A Genuine Protest for Just Demands

The day-long fast by Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu in New Delhi to press for the implementation of assurances made in Parliament once again put the spotlight on the injustice done to AP.
Following the day-long protest in Delhi by Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu over the non-fulfilment of AP Reorganisation Act, a team representing various sections of society submitted a memorandum to the President. The inconsistencies in the Re-organisation Act and the actions of the Government of India causing injustice to the State of Andhra Pradesh were detailed in the representation.

The A.P. Reorganisation Act, 2014 contains 14 assurances in the main sections, and 19 institutions and projects were mentioned in Schedule-XIII. The memo said that the Hon’ble President is also aware that the then Hon’ble Prime Minister made six assurances on the floor of the Rajya Sabha on 20th February 2014, including Special Category Status for 5 years to put the State’s finances on a firmer footing.

Though the Government of Andhra Pradesh is in continuous touch with the respective Central Government Ministries, the progress of implementation of the assurances mentioned in the A.P. Reorganisation Act, 2014 as well as the assurances of the then Prime Minister on the floor of the Rajya Sabha is at snail’s pace. Even after 4 ½ years not even one assurance given to the 5 Crore people of Andhra Pradesh at the time of bifurcation of the State is fully implemented.

A proposal seeking a special package of incentives, to promote industrialisation and economic growth was submitted to GoI under Section 94(1) of AP Reorganisation, Act 2014 on June 26, 2014, and till date, no action is taken on this.

“It is submitted with regret that the assurance relating to the establishment of a new Railway Zone in the successor State of Andhra Pradesh remained unfulfilled so far,” the State Government said. If the above assurances and promises are fulfilled in a specific period, there will be scope for the residuary State of Andhra Pradesh to recover from the enormous losses it suffered due to the bifurcation to some extent and leap forward.

The assets of the Schedule-IX institutions are tentatively valued at Rs. 1,58,508 Crore. However, no institution is so far bifurcated due to non-cooperation from the Government of Telangana.

There are 89 Government Companies and Corporations mentioned in Schedule IX which are required to be bifurcated.
CM’s Deeksha in Delhi echoes across the Country
The fast undertaken by CM Chandrababu Naidu in Delhi against the non-fulfilment of promises made to the State attracted parties and leaders across the spectrum in support of the demands of AP.

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It is indeed distressing to note that almost five years have passed since the promises made under the AP Reorganisation Act for Andhra Pradesh have failed to materialise. The benefits were incorporated in the first place due to the unscientific division that had inflicted a severe blow to the fiscal and economic strength of the State. However, help has not come when it is needed the most.

In one more endeavour, the State Government chose to highlight the issue in the country’s Capital New Delhi, with Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu sitting on a day-long fast. It is heartening to note that political leaders and parties across the nation expressed their solidarity in the fight for justice for residual AP.

The memorandum submitted by the CM subsequently to the President of India Ram Nath Kovind pleaded once again for honouring the commitment made in the hallowed portals of the Parliament. As the CM pointed out, "Since the division is forced on the State, there is a duty on the part of the Government of India to regularly review all the above issues for expeditious resolution".

The opportunity cost for AP has been substantial as a result of the non-fulfilment of the provisions of the Act. Despite such apathy, it is commendable that the State made remarkable strides in development. As a report in *Economic Times* said, Andhra has grown faster than Telangana without the promised support and help.

The State leadership's vision and dynamic approach should be credited for overcoming a difficult situation and surging ahead in various sectors of the economy. Even while creating a base for the manufacturing industry, attracting big-ticket investments and focussing on job creation, the Government came up with a series of welfare measures, ensuring a balanced approach to growth. The latest in the series of welfare measures is the decision to extend, under *Annadata Sukhibhava* scheme 2019, an amount of Rs 15,000 to the farmers having land less than 5 acres. This will be in addition to the Rs 6,000 announced by the Central government. This Government was able to do so much despite the severe constraints faced by the State. Had the Centre extended all the help promised in the bifurcation act, the possibilities for the State to bloom in all its glory would have been much more. The people can see who faltered on the promises, and who delivered them.

May the leadership that is committed to the all-round growth of the State lead us.
The ‘Dharma Porata Deeksha’ undertaken by Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu in a bid to bring pressure on the Union Government over the promised Special Category Status to Andhra Pradesh received wide support from various political parties across the country. CM Chandrababu, wearing a black shirt, symbolic of the protest, sat on a day-long Deeksha on February 11 at the specially erected stage at Andhra Pradesh Bhavan in New Delhi.

The Chief Minister earlier visited Rajghat and offered prayers at Mahatma Gandhi memorial. From there, he reached AP Bhavan and garlanded the statue of Dr BR Ambedkar before launching his one day fast. Thousands of people including ministers, MLAs, MPs and leaders of various people’s organisations sporting black dresses extended their solidarity to the Chief Minister by participating in the Deeksha. The AP Bhavan was milling with crowds as people including women and children in black robes thronged the area displaying placards demanding special category status to AP.

Addressing the gathering, the Chief Minister expressed regret at the Centre for not fulfilling its commitment in according SCS to AP, as announced by former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh. The people of the State were deeply disappointed by the indifferent attitude in fulfilling the provision of the AP Bifurcation Act, he said.

National Leaders throng AP Bhavan

The Dharma Porata Deeksha launched by AP Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu seeking special category status to AP attracted support from several opposition leaders and Chief Ministers. More than twenty leaders reached the Dharma Porata Deeksha and expressed solidarity for the justified demand of special category status to AP. AICC president Rahul Gandhi visited the venue and said that the Prime Minister should honour the bifurcation assurances given during parliament session. Addressing the gathering, former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh said the present government has the responsibility to fulfil the decisions taken during the last Parliament session. He said all parties extended support to give special category status to AP during State bifurcation.

Former Union Minister Jayaram Ramesh said the Centre failed in honouring the promises made to the State. Extending support to AP, Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal said that the Centre was trying to encroach upon powers of the States. West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Bannerjee extended her solidarity to the Deeksha by making a call to CM. The delegate from West Bengal, Derick O Brien, visited the venue to extend his support. Former Chief Minister Mulayam Singh Yadav said that it was the responsibility of Central government to fulfil the promise made to AP on special category status. He said that his party would extend support for the justified demand of AP. Sharad Pawar of NCP said that the Central Government should fulfill the demands of AP. Former Chief Minister Farooq Abdullah, former Union Minister Gulam Nabi Azad, former CM of Arunachal Pradesh Apang were among those who visited the Deeksha venue and extended their support.

