajit Kumar**, GM Fortune Inn Sreekanya said, "Capital is a big question mark but that is again yet to happen. There is no clarity on that. The corporate movement is still affected, foot-falls in terms of food and

### Key Hospitality Asks:

- ✓ Grant of Industry Status
- ✓ Waiver of Property Tax, water charges, Trade license
- ✓ Extension of Bar License & Reduction in Licensing Fee

pandemic economic revival of the sector as it will allow the sector to avail some benefits like lower electricity and water tariff, lower property tax, rationalization of license fees and simplified approval process for hotel projects and operations. Echoing similar sentiments, **Mr**

regulations.

Urging the government to review them, GM of Best Western Plus Tejvivaan **Mr John Kiran** said, "The bar license is the biggest concern for properties like us because the license fee is so high we cannot even achieve break even on it. Maybe the government

policy it is yet to be implemented on ground.



*All the policy changes are still on paper. No SOPs have been made, nothing has been crystallized.*

**Mr. Ravi Rai**  
Cluster General Manager  
Novotel Varun Beach

for whatever support the government has extended so far, Hotel & Restaurant

stands at a threshold of suffering and an irrevocable setback. We would



*The entire industry stands at a threshold of suffering and an irrevocable setback.*

**Mr. Pavan Kartheek MV**  
Vice President - HRAAP &  
GM Keys Select Hotel

**Jaydeep Biswas** of Park Hotel said that while this time the recovery seems a bit slower than last year, the sector is hopeful for a much more energetic second half of the financial year if all goes well. "With the rapid pace at which the vaccination drive is being undertaken, every one's praying that it would keep the much talked about third wave away. Under these challenging times, we need the "Industry Status" to be bestowed on the hotel industry like so many other states have already done. It would bring along some relief to this segment".

can consider at least a pro-rata basis rather than a year-to-year basis for the issuing of the licence. For example, if I get a license in November, the government should think of that aspect from November to June rather than asking us to get it from July to June".

**Mr John** also said that instead of guaranteed minimum electricity charges, the government should consider charging on actual consumption as it is still a long way before the business gets back to normal.

**Mr Ravi Rai**, Cluster General Manager, Novotel Varun Beach,



*We need the Industry Status to be bestowed on the hotel industry like so many other states have already done.*

**Mr. Jaydeep Biswas**  
Park Hotel

"All the policy changes are still on pa-

beverage are yet to come back to normal, and there



*The bar license is the biggest concern for properties like us. It's so high we cannot even achieve break even on it.*

**Mr. John Kiran**  
General Manager  
Best Western Plus Tejvivaan

Association of Andhra Pradesh (HRAAP) Vice President **Mr Pavan Kartheek** highlighted the urgent need for policy changes imperative for the survival and revival of the Industry.

"We request the government to grant industry

need to explore the options of a joint task force with the industry and the government to handle this crisis and prepare for the recovery from a financial, operational and marketing standpoint," said **Mr Kartheek**.



*Capital is a big question mark but that is again yet to happen. There is no clarity on that.*

*Corporate movement is yet to come back to normal.*

**Mr. Ajit Kumar**  
GM, Fortune Inn Sreekanya

per. No SOPs have been made, nothing has been crystallized. It is time for the government to actualize whatever has been communicated and committed. If that happens it should be enough for now to reinstate hotel

are not many projects happening in the city in terms of infrastructure. Once the projects start again and IT and other businesses open up, it will have a ripple effect on the hospitality sector and will turn out some businesses."



# Seafood exporters seek Govt. Help

VIS News Service

In a recent meeting organized in Vizag by the Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) with the commerce secretary, GoI, **Mr B V R Subrahmanyam IAS** sea-



food exporters brought out some of the pressing issues being faced by the industry. During the interaction the Seafood Exporters Association led by its national president **Mr Jagdish Fofandi** along with **Mr Indra Kumar A** and **Mr Elias Sait** cited the steep hike in freight rates, shortage of containers, less RODTEP rates, relisting of

Exporters by EU, pending of Fresh approvals from EU as some of the major problem areas and requested interventions by the Central Government.

As per a release it was informed that the Commerce Secretary assured the exporters that he has taken note of all the major issues and that the Government will make an effort to resolve the issues related with China and other major importing countries. **Mr Diwakar Nath Misra IAS**, Joint Secretary, DoC, MoCI, **Mr K S Srinivas IAS**, Chairman MPEDA, **Dr M Karthikeyan**, Director MPEDA along with other regional Presidents around 45 Seafood Exporters from across the country participated in the meeting. Chairman MPEDA said that an action plan has been made to achieve the target of 7.8 billion US\$ fixed by MoCI for the Financial Year 2021-22.

# CM bestows Export Champion Award to Brandix

Contd. from Page 1  
Rosayro, Country Head -

appreciation to the Government of Andhra



*We extend our heartfelt appreciation to the GoAP for this recognition.*

**Mr. Neil Rosayro**  
Country Head - Brandix India

Brandix India said, "Brandix is honoured to be awarded the 'Export Champion Award' for 2020 - 2021. We attribute this achievement to our team members whose commitment and tireless efforts have brought in foreign exchange to the national economy while enabling Brandix to position the South Asia region as a hub for quality apparel manufacturing. We also extend our heartfelt

Pradesh for this recognition and reiterate our com-



*Out of the total BIAAC workforce of more than 20,000 people 17,000 of them are women.*

**Mr. PC Doraswamy Pachipala**  
India Partner – BIAAC

mitment towards supporting the Indian apparel industry."

Similarly India Partner – BIAAC, **Mr PC Doraswamy Pachipala** said "BIAAC is truly honoured to be awarded the 'Export Champion Award' for 2020 – 2021. We are proud to note that 17,000 of our total BIAAC workforce is female, making it one of the largest number of women employed in a single location in the entire country. We believe this award is a tes-

tament to BIAAC's continued commitment to uplift communities."

# NCC's new DG



VIS News Service

**Lieutenant General Gurbirpal Singh** recently took over as the 34<sup>th</sup> Director General of National Cadet Corps (NCC). Lt General Singh was commissioned into The Parachute Regiment in 1987. An alumnus of the National Defence Academy, Khadakwasla, Indian Military Academy, Dehradun as well as NCC, he attended the Defence Services Staff College in Wellington, the Higher Command Course in Mhow and the National Defence College Course in New Delhi.

# New Project Manager Disaster Management

VIS News Service

**Ms. VSS Lakshmi Prasanna** recently took over as the Project Manager of Srikakulam District Disaster Management Division. Ms. Lakshmi Prasanna met District Collector **Srikesh Lathakar** and District Revenue Officer **Baliwada Dayanidhi**.

Earlier Ms. Lakshmi Prasanna served as Deputy Director, Srikakulam Planning Department and Chief Planning Officer.

# APTDC Chairman Felicitated



VIS News Service

Senior members of AP Chambers recently organized an interactive session with

Chairman of AP Tourism Development Corporation (APTDC) **Dr.A.Vara Prasad Reddy** at Best Western Tejvivaan. During the meeting the members also felicitated the chairman of APTDC.

# Grand Bay's new GM

VIS News Service

**Mr. Hormuzdyr M Gabb** recently took over as the new General Manager of Welcom Hotel Devee Grand Bay in Visakhapatnam.



Prior to his move as General Manager, he was the Food and Beverage manager at ITC Grand Central, Luxury col-

lection hotel in Mumbai.

An alumnus of WGSMA - Manipal & ITC's Hotel Management Institute (HMI), Gurgaon, he has spent his formative years in food and beverage with an experience of 17 years in F&B ,with 11 years as a Chef.

# Mekapati lays out AP's 2030 vision for Exports

Contd. from Page 1

monitor progress and re-align strategies adapting to the global scenario.

### Mekapati Calls For:

- ✓ Value Addition
- ✓ Diversifying Export Basket
- ✓ Identifying New markets
- ✓ Improving Quality of Goods

'The main objective of the strategy is to increase value addition in export commodities, diversify export basket, identify new markets and improve quality of goods exported' said Mr Goutham Reddy.

He spoke on how the state can increase the share

of value only if they move up the value-chain and find newer markets.

'We contribute to over 45-50% of Indian export basket for Shrimps, Frozen Fish and Crustaceans while the share of India is only 5-8% of global share. While we export shrimps to US, China and Vietnam, Vietnam is re-exporting the product by processing and capturing most of the final value' informed the minister. Speaking on 'District

as Export Hubs' and 'One District One Product' he said the government has identified export potential products at the district level and notified the products through District Industries and Export Promotion Committee (DIEPCs).

'For effective monitoring of the progress, Export

### Current Exports Contribution:

- ✓ 20% of India's GDP
- ✓ 12% of AP's GSDP
- ✓ AP's share in Total Indian Exports: 5.8%

facilitation Cells will be constituted' said the minister.

### Increasing Warehouse-

ing Capacity The minister emphasised on the need for aggrandizing warehouse infrastructure in the state and shifting from traditional small-scale warehouses to modern warehousing facilities designed as per global standards. 'We shall increase ware-

housing capacity to 560 MMT by 2024-25 from the current 181 MMT' highlighted the minister.

# AP will play a leading role in Exports

Contd. from Page 1

that these new ports shall further add about 60 MTPA in the first phase to the existing 254 MTPA in the state.

**AP's exports up from USD 14.1 billion to USD 16.8 Billion**

'Andhra Pradesh's contribution to National exports has gone from 9th position to 4th position in the last 2-3 years' said CM Mr Jagan Mohan Reddy.

Citing the past two years to be extremely challenging he said that the state has come out with exceptional results. 'While

India's exports shrunk by 11.6% in these testing times AP's exports grew by 19.4%' said the CM. AP's exports have gone

up from USD 14.1 billion to USD 16.8 Billion.

Mr Jagan Mohan Reddy further stated that 25 secondary food processing units will come up in each parliamentary constituency. This will help both farmers and also exports from this region said the CM.



# Cruising at VPT



VIS News Service

Minister of State for Ports, Shipping and Waterways, Government of India **Mr. Shantanu Thakur** recently visited Visakhapatnam Port wherein he held Review Meetings with the Officials of VPT followed by

interaction session with the PPP Operators, Union Leaders and Associations.

Later on the Minister visited port operational areas and was appraised of PPP Projects of VPT.

Shantanu Thakur also laid foundation stone for various projects viz., Develop-

ment of Cruise Terminal, and Inauguration of Grade Separator at Convent Junction area.

**Mr. K. Rama Mohana Rao, IAS**, Chairman, VPT along with **Mr. Durgesh Kumar Dubey, Dy. Chairman**, **Mr. T. Venugopal**, Secretary, VPT also participated in the programmes.

## Blue Star's Rs 540 cr plant at Sri City

Wholly owned subsidiary of Blue Star Ltd., M/s Blue Star Climatech Limited recently held groundbreaking ceremony in Sri City marking the start of construction of its plant for manufacturing air-conditioners (AC) and components, as part of the recently announced Production Linked Incentive Scheme (PLI) by the Government of India for promoting domestic manufacturing in the AC manufacturing sector.

The plant, which will be built in 20 acre land in the Domestic Tariff Zone (DTZ), is expected to be commissioned by October 2022. The plant will be developed in phases at a total investment of around Rs.540 Cr. The total capacity of the plant will be close to 1.2 million and over 1500 people will get employment opportunity. The plant will cater to the Southern markets and will be developed as an environmentally responsible and ecologically sustainable plant.