The Chief Minister ended his fast with water offered by former PM Deve Gowda. Delivering his concluding remarks at the end of fast, the Chief Minister said the Centre still had an opportunity to fulfil the 18 State bifurcation assurances and special category status to AP. Later, a memorandum was submitted to the President of India, seeking special category status to AP and implementation of other provisions in the AP Reorganisation Act along with assurances made on the floor of Rajya Sabha.

The fast undertaken by CM Chandrababu Naidu in Delhi against the non-fulfilment of promises made to the State attracted parties and leaders across the spectrum in support of the demands of AP.
The Andhra Pradesh Assembly passed the bills for 5% reservation each for the Kapus (Kapus, Telaga, Ontari and Balija sub-castes) and other Economically Weaker Sections (EWS) in the general category consequent to the 103rd amendment to the Constitution. The Bills are the A.P. Economically Weaker Sections of Citizens (Reservation of Seats in Educational Institutions and of Appointments or Posts in the Public Services under the State for Kapus) Bill, 2019 and the A.P. Economically Weaker Sections (EWS) other than Kapus (Reservation of Seats in Educational Institutions and of Appointments or Posts in Public Services under the State) Bill, 2019. The Assembly also passed the A.P. Backward Classes Sub-Plan (Planning, Allocation and Utilisation of Financial Resources) Bill, 2019 (BC Sub-Plan) after brief debate on its modalities.

The EWS reservation bill would now be sent to the Governor, who would refer it to the Central government for inclusion in the Schedule IX of the Constitution as the total reservations for the Backward Classes (BCs), the Scheduled Castes (SCs) and the Scheduled Tribes (STs) had crossed the cap of 50% stipulated by the Supreme Court and reached 55%.

With the Assembly passing the legislation, the Kapu, Telaga, Balija andOntari communities would get the quota under the new category ‘F’ in government jobs and seats in educational institutions, which would take the total reservation for six groups of the BCs to 34% (A-7%, B-10%, C-1%, D-7%, E-4% and F-5%). The SCs and the STs have 15% and 6% reservations respectively.

The bill specifically mentioned that the quota was confined to admission to educational institutions and in the State services but that it should not be construed as giving reservation in political positions or posts.

The Chief Minister said the passage of the Bill was in fulfilment of the Telugu Desam Party (TDP)’s promise to recognise the Kapus as Backward Classes (BCs) and pointed out that it was one of the main items in the party’s 2014 election manifesto.

He asserted that the entitlement of the existing communities within the BCs would not be affected as a separate category had been created for the Kapus and three other sub-castes. Anybody left out of the Pulse Survey could get themselves registered with the department concerned even now to avail themselves of the benefit. He said the BC Commission headed by Justice K.L. Manjunath (re-constituted on January 18, 2016) took a long time to submit its report as the matter dealt by it was a serious one that could not be rushed through due to the risk of courts striking it down.

The CM said the Commission had recommended 4% to 5% quota for the Kapus on the basis of the data provided by the government from the Pulse Survey and the feedback received by it at public hearings conducted in all 13 districts. He said the Kapu reservation issue had a historical background dating back to the British regime, under which the Kapus were considered BCs but were deleted from that list when Neelam Sanjeeva Reddy was the Chief Minister.

Several committees had since been set up, to no avail, as the Congress party lacked the political will to keep its word to alleviate the plight of the Kapus by giving them the reservation, he added.
Andhra Pradesh created a record by inaugurating 4 lakh houses on a single day. Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu led the programme with the formal inauguration of 4,800 homes built in Nellore under the NTR Housing Scheme for Rs 356 Crore. The CM promised to construct houses for all on a saturation basis within a year. Ministers and legislators attended the house warming ceremonies in their respective constituencies.

The State Government had earlier inaugurated three lakh houses in a day in 2018 and one lakh houses in a day in 2017.

Addressing a public meeting on occasion, the CM said no other State in the country could claim such an achievement. With this, 11 lakh houses had been constructed for the poor. Another six lakh would be completed in the next two to three months, said the Chief Minister, who presented clothes to the beneficiaries following the Telugu tradition to mark the joyous occasion.

The CM said the State government is planning to provide lift facility to multi-storeyed buildings being constructed under the NTR Housing project. It is an environment-friendly housing project as it housed steel and concrete-only houses with Sal wood main doors and sliding window doors using the Monolithic Shear Wall technology.

He said the Government constructed the houses with the latest technology available in the country. Several other states were now planning to replicate the model in Andhra Pradesh, having observed the quality of the construction and the amenities provided. Even the Centre appreciated the State Government’s efforts in this regard. Houses are being constructed on par with the gated community with roads, parks, gym facility, underground drainage, commercial space, community hall, school and primary health centre in the housing complex. Even the revenue-surplus Telangana and other States did not dare to go for construction of houses on such a large scale, he said.

The beneficiaries waved “Thank you CM” placard as they were floored by the amenities provided in the community. Appreciating the quality construction, the CM said he felt like taking a flat in one of the G plus three apartment complexes, located close to the picturesque Penna river.

The CM said Nellore would get sufficient water after the interlinking of Godavari and Penna rivers. The CM said Nellore would get sufficient water after the interlinking of Godavari and Penna rivers. Agriculture Minister Somireddy Chandramohan Reddy said the Chief Minister has provided housing to the poor without any publicity. The Government constructed 30,205 houses in the district so far.

Municipal Administration Minister P Narayana said the Chief Minister had sanctioned 30 lakh houses in the State. About 11,21,639 houses are being constructed under the Ministry of Urban Development and Municipal Administration limits, while 48,000 homes were approved to Nellore. Finance Minister Y. Ramakrishnudu in his budget speech in Assembly last week had said the unit cost in the NTR Housing was enhanced to Rs 3.5 lakh for urban areas and Rs 2 lakh in rural areas.

“We are constructing 80 parks in Nellore. Construction of Santhapeta and Moolapeta markets would be completed soon. The Government has sanctioned Rs 5,227 Crore to Nellore for various developmental works. Works of Nellore Necklace Road would be completed on February 20,” Minister Narayana announced. Nellore citizens would get mineral water at Rs 2 per litre soon, and the works for the projects were almost over, he said.
The City of Destiny is racing on the track to development. Foundation stones were laid for Bhogapuram International Airport, while Millennium Tower was inaugurated. Work on the Adani Data Centre Park in Kapuluppada IT Park was also launched.