## ENC's Mid-year Refit review Emphasises bolstering PPP



VIS News Service

Indian Navy's Mid-Year Refit Review (MYRR) and Mid-Year Infrastructure Review (MYIR) Conference was recently held at Eastern Naval Command (ENC) headquarters on Sept 24 & Sept 25, 2021.

The conference was inaugurated by **Vice Adm Ajendra Bahadur Singh**, AVSM, VSM Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief ENC and chaired by **Vice Adm Sandeep Naithani**, AVSM, VSM Chief of Materiel (COM), Integrated Headquarters Ministry of Defence (Navy) to assess the progress of refits of ships and submarines and Infrastructure Projects.

Vice Adm Naithani, in his address emphasised the need to bolster public-private partnership in the defence sector and focus on indigenisation.

Deliberations upon the refit plans for ships based at ENC & ANC, discussions on the existing main-

tenance policies and review of infrastructure augmentation for meeting the growing requirements of the Navy were the main agenda for the review.

order to support ships in the islands towards extending our reach towards the East.

Delivering the Inaugural address, the Commander-in-Chief lauded the efforts of the technical fraternity towards ensuring a high standard of maintenance and readiness of IN platforms and emphasised on exploring new technology tools for maintenance, upskilling of Yard workers to retain core expertise and optimisation of infrastructure costs.

*Looks at creating vendor base at A&N Island to support ships in the islands towards extending our reach towards the East*

The Conference was attended by a high-level delegation from Naval Headquarters, ENC, Andaman & Nicobar Command, Naval Dockyards, Repair Yards and Material Organisations from Visakhapatnam and Port Blair.

The tailoring class students were trained at a tailoring school for which, the fee was borne by the Women's Wing and a few sponsors.

All participants were given certificates on successful completion of their respective courses. And As a token of appreciation the facilitators were presented a small token of gratitude. Women's Wing President **Dr Hema Yadavalli**, Honorary Secretary **Ms. Sandhya Godey**, Women's Wing members and the facilitators attended the event.

## Ease of Logistics portal

VIS News Service

Realizing the challenges faced by exporters due to acute shortage of containers, FIEO has developed a trade facilitation portal [www.easeoflogistics.com](http://www.easeoflogistics.com) to bring exporters and logistics service providers (LSPs) on a single platform.

The portal was inaugurated by **Mr. Piyush Goyal**, Union Commerce & Industry Minister. **Dr A Sakhtivel** President FIEO said that over 1800 exporters and over 300 service providers on boarded the portal during the soft launch. Exporters can post details of their container requirements directly to service providers for providing their best quotes, enabling exporters to chat, negotiate and finalize business.

## CPF India's CSR



VIS News Service

As part of its CSR activity they handed over a DD of Rs. 30 lakhs to Chief Minister. Royal Thai Consul General **Mr. Nitirooge Phoneprsert** and Consul **Mr. Mongkol Siwaluki** and Consular Officer **Mr. Syed Mohammad Yusuf** were also present on the occasion.

Reddy.

delegation of CPF India Private Limited comprising its president (Aqua Operation India) **Mr. Wichit Kongkheaw** and Assistant Vice President (Human Resources and General Affairs) **Mr. K. Gopinath** recently called on Chief Minister **Mr. Jagan Mohan**

and discussed HR related issues. Later, the Flag Officer held discussions.

## VADM Tripathi at ENC

VIS News Service

Vice Admiral **Dinesh K Tripathi**, AVSM, NM Chief of Personnel (COP) Integrated Headquarters, Ministry of Defence (Navy) was recently on a three-day visit to the Eastern Naval Command (ENC). During his visit the COP addressed the Officers, Sailors and Defence Civilians of ENC



and discussed HR related issues. Later, the Flag Officer held discussions.

## VCCI's Women Wing completes 1st round of skill training

VIS News Service

Doing its bit in empowering women via effective skilling, the Women's Wing of the **Vizagapatnam Chambers of Commerce & Industry** recently concluded its first round of the Pragati skill training initiative.

In this phase, three courses - Baking and chocolate making, tailoring and block printing were conducted stated an official release from VCCI.

It was further informed that the facilitators for each course were professionals and experts with many

years of experience in their area of activity.

For instance **Ms Radhika Satish**, Founder of Radisa, a well-known chocolate

The tailoring class students were trained at a tailoring school for which, the fee was borne by the Women's Wing and a few sponsors.



and baked goods outlet conducted a six week baking and chocolate making course. **Ms. Santi**, an entrepreneur with a block printing unit conducted the Block printing course at no cost to the Women's Wing.

presented a small token of gratitude. Women's Wing President **Dr Hema Yadavalli**, Honorary Secretary **Ms. Sandhya Godey**, Women's Wing members and the facilitators attended the event.



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## VIS Startup Focus Making SMEs Analytically Smarter



Vinita Chaudhary

**I**nnovative tools like Business Intelligence and AI can well be used to help businesses and organizations analyze their operations and sales in a much more efficient and time saving manner.

Acculytixs, founded by **Mr Vinay Raju** aims to do just that by helping SMEs realize their true potential by assisting them analyze their data more effectively.

As most of the softwares available in the market were high-end and costly Mr. Raju identified a gap for these niche services.

With the Motto 'We convert uncertainty into a usage probability to the world of business', Mr Raju developed multiple products using the BI and AI systems which are available for companies at low cost.

'The main objective of these products is to help MSMEs become more analytically driven and achieve better performance through utilization of data. We wish to bring AI and analytics to every part of your business' said Mr Raju.

Mr Raju informs that typically, BI deployment takes around 3-6 months costing approx. 50 lakh; whereas Acculytixs takes just 3-4 days as everything is pre-defined.

Acculytixs products come with plug and play features with pre-defined dashboards, KPIs, and metrics. As per the founder Acculytixs products can be integrated with any backend technology already in use by the company. There are 12 products for different segments such as supply chain, retail, jewellery, financial, transport, etc. The Risk Analytics Suites are for high-end clients informing them about the risk if any.