The much-awaited Bhogapuram Airport near Visakhapatnam will kick start construction works soon. Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu laid its foundation stone on February 14. The airport will be developed on 2,703 acres under the PPP (Public-Private Partnership) mode and will be integrated with Aerocity, a Maintenance, Repair, and Overhaul (MRO) facility, and an Aviation Academy. The current Visakhapatnam airport belongs to the Indian Navy.

Speaking at the event, the CM said that the new Bhogapuram Airport, by catering to the needs of the north-coastal districts, would help in boosting the economic development in the districts of Visakhapatnam and Vizianagaram. The Chief Minister also pointed out that air-connectivity plays a key role in the growth of the IT and tourism sectors of a region.

February also saw another important milestone added to the road to development of Vizag. Chief Minister inaugurated the 10-floor Tower-1 of the Millennium Tower at Rushikonda in the city. The tower built by Andhra Pradesh Industrial Development Corporation at the cost of Rs. 145 Crore will be home to blockchain and cloud-based companies. This is one of the major projects contemplated by the government to promote Visakhapatnam as a destination for investment in IT and ITES.

The Tower-1 was built in an area of four acres with an investment of Rs 145 Crore. It has a built-up space of two lakh sqft and 1.5 lakh sqft for parking. Four floors with an area of one lakh square ft of built-up space have been allotted to Conduent, a global leader in digital interactions. Conduent has been operating in two rented buildings at the Madhurawada IT Special Economic Zone for nearly one year. Construction of another tower with one lakh sqft is under progress at the cost of Rs 55 Crore. It is likely to be ready by September.

Conduent expects to provide 5,000 jobs in two years to serve its global clients through its Indian arm in the spheres of technology, transportation, healthcare, public safety, HR, process automation and operational excellence. It focuses on diversified business process services with thrust on transaction processing, automation and analytics.

The CM also laid the foundation stone for Adani Data Centre Park in Kapuluppada IT Park. The Rs 70,000 Crore project will position AP as a data centre hub for the country and Southeast Asia. It will also be integrated with a cable landing station providing global connectivity.
Resolving issues through participatory approach under grievance redressal Platforms of Janmabhoomi, Navanirman Deeksha and Grama Darshini has been the hallmark of our governance. Securing 615 National and International awards by the State are the testimony of our government’s performance. We will continue to prove our performance even more effectively in the days to come.

Real-Time Governance
The State of A.P. has always been a forerunner in terms of leveraging Technology for Development. Given the stage at which the State is in with its unique challenges post-bifurcation, it is essential for the Government to formulate and implement a strategy that not only builds a technology framework to match the global trends but also foster an ecosystem for public service delivery for empowerment of citizens with the ultimate aim of achieving good governance through technology.

In this context, the Department of Real-Time Governance (RTG) has been incorporated by Govt. of Andhra Pradesh to ensure agile and responsive means of governance and public service delivery to citizens. Real-Time Governance is the first of its kind initiative by Government to enable positive ‘disruptive’ changes in Governance, Public Administration & Management by leveraging the tools of e-Governance, technology and electronic communication.

Real-Time Governance Society (RTGS) started functioning from 26th Nov 2017 with a motto of People First to ensure 80% satisfaction of citizens in overall governance and the Service delivery of the schemes. Parishkara Vedika - 1100: It is an integrated Call centre platform with a capacity of 15 lakh calls/day manned by 2000+ operators (24x7). Citizens can call toll free number 1100 from the click of their phone and register their grievances. These grievances get automatically routed till the last mile government functionary for necessary redressal.

All complaints from a dog menace to issues in drinking water to unavailability of quality seeds to request for a new ration card/pension, etc. can be done with a simple phone call to the toll-free number 1100.

Parishkara Vedika and Grievances Redressal
Real-Time Governance has established a first of its kind Parishkara Vedika:1100 - a grievance redressal call centre and communication platform of Govt. of Andhra Pradesh. The Parishkara Vedika has 750 desks manned by 2000 personnel round the clock in three shifts. With the establishment of Parishkara Vedika, citizens in Andhra Pradesh can simply dial 1100 to register any kind of grievance under the sun. The Parishkara Vedika has a calling capacity to make 30 lakhs calls/per day including IVRS calls.

All complaints from a dog menace to issues in drinking water to unavailability of quality seeds to request for a new ration card/pension, etc. can be done with a simple phone call to the toll-free number 1100.

All the grievances received are classified into 4 broad categories
- Individual Grievance - where the grievance pertains to a particular individual who has made the complaint. E.g., A person complaining about power supply in his home.
Community Grievance - where citizens complain about a persisting issue related to his/her /their village or locality or community. Eg. Lack of roads to his village, complaining about poor health services in the local primary health care centre, etc

Financial Grievances - where a citizen complains or request for a service where there are financial implications. E.g.: A citizen asking for a new house under housing scheme, or a ration card, as in the given two cases, the local authority needs clearance from the government to sanction funds for the grievances.

Non-Financial grievances - where a citizen complains about a service for which there is no financial implication. Eg. A citizen complaining to repair the sewage drain in his street. This will not require any new fund sanction as funds would have already allocated to local panchayat or municipal authorities to clean/repair or for maintenance of the drains.

All the grievances received above are automatically routed to the respective last mile functionary concerned and redressal done for the grievances. Each concerned authority shall have to redress the grievance within the stipulated time (SLA - Service Level Agreement) and close the grievances.

360% Approach: The call centre after redressal of a grievance should call back the respective citizen and collect feedback on the quality of redressal if he were satisfied. Only then a grievance is treated as closed. RTGS through its team of subject matter experts (SMEs) and strategy leaders effectively monitors the pending complaints of all departments at various levels and follows up for their instant action. There are 24 avenues through which a citizen in Andhra Pradesh can register his complaint with the government. As like 1100 phone call, citizens can register grievances via various mobile, web applications and social media platforms.

Mobile & Web-based Applications

There are many Apps launched by RTG, with the objective of active engagement of citizens - each aiming to provide a platform for two way communication between the Citizen and the Government.

These Apps include AP CM Connect Card in Kaizala, RTGS Website (Meekosam), People First Citizen App, NCBN App, App for Sand-reaches, App for reporting Illicit liquor shops, Event-Specific Apps for Nava Nirmana Deeksha, Janma Bhoomi, Aada Biddaku Rakshaga Kaduludam, Housing, Palle Nidra.

The unique features of all the Apps mentioned above include a feature of 2-way communication, grievance reporting, suggestions, feedback to Hon’ble CM, Reporting Corruption, Citizen Satisfaction Survey and uploading content including videos and pictures. Further, integration of these Apps with ‘Parishkara Vedika’ Communication Center provides scope for 360-degree feedback mechanism.

Real-Time Governance has received 1,72,11,367 Crore grievances till the date, of which 1,41,92,898 cases have been resolved.

Satisfaction Surveys

Govt. of Andhra Pradesh through Real-Time Governance Society collects real-time feedback from citizens/ beneficiaries on the quality of the services/ benefits they have availed. RTGS does satisfaction surveys with recipients to assess satisfaction in the implementation of a program/ scheme.

RTGS from its Parishkara Vedika calls the beneficiaries of different schemes and collects their feedback. A specific questionnaire is devised for a particular scheme as per the administrative guidelines and deliverables of the program in consultation with the respective government. The survey is recorded in an IVRS (Interactive Voice Response System) format and dialled to the individual beneficiaries. Based on the specific feedback provided by the recipients, a program’s satisfaction is evaluated. Beneficiaries, a program’s satisfaction is evaluated.

Unlike other surveys where a sample is drawn for evaluation, RTGS undertakes satisfaction surveys with the entire universe of beneficiaries. As aforementioned, Parishkara Vedika has a calling capacity of 3 million or 30 lakhs calls per day. Satisfaction surveys are being conducted for nearly 120 schemes of which above 37 are flagship programs of the govt. of Andhra Pradesh. This activity of collecting citizens feedback in the implementation of the program started with the inception of Real-Time Governance in the last 1 year. The questionnaire is devised in a simple format understandable to any ordinary citizen in Telugu. Significant efforts are made at all levels of administration from the village until the head of the department/Secretary in improving the satisfaction rates expressed by the citizens. This is a first of its kind initiative by any government where a government calls its citizens and collects real-time feedback in the implementation of the schemes.

There has been a significant improvement in satisfaction expressed by the citizens. For example, programs like Public Distribution System (PDS) or the food ration has improved remarkably by 13% from 67% to 80.5% and social security pension by 5% from 79% to 84 % respectively. Both are essential public welfare programs in the State counting among the top 5 of all flagship schemes. PDS program has a beneficiary base of 3.6 Crore units and Social security pensions NTR Bharosa has around 50 lakh beneficiaries. Therefore it is remarkable to note that both the above programs have a citizen satisfaction of > 80%.

Likewise, the health services like NTR Vydya Seva, the universal health coverage scheme of Govt. of Andhra Pradesh has the satisfaction of 90% remaining stable for the last 1 year. Similarly, the urban health wellness program through urban
primary health care centres (eUPHCs) Mukhyamantri Arogya Kendralu has remarkably improved by 15% from 62% to 77% in the last 1 year. Similarly the mobile medical services in rural areas, the Chandranna Sanchara Chikitsa has a satisfaction rate of >75%

As can be observed, the government is putting significant improving the services of various flagship programs in agriculture, power supply, municipal administration, women and child welfare, housing and other sectors. Majority of the flagship schemes have a citizen satisfaction of more than 80%. It is mandated by the Hon'ble Chief Minister and the Govt. of Andhra Pradesh that the satisfaction rate shall be above 80%.

RTGS organises the satisfaction surveys regularly, and feedback from citizens are shared to the Chief Minister's Office and respective Secretaries/HoDs of the departments. Based on the input, the departments shall regularly review the feedback and undertake corrective measures to improve citizen satisfaction in the delivery of services. The entire workflows in terms of data capturing, mapping to all administrative units viz., the district, division, mandal or villages etc. for the satisfaction surveys have been automated. Hence it is possible to derive a satisfaction rate till a village level for a given program.

The satisfaction rates of all programs are reviewed by the Hon'ble Chief Minister himself along with his Council of Ministers during the Secretaries Conference every fortnight.

People Hub

Andhra Pradesh Praja Sadhikara Survey is a dynamic survey of all households, aimed to capture socio-economic demographic information of citizens in digital form, with online validations. The field surveyors can enter the data by accessing the relevant portal through a connected tablet so that the data validations happen online and the scope for mistakes is , and the consolidation and analysis of data can be completed within 2 weeks of the completion of field survey.

The objectives of the proposed Smart Pulse Survey are summarized below

- Completing the seeding of Aadhaar in the databases of identified developmental
- Ensuring the correctness of the data already seeded with Aadhaar;
- Ensuring that the demographic data of any person is identical in the SRDH
- Eliminating duplicate records;
- Deleting the records of persons who have expired;
- Creating a self-consistent set of records in the form of AP State Socio-Economic and Welfare departments; database and the departmental database; Database.

The primary purpose of the Policy is to create the People Hub as a Single Source of Truth. This can't be achieved unless all the relevant databases mentioned earlier are made to converge and interoperate seamlessly, within a short period to ensure synchronisation of the various datasets. The Smart Pulse Survey precisely attempts to do this.

Against the above background, the Smart Pulse Survey can be defined as a coordinated and synchronised effort at orientation, integration and convergence of the multiple databases relating to socio-economic data of the people with the SRDH database. The government of Andhra Pradesh has adopted Aadhaar as one of the most critical datasets to be used in the implementation of the development and welfare programs.

The following facts bear this out

- Aadhaar enrolment by UIDAI has crossed 98% of the residents of the State.
- A Policy titled “Policy on Unique Identification of Residents of AP” has been approved by the Cabinet and notified in G O Ms 16, ITE&C Department dated 29/07/2015.
- Seeding of Aadhaar in the databases of various departments increased to 80-95%.
- Aadhaar has been successfully used in various programs like the Social Welfare Pensions, Scholarships, Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme and Debt Relief to farmers.
- ITE&C Department is in the process of implementing a comprehensive application, conforming to global standards, to create the People Hub, to ensure the purity, integrity, reliability, security, privacy and availability of the people database.
- The AP State Enterprise Architecture, named "e-Pragati", designed by the ITE&C Department, gives a pivotal place to Aadhaar-based identification of persons.