'With customisation, the time may increase to a week max. It is also easy for the MSMEs to use these products as it is cost effective' said Mr Raju.

With the use of Microsoft BI, Acculytixs has also created three interesting apps: OneRoof, Celeb2Fan and Way2Party.

With two customers in Vietnam and one in Cambodia, Acculytixs plans to launch in India soon in the next few months.

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

**Founder Name:** Mr Vinay Raju

**Team:** 16 members

**Incubated/Started (Year and City):** October, 2018.

**Industry / Space :** Technology Company

**Funding Received :** Self-Funded

**Looking for:** Visibility

**Market of Operation:** Across the globe

**Revenues:** \$20,000

**Claim of Fame: any certifications / awards:** ISO Certified | Start Up India | AP Innovation Society

**Company's culture:**

Aggressive  Easy Going  Methodical

**PTIM (Person that inspires me):** Mr. Michael Schumacher, the Formula One Driver. It is his very down to earth and humble attitude that inspires me.

## “AP’s Startup policy to usher new partnerships”

Aditya Sabharwal

**H**ighlighting the state government’s new startup policy, **Ms Keerthana** stated that the new startup policy was forthcoming in collaborating and creating a vibrant startup ecosystem.

‘We at APIS are looking at a lot of partnerships to build an efficient startup eco-system in the state’ said Ms Keerthana G, Joint Director, Entrepreneurship development at APIS (Andhra Pradesh Innovation Society).

Citing collaborations as the way forward she reiterated that the state government is very keen on supporting Innovation and R&D in a big way.

‘We are looking at establishing incubation clusters across the state i.e. in Guntur, Vizag, Tirupati, Anantapur etc.’

The ITE&C Department is the nodal department for supporting the development of startup innovation ecosystem in the state of Andhra Pradesh. AP Innovation Society is the dedicated agency within ITE&C department.

## DPIIT cuts patent filing costs by 80%

VIS News Service

**T**he DPIIT, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India recently released Patent (Amendment) Rules, 2021

ment fee in patent filing cost including Expedited Examination and 80% reduction in maintenance cost after the grant of patent filed by Educational Institutions in India.

Before this amendment,

reduced to Rs.76,800/-.

Speaking on the development DPIIT IPR Chair at Andhra University **Professor H.Purushotham** said that ‘This bold step by the government will help the Uni-

S.No.	Activity	Previous Official Fee	Proposed Official Fee
1.	Filing patent application at IPO	8,000	1,600
2.	Filing request for Publication	12,500	2,500
3.	Filing request for Examination	20,000	4,000
4.	Filing request for Expedited Examination	60,000	8,000

through a gazette notification on 21st September, 2021 regarding Reduction in patent filing and maintenance cost by 80% for university or any other Educational institution that is recognized by the Central or State or Union Territory of India. As per the Gazette Notification, there is a reduction of 84% of govern-

the government fee for filing a patent application by Educational Institutions in India used to be Rs.1,00,500 till its grant by the Indian Patent Office. Now the cost is reduced to only Rs.16,100.

Similarly, for maintaining the patent for 20 years after its grant, the earlier cost was Rs.3,84,000/-. Now it has been

versities to file more patents and strengthen the IP, Innovation, Entrepreneurship ecosystem in the Universities’. He further added that the reduction in patent filing and maintenance cost is a great boon for the financially weak Universities and a golden opportunity for them to file more patents.

## India moves up in Global Innovation Index

VIS News Service

**I**ndia has climbed 2 spots and has been ranked 46<sup>th</sup> by the World Intellectual Property Organization in the Global Innovation Index 2021 rankings. India has been on a rising trajectory, over the past several years in the Global Innovation Index (GII), from



precedented crisis created by the pandemic, and will be pivotal in driving the country’s resilience and self-reliance, as enshrined in the Prime Ministers’ clarion call

of 81 in 2015 to 46 in 2021. Innovation has been at the forefront of our battle against the un-

on Atma Nirbhar Bharat, stated a release from Ministry of Commerce.

## NRDC Vizag holds roundtable emphasising role of IPRs

VIS News Service

**I**n order to create awareness and coordination among relevant stakeholders of IPR, innovation and patenting, NRDC in association with APIS, USPTO and Vizag Industrial Scan recently organized an innovation round table exploring opportunities that can be worked upon among these stakeholders.

The Roundtable Conclave deliberated on some of the key aspects of industry-academia collaborations to promote a vibrant yet conducive ecosystem for innovation.

‘Such collaborations deliver far reaching and enduring socio-economic impact. There is a need to understand the importance of IP and innovation management in global equilibrium by academics, indus-

tries, scientists, engineers, technologists, researchers, and governments’ said NRDC’s **Dr BK Sahu**.

Emphasising on the crucial role of IPR in today’s day and age he said ‘It is high time to understand R & D, skill and protection, management and commercialization of IPRs. It is to bring all stakeholders on one platform to share their experiences and exchange views on developing a strong and vibrant innovation eco-system’.

Speaking at the roundtable special invitee **Mr**

**John Cabeca**, United States Intellectual Property counsellor for South Asia reiterated the importance of IPRs. ‘We need to increase awareness of IPRs here’ said Mr Cabeca. He stated that there is an imminent need to foster innovation in schools here and also highlighted the importance of having a trade secret protection. ‘We need to have a system here for this’ said Mr Cabeca.

**Mr Anil Kumar Tentu**, CEO, APITA highlighted the various training programs and collaborations APITA is undertaking in training a plethora of students in core IT technologies and making them job ready.

Similarly **Ms Keerthana G** Joint Director, Entrepreneurship development at APIS highlighted the significance for IPRs for startups. ‘IPR plays a very important role in startups and startups need to be aware of this’ said Ms Keerthana.

**Ms Hima Bindu**, MD, Novel Patent Services called for senior leadership in companies to be more aware of IPRs and advocated for them to look at this as an opportunity. ‘Top management in companies need to be educated on IPRs’ said Ms Bindu.

Many other esteemed speakers and leaders from both industry and academia participated in the roundtable and provided valuable feedback on nurturing a better IPR ecosystem in this region.





# Infra & right policies to spur Growth: CM

*CM lauds Industries Minister Goutham Reddy for being proactive*

VIS News Service

Chief Minister Mr Jagan Mohan Reddy minced no words

are the cornerstone for industrial development and growth' said the CM addressing 'Vanijya

development. 'We are the only state in the country that will have 3 industrial corridors.

Infrastructure facilities like Power, water, CETPs, STPs etc.

'I am tagging my name to Kadapa so there will be results' said the CM. He also spoke on the EMC cluster which is coming up with an investment of Rs 800 crs. Mr Reddy spoke on the 3 MTPA green field steel plant in Kadapa

Citing Availability of gas as a vital energy source he said that AP along with GAIL is developing gas distribution network to secure availability of gas for industry and otherwise.

**Addressing the skill gap**

To reduce the skill gap shortage and to make job seekers readily employable the state is working on establishing skill colleges in each parliamentary

## CM lays out AP's Industrial Report Card

Stating that the last two years have been extremely difficult for all, the CM cited that AP's GSDP contraction was only 2.58% compared to the national contraction of 7.3%

**AP In last two years:**

- ✓ 16, 311 MSMEs established
- ✓ Investment Rs 5204 crs
- ✓ Generating Employment >1lakh

**Large & Mega Industries:**

- ✓ 68 large Industries commenced production
- ✓ Investment of Rs 30, 175 crs
- ✓ Employment over 46000 people

**AP In last ONE year:**

- ✓ 10 mega projects approved
- ✓ Investment intent of Rs.26391 crs
- ✓ Employment potential 55000 people

constituency.

'These skill colleges will help in polishing skills

and gear them more towards job readiness' said the CM.



*Our Industries minister Mr Goutham Reddy is one of the very few ministers who is very very proactive when it comes to trade.*

**Mr. Jagan Mohan Reddy**  
Chief Minister

in letting investors know that his intent for industrial development in the state hinges on two broad parameters i.e. having the right infrastructure and enabling policies.

'Right Infrastructure and enabling policies are very important and infact

Utsavam – organized at the state level commemorating "Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav".

From skill universities to ports and shipping to industrial corridors to Energy the CM laid out his government's agenda for aggrandizing the state's economic and industrial

These corridors will accelerate economic growth and industrialization in a big way' said the CM.

**Industrial Hub in Kopparthi**

Talking on the Mega industrial hub in Kopparthi multi product industrial park he said that it will be equipped with world class

## VSEZ Chemical Sector up 202%

VIS News Service

VSEZ Development Commissioner Mr. A R M Reddy, IFS recently visited the SEZ of Deccan Fine Chemicals (India) Ltd in Visakhapatnam district.

It was informed that M/s. Deccan Fine Chemical SEZ at Tuni (2021-22 up to 30.6.2021) has achieved exports of Rs 50.93 cr. with an investment of Rs 1164.43 cr. Mr. A R M Reddy appreciated the role of chemical sector in VSEZ which has shown

a Growth of 202 % in first quarter this year compared to last year similar period by achieving exports to the



21. The main countries of export from the SEZ of chemicals is to USA, Europe, Japan and South America.

Mr. A R M Reddy also inaugurated a Customs room built in the premises of the SEZ, Deccan Fine Chemicals and also planted trees. He visited the common facilities built by the SEZ Developer and Manufacturing facilities of SEZ Unit. The Directors of Deccan Fine Chemicals, Mr. KVP Raju and Mr. D V S Narayana Raju accompanied the Development Commissioner during his visit. "

## Lee Pharma exports touch Rs.55 Crores

VIS News Service

Pharmaceutical company located in VSEZ, Lee pharma Manufacturer of several intermediate chemicals, Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients & Semi-finished Dosage Forms (Pellets & Granules) Lee pharma has for the current year already seen its exports touched Rs 55 Cr. The Company saw its exports up 17% in the last year with exports of Rs. 105 Cr.

Mr. A R M Reddy, Development Commissioner of VSEZ recently visited Lee Pharma located in VSEZ at Duvvada and reviewed the performance of the unit vis a vis exports. As per an of-

ficial release from VSEZ M/s. Lee Pharma has 4 units at different locations, in AP & TS including DTA, and achieved pharma production of Rs 400 Cr, while provid-



ing employment to almost 1000 people.

Lee Pharma exports to 25 countries and is the only SEZ unit in Duvvada which provides employment to more than 250 personnel.

The DC appreciated the

role of Lee Pharma in making Fabipiravir a covid drug during the pandemic and also appreciated the efforts to start another production unit inside the Unit for nutraceuticals which will be operational by next year. Amid the covid-19 pandemic the unit also made sanitizers on a large scale with lemon grass.

Mr. A R M Reddy along with the staff of VSEZ and the unit planted saplings in the premises of Lee Pharma. It was informed that the Unit has maintained 30% greenery. The Directors of Lee Pharma Mr. Praveen Reddy and Ms Leela, accompanied the Development Commissioner during his visit to QC and QA labs.

## New Reforms in handling Explosives & Petroleum



VIS News Service

In order to enhance public safety as well as reduce cost of doing business for domestic as well as international investors DPIIT recently implemented reforms to ensure Industrial Safety in critical premises (such as petroleum installations, explosive manufacturing facilities, cylinder filling and storage premises, etc.)