The policy mentioned above as well as the e-Pragati Architecture mentioned above, enjoin creation of the People Hub as a Single Source of Truth of core data on the residents of the State, by undertaking a Smart Pulse Survey.

People’s Hub database consists of 2 principal portions - the demographic data contained in the SRDH and the Socio-economic data provided in the various databases created by the line departments, as part of implementing their developmental and welfare programs. While the demographic data contained in the SRDH is nearly accurate and highly reliable, the departmental databases are being aligned and synchronised with the SRDH data mandating an immense need to achieve the convergence of these various databases - for delivering data-driven governance.

Andhra Pradesh has already created a State Resident Databh (SRDH) in association with the UIDAI. The SRDH mirrors the Aadhaar data relating to AP from the Data Repository of UIDAI in Bangalore/ Manesar. The data is updated at a defined
periodicity. The Basic Data on any resident that Aadhaar has, contains the fields Unique Aadhaar Number, Name, C/o Name, Date of Birth or Year of Birth, Gender, Address, Postal PIN code, Photo, Biometric data (10 fingerprints + Iris). While UIDAI has shared the demographic data elements with SRDH, the biometric data is available for a case-to-case online biometric authentication.

Events and Incidents Monitoring
RTGS as part of its events and incidents monitoring activity helps in quick resolution of an event or an incident in any part of the State. RTG constantly monitors all major incidents in the State and responds with institutional supports in case of distress or an emergency situation. Supports services, communication, expert solutions, etc. are immediately provided so that the incident is resolved swiftly.

RTG played a vital role in the Vadapalli boat capsize incident in River Godavari near Polavaram during May 2018. RTGS was the first to alert the State administration and established communications with the district units providing all support to the local administration from the headquarters. RTGS liaised with the Indian Navy immediately after the incident and brought their bringing Naval deep diving teams and helicopters. The Naval teams greatly helped in quickly finding the missing bodies.

The alert management system continually monitors all print, electronic and digital media for any untoward incident in the State.

Projects Monitoring
RTG as part of the projects monitoring and surveillance project is installing CCTV cams in important high-end infrastructure projects of the State like Polavaram, important highway projects, flyovers, etc. RTG has established 110 cams in the project site of Polavaram in important structures like the spillway, spill channel, batching plants, etc. This shall help in monitoring the progress of the construction in real time enabling quick and effective implementation without delays.

Similarly, 20,000 CCTV cams are installed across the State of Andhra Pradesh in important junctions of cities, towns, municipalities up to the level of mandal headquarters as part of traffic management, Crowd control, incidents monitoring, virtual inspections, etc.

RTGS-AWARE (AP Weather Forecasting and Early Disaster Warning):
Govt. of Andhra Pradesh through RTGS has entered into a collaboration with Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) to provide in house meteorological services to Govt. of Andhra Pradesh like weather forecasting, nowcasting, agro-advisories, sea-State forecasting, extreme weather events like thunderbolts, lightning, cyclones monitoring, etc. RTGS-AWARE uses advanced ensemble modelling for weather forecasting.

All extreme weather events that may occur in the State are forecast, and the advisories and communication are immediately sent by RTGS to respective clientele viz., district, mandal and village level administrations, citizens, farmers, fishermen, etc.

- **Agro-advisories**: are sent bi-weekly to all the agricultural functionaries in the State till the village level - region and crop wise.
- **Rough Sea Alerts**: are sent to fisherman 48 hours or 72 hours prior to the occurrence to the fisheries department, district administration and individual fishermen. RTGS uses the People Hub databases in taking contact details of fishermen and IVRS call alerts are sent advising them not to venture into the sea.
- **Thunderbolts/Lightning**: An advanced weather modelling application is put in use for prediction of lightning and thundershowers wherein the system shall be able to detect the occurrence of a lightning event 40 minutes before the fall. During such events, RTGS through the Parishikara Vedika platform blasts IVRS calls to the local citizens, farmers, agricultural labourers, and important village functionaries like Panchayat secretary, VRO, Sarpanch of the village/mandal where lightning is about to happen to alert them to stay inside safe and secure buildings.
- **Cyclones/Depressions**: Events like Cyclones and Depressions are also forecast and their track monitored by RTGS AWARE and appropriate dissemination, alerts are sent to local administration.

RTGS was largely responsible for successfully alerting the district administrations of Srikakulam and East Godavari during the Cyclones Titli and Phethai respectively.

**Cyclone Titli**
The Aware team of RTGS correctly predicted the course of Cyclone Titli accurately predicting its landfall in the coast of Srikakulam above Kalingapatnam. Cyclone Titli made its landfall in Pallesarathi village of Vajrapukothuru mandal in the intervening night of Oct 10-11, 2018. The precise prediction helped in communicating the local agencies to evacuate the coastal population to safe places in time and taking other preparatory measures. Likewise, communication was sent to fishermen to remain off from the sea for fishing due to the cyclone and rough sea. All these measures by RTGS ensured that the number of causalities due to cyclone Titli is meagre. There were only 9 deaths in Andhra Pradesh in Srikakulam during the storm, whereas Titli claimed more than 60 lives in Odisha.

**Cyclone Phethai**
Similarly, from the experience of Cyclone Titli, RTGS was able
to deftly handle Cyclone Phethai, which hit central coastal Andhra Pradesh near Kakinada on 17 Dec 2018. RTGS monitored the entire track of Cyclone Phethai right from its inception from a low-pressure system 1400 south-east of Bay of Bengal to the time it formed into a depression, deep depression and severe cyclone until it made landfall off AP Coast between Kakinada and Yanam.

- **Speeding up Paddy Harvest**: Understanding the movement of the cyclone, RTGS alerted the rural departments in central districts especially Guntur, Krishna, East and West Godavari and up to Visakhapatnam to further advise farmers to quickly complete harvesting of their standing crops. This ensured more than 30,000 hectares of paddy crops were saved from lodging and inundation due to the cyclone.

- **Facilitating harvest**: Towards facilitating a quicker harvest, RTGS coordinated with agricultural dept. and the transport dept. to ensure paddy harvesters are available to all the farmers of these areas. More than 200 harvesters were uberized in these districts and ensured harvesting.

- **Protection for grain - Tarpaulins**: Wherever the paddy was harvested, and paddy grain was dried, RTGS facilitated distribution of tarpaulin sheets to farmers to insulate their grains from rains and heavy winds. Nearly 5250 tarpaulin sheets were distributed in central districts from 3 days before the cyclone. Farmers were advised to call 1100 if they require tarpaulins and the information and location of farmers whoever called 1100 was immediately intimated to the agricultural department.

- **Speeding up procurement**: Considering the harvest seasons, RTGS duly informed the civil supplies department about the impending cyclone and requested to speed up paddy procurement. Civil Supplies Dept. promptly followed the advisory and ensured farmers faced no issues in quickly selling the paddy which might have otherwise affected by cyclone due to lack of storage. The timings of procurement of paddy were extended 24x7 in the days before the cyclone. Herein RTGS helped farmers to escalate to us if any issues of procurement which was informed to the department.

- **Transport/Vehicular movement Regulation**: Considering the severity of the cyclone, RTGS alerted the traffic, roads and transport authorities to identify vulnerable routes in the highways, important routes near the coast, etc. and organized vehicular movement especially trucks, containers, public transport like buses, autos as cyclone and massive wind speed can cause the vehicles to overturn. Likewise, people of these areas were also advised not to move outside during the day of landfall. RTGS took the vehicle registration database from the transport department and issued advisories to the 42,000 vehicle owners about the cyclone through IVRS calls.

- **Surveillance**: Surveillance cameras were positioned among these above vulnerable routes for monitoring vehicles movement, wind and rainfall monitoring, for taking necessary precautionary measures.

- **Fishermen**: Fishermen were alerted 1 week before the landfall not to venture into the sea considering a forecast of rough sea and high tidal waves. There was not even a single casualty of fishermen during the cyclone. RTGS alerted the fisheries department, local administrations, local communities, village functionaries of the impending storm through IVRS calls advising them to stay off the sea. Based on RTGS recommendation, Communication was also sent to fishermen who went into the sea to come back. Nearly 350 vessels were made to go back before the cyclone. There was a case of 4 boats that went deep into the sea that could not be communicated using mobile phones. RTGS utilised the FM radio and sent advisories about these 4 vessels naming their villages asking them to immediately return back. RTGS also pressed helicopter operations taking the support of Navy to identify 4 vessels carrying 26 fishermen that drifted off from East Godavari. Here too, no casualties were reported.

- **Advisories to Citizens**: Advisories were also sent to the citizens of vulnerable mandals along the coast where the cyclone was predicted to make the landfall.

- **Compensation directly to bank accounts**: RTGS also facilitated the seamless transfer of compensation of cyclone relief to the affected farmers of agriculture, horticulture, farmers who lost cattle, sheep, poultry, fishermen whose boats were damaged, lost their nets, etc., people whose houses got destroyed, etc. All the information of the victims were uploaded in a mobile application developed by RTGS along with their bank account details. RTGS enabled direct benefit transfer of Rs.530 Crore, directly to the respective bank accounts of the victims, instantaneously within 3 weeks from the date of landfall of cyclone Titli.

Thus through above, various measures, RTG is enabling the government to institutionalise good governance practices and provide last mile service delivery to the citizens in the most efficient way, in real time.

**Public Service delivery through ITE & C**

The Government soon after State bifurcation has ensured that proper governance systems are in place and AP is one of the few states effectively using the technology for people’s welfare and development.

**Schemes under ITE&C**

- GoAP inaugurated the Andhra Pradesh Cyber Security Operations Centre in April 2018, which is expected to provide long-term online security, credibly deter potential
foes, and keep critical systems defended.

- AP Innovation Society (APIS) was set up, with a mandate to promote innovation with the aim of developing an ecosystem of startups.
- APIS together with Indian Innovators Association organized India International Innovation Fair in Vizag. APIS forged a partnership with The Indus Entrepreneurs (TiE), to start TiE Amaravati Chapter.
- ESD-Mee-Seva

**Roll out of kiosks in gram panchayats (GP)**

Out of the 12,920 GPs in the State, ESD-Meeseva could roll out Meeseva centres in about 3151 GPs as of June 2014. Between June 2014 and December 2018, ESD-Meeseva rolled out GPs in about 9200 GPs, and fast approaching saturation. Meeseva kiosks could not be rolled out in the remaining 3720 GPs due to weak digital connectivity and lack of commercial viability.

**Pending beyond SLA (PBSLA) requests**

An important indicator of government services delivery is the PBSLA metric, which indicates the number of services that could not be closed by the Government functionaries due to various reasons which could be due to procedural, legal, and other constraints. ESD-Meeseva engaged with the line departments and has reduced this metric from about 3,20,000 (in 2014-15) to about 69,000 in December 2018. ESD-Meeseva further aims to reduce the PBSLA to about 5,000 by 31-3-19. The subsidiary performance indicators and the connected achievements are shown in Table 1.

The Mobile MeeSeva App was introduced in 2015, with RAMINFO as the technical partner. The no. of B2C and G2C services extended, the no. of transactions, and the revenues, as of December 2018 are shown in Table 2.

ESD-Meeseva also monitors E-taal (Electronic transactions aggregation and analysis layer), a Government of India portal, meant for the dissemination of e-Transactions statistics of National and State level e-Governance Projects including Mission Mode Projects. It receives transaction statistics from web-based applications periodically on near real-time basis. Andhra Pradesh has been a consistent topper in E-taal as of December 2018 (Table 3).

**Digital Literacy**

ESD-Meeseva is the State implementing agency for PMGDISHA program, which was initiated in the State from 1-4-2016. The aim is to impart digital literacy to 10,00,000 rural illiterate citizens by 31-3-2019 and impart digital literacy to 100,00,000 rural literate citizens by 31-3-2020. The Meeseva centres are registered as training centres for this program.

As on date, about 4,64,000 rural citizens have been trained, and 2,05,525 rural citizens have passed the online test, and have been declared digital literates.

**Way forward**

The Government of Andhra Pradesh (GoAP) has identified IT & Electronics as focus sectors and developed a strong vision to enable the created of 1,00,000 IT jobs and bring in investments worth USD 2 billion. It also envisions to create 2,00,000 the electronics sector and bring in USD 5 billion investments.