'In this context, the department has worked with the Petroleum and Explosives Safety Organization (PESO), an autonomous body under DPIIT that is charged with designing and implementing policies and standard operating procedures for the manufacturing, storage, transport and use of explosives, petroleum as well as hazardous chemicals' said Ms. Sumita Dawra, Additional

Secretary, DPIIT addressing a press briefing recently.

It was further informed that the Rules pertaining to five major areas namely, Static & Mobile Pressure Vessels (Unfired) [SMPV(U)], Calcium Carbide, Ammonium Nitrate, Gas Cylinders, Petroleum and Explosives were examined, and discussed in detail with relevant stakeholders and representatives including private sec-

### Rules eased for Storage and Transportation

**Ammonium Nitrate:**

- ✓ Ammonium Nitrate received at the ports is now required to be removed / transferred to the nearby storage houses situated 500 m beyond the port area
- ✓ 'No Objection Certificate' from District Authority or Director General of Mine Safety has been reduced from 6 months to 3 months
- ✓ Import of Ammonium Nitrate in bagged form only

Further, the Department is now working on amendments in Explosives Rules in consultation with stakeholders said the release.



# AU a wonderful partner: US Consul



VIS News Service

The third American corner in India recently opened in the city of destiny, Visakhapatnam.

Inaugurated by the chief minister of Andhra Pradesh, **Mr. Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy** he hailed the facility located in Andhra University as a wonderful endeavour which will help bridge the gap between the two cul-

tures.

Speaking at the launch **Mr. Joel Reifman**, the U.S. Consul General in Hyderabad said that this American corner will play a pivotal role in providing young people and particularly women with increased opportunities for education and employment.

The US consul general said that an American Corner is a public gathering

place with programs focusing on English language learning, Stem education, Women's empowerment, American culture while providing latest information on higher education in US.

In addition he said that a wide ranging of electronic, internet based resources and other resources shall be provided free of cost.

Thanking the CM and AU's VC **Prof Prasada Reddy** for their support he said 'We are great full to have such a wonderful partner in Andhra University'.

Commenting on the American corner, Prof Prasada Reddy said 'This is a great boost for the youth of the state to get connected with whatever is happening in the United states in reference to cultural, educational and entrepreneurial activity in America'.

# AP mulls brand ambassador for Lepakshi

VIS News Service

In order to give a fillip to the sales of Handicrafts in this region, Minister for Industries, Handloom and Textiles **Mr. Mekapati Gautam Reddy** suggested that a brand ambassador could



be appointed for promoting Lepakshi Handicrafts.

At a review meeting on the handloom and textile sector the Minister asserted that focus should be laid on branding, promotion and sales of the products. The Minister wanted the officials to ensure delivery of the orders within three days. He further emphasised that more customers should be drawn by enhancing the quality of Etikoppaka and Kondapalli toys.

# At the Secretariat



VIS News Service

Foxconn MD **Mr. Josh Foulger** recently called on Chief Minister **Mr. Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy** and explained about the company's expansion plans.

Mr. Foulger said that Foxconn company located in Sri City was providing employment to 15,000 women and has enhanced produc-

tion by giving necessary training to the employees.

The Chief Minister said that Andhra Pradesh is the best place for investment and assured to extend full support to investors.

IT and Electronics Chief Secretary **Ms. G Jayalakshmi**, YSR EMC CEO **Mr. Nandakishore** were present on the occasion.

# Innovation Challenge

MyGov India, under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), recently launched the Planetarium Innovation Challenge for Indian start-ups and tech entrepreneurs. The challenge aims to bring together the tech firms and Start-ups (based out of India) with the potential to build an indigenous planetariums system software using latest technologies including Augmented Reality (A.R.), Virtual Reality (V.R.) and Merged Reality (M.R.).

# APP to collect housing taxes

VIS News Service

Panchayat Raj and Rural Development Minister **Mr. Peddireddy Ramachandra Reddy** recently launched an online application to collect housing taxes in the rural areas. As per the government the app will enable the bill collectors to collect the tax based on the OTP authentication in rural areas.

# Pradushan Se Azadi



VIS News Service

To commemorate the 75th Anniversary of India's independence under the theme of Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav" a plantation drive was recently conducted by the Income Tax Department Visakhapatnam.

An activity called 'Pradushan Se Azadi' was

conducted in the vacant site owned by the Department at Sagar Nagar, Visakhapatnam wherein **Dr. S.V.S.Prasad**, IRS Chief Commissioner of Income tax, **Mr. M.V.V.Satyanarayana**, Member of Parliament and **Dr. P.V.Sudhakar**, Principal Andhra Medical College planted saplings at the venue.

# HPCL wins 11 PRCI Awards

VIS News Service

HPCL juggernaut rolls on at PRCI Excellence Awards Ceremony, with 11 distinguished awards for excellence in Public Relations & Corporate Communications.



At a function held at Goa on the occasion of PRCI's 15th Global Communication Conclave, these awards were conferred by Minister of Arts & Culture, Goa, **Mr. Govind**

**Gaude** in the presence of popular singer, **Ms. Hema Sardesai** and was received by Head Public Relations & Corporate

Communication, **Mr. Rajeev Goel** with his team. HPCL was presented awards for exceptional work in Annual Report, Covid Management in Public Sector, Corona Awareness Program, Internal Communication Campaign, Social Media usage during Covid-19, Corporate Film, Socially Responsible Campaign, House Journals - English & Hindi, Corporate Event and Government Communication Films.

Communication, **Mr. Rajeev Goel** with his team.

HPCL was presented awards for exceptional work in Annual Report, Covid Management in Pub-

lic Sector, Corona Awareness Program, Internal Communication Campaign, Social Media usage during Covid-19, Corporate Film, Socially Responsible Campaign, House Journals - English & Hindi, Corporate Event and Government Communication Films. Award for Annual Report was specifically presented to HPCL to feature the exceptional conceptualization, composition and presentation that was unmatched.