**E-PRAGATI**

E-pragati – Core platform: E-Pragati Authority has been created for

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**Table 1: Key Achievements of ESD-Meeseva between 1-6-2014 and 22-12-18**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S.No (1)</th>
<th>Description (2)</th>
<th>As on 22-12-18 (3)</th>
<th>As on 01-06-14 (4)</th>
<th>Achievements of Andhra Pradesh state between 1-6-14 to 22-12-18 (5) = (3)-(4)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Number of Meeseva G2C Services offered</td>
<td>450</td>
<td>197</td>
<td>253</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Number of Meeseva B2C Services offered</td>
<td>236</td>
<td>159</td>
<td>77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Number of Meeseva Online Services offered</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>180</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Number of Meeseva App Services</td>
<td>117</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>117</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Total number of Departments covered</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Number of Meeseva Centres</td>
<td>11835</td>
<td>3,506</td>
<td>8329</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Total number of Transactions</td>
<td>131604141</td>
<td>22622787</td>
<td>108981354</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Txns of Category A Services</td>
<td>59916287</td>
<td>2942946</td>
<td>56973341</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Txns of Category B Services</td>
<td>71687854</td>
<td>19679841</td>
<td>52008013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Pending within SLA services</td>
<td>767426(91.67%)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Pending beyond SLA services</td>
<td>69756 (8.33%)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Rejected services</td>
<td>7541567</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Number of Category A services</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
inclusion, equity access, and serve the deserving citizen irrespective of the strength of his demand, with best of the Service levels, and eliminate the corruption and bring in transparency.

Policies:
- Integrated Platform Approach (ePragati Core Platform)
  ePragati Core Platform built by EY (Master SI) aims to deliver a proven and scalable technological foundation for digital transformation of Government to Citizen (G2C), Government to Business (G2B), and Government to Government (G2G) services, by enabling departments and organizations to streamline operations, deliver consistent service and modernize operations without interruptions.

myAP Portal
The Government of Andhra Pradesh (GoAP) has the vision the citizens, visitors, other service seekers and departments with a single point and service delivery to all government services and its offerings. The concept of One Portal: "to be the only access point for all e-Services provided by the Government to the citizens, businesses and government for sustained development."

Certificate less Governance System (CLGS)
The Certificate-less Governance System (CLGS) component of Core Platform leads to the abolition of most of the certificates and establishes a Certificate less society across State.

App Store
App store is a GoAP’s proprietary and single source for all mobile apps offering government services. A web-based ‘App Store Developer Portal’ is dedicated to innovators and start-ups creating an opportunity not only to innovate but also monetise their ideas.

eHighway
Multiple departments with different data sets and models, make systems built on them incapable of accessing the information seamlessly. Now with eHighway the GoAP has created a very robust Data Exchange mechanism for seamless, consistent, accurate data exchange.
eHighway is the core component behind ‘integration architecture’ that aims to create ONE Government, a Single Source of Truth, cross-cutting services and everyday applications.

License Management System (LMS)
- ePragati License Management System is a totally automated system that is used by Government departments to manage the issuance of licenses and permits and afford a smooth and hassle-free license procurement service to business entities.
- Cost efficient, 24x7, flexible & Secure IT Infra ePragati Cloud Data Center is a seamless, secure and scalable solution for departments using cloud computing. Designed to reduce IT infrastructure investment and cut costs by lowering the total cost of ownership it helps cut down the overall spend on IT administration.
- Data Analytics (Datalytics)
  Integration Architecture of ePragati aims to create a Single Source of Truth wherein the process of capturing the data is at the source of data. This is the backbone for Datalytics, a Data-Driven Decision Support System. The critical purpose of Datalytics project is to make ‘decision-making’ more effective and reliable eliminating leakage and data corruption.

Way Forward:
For Target - March 2024, ePragati Authority has envisioned that in addition to the Digital Transformation of 700+ currently identified services of all departments, will ensure that each of the departments will have Smart Dashboards reinforced with Advanced Data Analytics tools for predictive services, Artificial Intelligence (AI), Machine Learning (ML), Edge Computing and Ambient Knowledge (Table 4).

Law and Order
- Police organisation in a period of 2004-2014 has witnessed a variety of organisational, procedural, personnel and behavioural ailments and paradoxes. Administrative disfunctionality, non-satisfactory police functioning, partial behaviour and poor community relations have led to a situation of poor organisational performance on a variety of parameters
- An inadequate focus on the law & order had a multidimensional impact. It had a considerable economic impact like, negative branding, unsafe place for investment, capital loss pertaining to damage of infrastructure, the psychological impact of high uncertainty and fear in the minds of citizens, which impacted the overall quality of life.
- After bifurcation of State, apart from challenges mentioned above, the challenges of deficit organisation led to a compounding problem. However, with a determined and clearly delineated approach, the thread of a sustainable police organisation was again rewoven to provide a safe and secure society, international branding of State.
- Some of the key achievements are briefed below:

Table 2 The no. of B2C and G2C services extended, the no. of transactions, and the revenues

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S.No</th>
<th>Particulars</th>
<th>No of Services</th>
<th>No of Trans.</th>
<th>Revenues (Rs.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>B2C Services</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>306060</td>
<td>140544464</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>G2C Services</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>10179</td>
<td>602575</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td>121</td>
<td>314219</td>
<td>141247059</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
There was an increase in overall cognizable crime over the years from 2004-2014. This is the case when compared to any decade with the previous decade. It is a matter of satisfaction to note that there has been a reduction in all significant heads of crime. This is due to positive engagement at all levels to reverse the rising crime graph, and Institutionalizing a zero-tolerance strategy towards crime with the contribution of proactive leadership and robust organisational structure helped to tackle this problem (Table 5).

B) Crime Against Women

Crime against women has witnessed satisfactory levels of the decrease due to various initiatives taken up by the Government.

Several measures including preventive activities, awareness programs, Redressal Mechanism and Legal Action have been put in place to prevent and reduce the crime against women and children.

Preventive Action

- SHE Teams to prevent crime against women like eve-teasing, ragging, etc., and also for sensitisation on women safety, SHE teams are deployed in all units under different names (Sabala – Guntur Rural, Jwala – Guntur Urban) by concerned unit officers. Recently a uniform mechanism of SHE TEAMS in the entire State of Andhra Pradesh is launched by The Director General of Police AP under the title SHAKTHI TEAMS to prevent crime against women especially eve teasing etc.,

- Anti Human Trafficking Units (AHTUs) are deployed in seven units to prevent forced prostitution and human trafficking.