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# Port of Visakhapatnam

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Offering Services at Global Standards

The port with super cape vessel handling facility

The port with deepest container terminal

State of the Art technology & mechanization

e-port - complete transactions on e-platform

ISPS compliant with CCTV surveillance

Green port which completely operates on Solar Power-10 MW Solar plant

Port with specialised facilities for handling multi commodities - coal, ore, coke, petroleum, chemicals, containers and general cargo

2nd Gateway port to Nepal EXIM cargo

End-to-end mechanised facility for coal, iron ore, alumina and liquid cargo

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End-on Load facility (EOL) for coal and containers that can load a rake in 1-hour

Tailor made service to suit users' requirement



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# VPT: Gateway of Economic Growth

Chavi Kaul

The Indian ports and shipping industry play a vital role in sustaining growth in the country's trade and commerce. Around 95% of India's trading by volume is done through maritime transport. In Nov 2020, the PM, Mr Narendra Modi renamed the Ministry of Shipping as the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways.

The state of Andhra Pradesh which has been bestowed with the second largest coastline in the country plays a paramount role in the shipping and ports sector. Therefore the role of major port Visakhapatnam Port trust is even more magnified keeping in mind its scale and its enormous cargo han-

dling capacity.

Counted among the 12 major ports of the country, Vishakhapatnam port trust has been a pillar of economic growth in this region and been playing a role of a catalyst in the shipping and ports segment. Located between the Chennai and Kolkata Ports

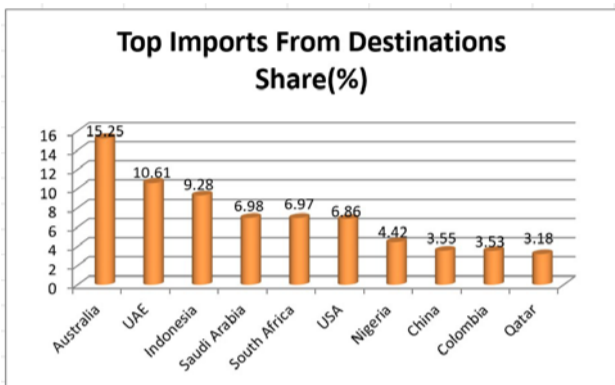


*VPT's ideal position provides it with the advantage of facilitating Act East Policy.*

**Mr. K. Rama Mohana Rao, IAS**  
Chairman, VPT

cellence in the industry category. It is the only Major Port in India to have three international accreditations for Quality, Environment and Occupational health and safety management systems – ISO – 9001-2015, 14001-2015

VPT has been actively conscious towards the protection of the environment and has taken various green initiatives for sustainability like 1.02 lakhs plantation has been done in 2020-21 at a cost of 3.84 Crores. So far 70,000 plantation is completed and the remaining balance amount will be completed by end of July 2022. A high rise wall has been constructed as dust barrier of 7.50m height and 1.70 KM long i.e from Sea Horse Junction to Convent Junction at the city interface



on the Bay of Bengal it is India's third largest state-owned port by volume of cargo handled and largest on the Eastern Coast fa-

Ammonia Nitrate. It is capable of handling all types of cargoes including iron ore, coal, crude oil, petroleum products, LPG, fertilizers, dry cargoes, liquid cargoes and containers. It is the only port in India and first of its kind in South Asia to have a Cavern facility for LPG- a mined rock Cavern at a depth of 200 mtrs below sea level ( capacity 60,000 T ).



at a cost of Rs 9.74 crores. Two truck Mounted Fog Canons have also been deployed to suppress the dust while loading/unloading cargo at berth and stack yards at a capital cost of Rs 0.90 crores.

ously known as the Eastern Gateway of India.

Vishakhapatnam Port Trust provides a great impetus in the economic growth by catering to key industries sectors like steel, power, petroleum and fertilizer industries amongst many others.

The port which started in 1933 has metamorphed into a mega major port with a capacity to handle more than 125 MT per annum with 21 inner harbour berths and 7 outer Harbour berths. Vishakhapatnam port Trust handled its highest tonnage since inception of 72.72 MT during 2019-2020. It recorded 69.84 MT in the fiscal year 2020-2021 and a total of 28.60 MT in August 2021 surpassing last year's figures by 6%.

Some of the ports top break bulk commodities include Steel, Food Grains,

The port of Visakhapatnam has won many accolades in recognition of its services. It is placed in the top slot "Good" category in Port Performance by Dun & Bradstreet as part of study instituted by NITI Aayog engaging 700 respondents pan India, on qualitative and quantitative aspects of business transactions at ports. It is the winner of Greentech Environment Award 2020 for outstanding achievement in the category of Environment protection. It has also won the Green Tech Safety award 2020 for outstanding achievement in Safety Ex-

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## Andhra Pradesh's Container Jewel

### Redefining Container Trade on the East Coast

VIS News Service

Located in the centre of India's East Coast at Visakhapatnam Port, Visakha Container Terminal has become an ideal gateway for container traffic from states of AP, Telangana, Chhattisgarh, Odisha, Maharashtra, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh & West Bengal.

Blessed with a natural depth of 16.5 m alongside the berth and armed with state of the art container handling infrastructure, VCT has evolved as a re-

gional transshipment hub in the Bay of Bengal for Kolkata, Haldia, Paradip, Chittagong and Yangon.

Armed with modern infrastructure including Post Panamax quay cranes, latest Terminal operating software NAVIS N4, 360 reefer plug points, rail siding located inside the terminal, VCT with a present terminal capacity of 0.6 million TEUs will soon be ready to handle 1.3 million TEUs with the terminal ex-

pansion nearing completion the globe to South-East



VCT connects the region and the hinterland across Asia, China & Far East on the East Coast, likewise to

Western Sea Lane there is a direct vessel service to Europe & Middle East along with connectivity into Africa, US regions.

Hence it is no surprise that Visakhapatnam port ranked top in terms of sea foods exports in the country for the last fiscal i.e. FY'21 both in terms of quantity and share. The port commanded a share of 28.22% in value terms (USD) and 18.83% in quantity terms.

Apart from seafoods

some of the other top exports include Ferro alloys, Aluminium, Agri products while some of the top imports include Chemicals, Scrap, Metals & Ores, refractory.

And with well-established rail and road connectivity to the hinterland providing smooth access for cargo movement to local hinterland and ICDs at Nagpur, Hyderabad and Raipur, VCT has also emerged as an alternate gateway for Nepal. Among the overall rail volumes of Nepal imports, Vizag region has handled over 60% of the volumes.





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- Steel

**VPT Top Imports:**

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- Steam Coal
- Fertilizer



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**Website : [www.seawaysindia.com](http://www.seawaysindia.com)**

## Need to Bolster Infrastructure

Vizag Port has been a pillar of economic trade and activity in this region and is a leading maritime gateway for all types of cargo and also attracts cargo from the vast hinterland.

clusively for cargo movement from the port to Sheelanagar and then onward to Ankapalle connecting the national highway.

gates and have proper internal roads for cargo movement.

In addition covered warehouses are needed in the port area and a designated parking area for heavy vehicles is also required.

Going forward the port has to aggrandize its infrastructure in order to become a state of the art port that can showcase its superior infrastructure prowess for others in the segment to follow.



Implementation of the above shall significantly help in effective evacuation of cargo from the port area and shall further enhance the ease of doing business parameter.

In terms of infrastructure the port needs to have a dedicated road ex-

Similarly the port needs to install more harbour mobile cranes (HMCs) along with more weigh bridges, increase number of

**Mr. G Samba Siva Rao**  
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# CoE in Maritime & Shipbuilding

Aditya Sabharwal

Getting skilled manpower for relevant and technical job roles is easily one of the most desired asks of industry and trade. While most academic institutions do a credible job in imparting theoretical knowledge many fall short in giving practical training.

Centre of Excellence in Maritime & Shipbuilding (CEMS) is a skill development initiative undertaken by the Ministry of Shipping along with Siemens Industry Software India Pvt Ltd & Indian Register of Shipping in line with Prime Minister's initiative of Skill India.

This is where institutes like the CEMS i.e. the Centre of Excellence in Maritime and Shipbuilding do a commendable job in getting people acquire practical knowledge and technical know-how.

In an exclusive interview to Vizag Industrial Scan, CEMS, Chief Operating Officer, **Commander Gopikrishna Sivvam IN (Retd.)** talks about CEMS's mandate and how they are bridging the skill gap between industry and academia. Excerpts of the Inter-



view below.  
**Could you please tell us about CEMS Mandate?**

CEMS has been set up to fulfil the Coastal Community Development objective of Sagarmala Project under Ministry of Ports Shipping and waterways. CEMS is mandated

to bridge the skill gap between academic institutions and industry and facilitate transformation of the existing small and medium industries into smart factories

**How is CEMS bridging the gap between Industry and Academia?**

CEMS conducts customised industry relevant and industry certified training programmes. Courses at CEMS are imparted by experts from industry and academic institutions. CEMS students also work on live projects from the industry and they interact extensively with the in-

dustry experts.  
**What are some of the most desired/in demand skills taught at CEMS?**

CEMS has the state of the art labs to impart training in the areas of Design, Mechatronics Process Automation, Product Lifecycle Management, Digital Manufacturing and Robotics.

**What is the minimum level of education required by CEMS?**

CEMS has structured courses for students from ITI, Diploma, B.Tech, M.Tech and Research Scholars.

**What are types of jobs people get recruited**

**for post their training at CEMS?**

Students from CEMS can get job opportunities in industries from Automotive, Shipping, Defence, Aerospace, Oil & Gas and Heavy Engineering sectors.

**What are the various trending skills courses being given by CEMS?**

In addition to the skills required for core industry, CEMS is also an authorised training partner to impart training on IOT, Augmented Reality, AWS, CCNA, RedHAT, Robotic Process Automation and Cyber Security.





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### Location and Connectivity

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- » Proximity to feeder ports like Kolkata, Haldia, Paradip, Chittagong and Yangon enable seamless and cost effective transshipment through Vizag.
- » Established coastal service connecting the West and East coast ports in the country.
- » Already established Main Line Services offer regular and direct connectivity to China, South East Asia, Middle East and Europe.



### Road, Rails Terminal Infrastructure & Connectivity

- » 2 in & 2 out lane for road bound containers with pre-gate facility.
- » Located on the Golden Quadrilateral.
- » Excellent road connection to the National Highway (NH 16), only 12 KMS away.
- » 2 Rail siding inside the terminal.
- » Direct Rail Linkage to Raipur, Nagpur, Jharshuguda, Kalinganagar, Hyderabad & ICD Birgunj (Nepal).



### Automation & Seamless Process

- » Real time auto generated EIR to the lines.
- » E-form 13
- » Electronic Data Interchange Ease of doing business.
- » Port Community System.
- » Online visitor management system.
- » SAP integrated system.



### Marine Infrastructure

- » Natural Depth alongside - 16.5 Metre.
- » Pilot station is only 2 NM from the terminal.
- » No tidal restriction.
- » All weather and round the clock operation.
- » Berth Extension by 395 Metre is being carried out enhancing the capacity to 1.5 Million TEUs.
- » Terminal 2 extension will be operational during 2021.

### VISAKHA CONTAINER TERMINAL PVT LTD

ISO 9001 : 2015, ISO 14001 : 2015, OHSAS 18001 : 2007, ISO 28000 : 2007, ISO/IEC 27001 : 2013 certified,  
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