- Special Juvenile Police Units (SJPUs): To prevent crime against children especially minor girls, special juvenile police units are working in all districts with Addl. SP Admin as nodal officer of the district.

- Mahila Rakshaks are being deployed in few districts for preventing crime against women.

Awareness Programs

- Mahila Police Volunteers to minimise and eradicate crime against women – domestic violence, Child Marriages, Dowry Deaths, Sexual

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Table 3: e-transactions clocked by the various states and union territories of India, below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl No.</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>No. of e-Transactions</th>
<th>e-Transaction per 1000 Population</th>
<th>No. of e-Services</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Andaman and Nicobar</td>
<td>14,52,360</td>
<td>3832.08</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Andhra Pradesh</td>
<td>1,49,20,35,223</td>
<td>30159.8</td>
<td>196</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Arunachal Pradesh</td>
<td>11,19,035</td>
<td>809.72</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Assam</td>
<td>3,43,65,232</td>
<td>1102.55</td>
<td>88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Bihar</td>
<td>13,35,36,464</td>
<td>1286.43</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Chandigarh</td>
<td>48,15,284</td>
<td>4568.58</td>
<td>69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Chhattisgarh</td>
<td>12,45,40,159</td>
<td>4876.28</td>
<td>98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Dadra and Nagar Haveli</td>
<td>6,59,942</td>
<td>1929.65</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Daman and Diu</td>
<td>4,26,176</td>
<td>1761.06</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Deoli</td>
<td>6,03,03,454</td>
<td>3599.56</td>
<td>113</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Goa</td>
<td>39,73,755</td>
<td>2727.35</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Gujarat</td>
<td>45,98,64,331</td>
<td>7615.79</td>
<td>182</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Haryana</td>
<td>8,26,50,559</td>
<td>3259.99</td>
<td>99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Himachal Pradesh</td>
<td>5,24,70,098</td>
<td>7653.16</td>
<td>111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Jammu and Kashmir</td>
<td>1,19,12,084</td>
<td>949.32</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Jharkhand</td>
<td>3,46,66,162</td>
<td>1057.64</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Karnataka</td>
<td>12,22,50,924</td>
<td>2000.64</td>
<td>89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Kerala</td>
<td>52,41,62,859</td>
<td>15699.61</td>
<td>121</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Lakshadweep</td>
<td>11,59,708</td>
<td>18120.44</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Madhya Pradesh</td>
<td>17,61,18,129</td>
<td>2425.97</td>
<td>126</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Maharashtra</td>
<td>14,60,28,819</td>
<td>1307.52</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Manipur</td>
<td>22,48,968</td>
<td>826.52</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Meghalaya</td>
<td>36,60,090</td>
<td>1305.36</td>
<td>69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Mizoram</td>
<td>20,33,009</td>
<td>1863.44</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Nagaland</td>
<td>22,58,822</td>
<td>1140.82</td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Odisha</td>
<td>6,87,97,392</td>
<td>1640.1</td>
<td>92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>Puducherry</td>
<td>31,35,241</td>
<td>2520.29</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>Punjab</td>
<td>5,52,12,774</td>
<td>1992.95</td>
<td>116</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>Rajasthan</td>
<td>24,93,99,000</td>
<td>3634.44</td>
<td>102</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Sikkim</td>
<td>9,05,202</td>
<td>1491.27</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>Tamil Nadu</td>
<td>37,20,47,384</td>
<td>5157.44</td>
<td>141</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td>Telangana</td>
<td>1,35,33,13,819</td>
<td>38056.26</td>
<td>219</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33</td>
<td>Tripura</td>
<td>33,94,854</td>
<td>924.79</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34</td>
<td>Uttarakhand</td>
<td>33,84,32,707</td>
<td>1695.72</td>
<td>83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35</td>
<td>Uttar Pradesh</td>
<td>2,13,82,445</td>
<td>2113.73</td>
<td>82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36</td>
<td>West Bengal</td>
<td>26,89,03,911</td>
<td>2943.74</td>
<td>134</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>e-Transactions</td>
<td>6,20,09,91,415</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: http://etaal.gov.in/etaal/index.aspx
Good touch Bad touch Programs to educate children especially girls about safety from sexual abuse.

Special awareness programs like “Melukolupu” are being conducted to create awareness to women on social evils.

Redressal Mechanism
- One Stop Centre to facilitate immediate emergency and non-emergency access including police assistance, medical aid, legal counselling under one roof
- Mahila Mitra - Vijayawada City to address women issues like sexual harassment discrimination etc.

Legal Action
- Women Police Stations are working in all districts with Dy. SP Rank Officers as SHO.
- In both law and order police stations and women police stations (Only Section 498 A IPC cases) crime against women is registered and being investigated under different heads and under appropriate sections of law.

RED SANDERS SMUGGLING
As the global trading is banned, red sanders smuggling has now reached the level of organised smuggling activity involving notorious gangs and kingpins based in Chennai, Bangalore, Mumbai and even outside the country. It is primarily smuggled to China, Japan and South East Asia for furniture, medicine and musical instruments. The period between 2004–2014 has witnessed plundering of national wealth at unprecedented Scale.

Steps taken to prevent smuggling during 2014-2018
- Red sanders task force was formed to check smuggling of red sanders, which was rampant in the forest area.
- Smugglers were attacking the Forest and Police officers, who lost valuable lives in the hands of notorious smuggler gangs. A drive was launched to wipe out the menace. Hundreds of smugglers have been remanded to judicial custody and forest is being combed for any remnant of smuggling activity.

Table 5: The incidence of crime is presented in the following table.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl. No</th>
<th>Head of Crime</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018 (up to Nov)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Murders</td>
<td>1067</td>
<td>1021</td>
<td>1043</td>
<td>960</td>
<td>824</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Murder for gain</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Dacoities</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Robberies</td>
<td>413</td>
<td>368</td>
<td>308</td>
<td>355</td>
<td>235</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Burglaries</td>
<td>4622</td>
<td>4544</td>
<td>4322</td>
<td>4338</td>
<td>3068</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Ordinary thefts</td>
<td>1505</td>
<td>1351</td>
<td>1341</td>
<td>1281</td>
<td>9821</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Riotings</td>
<td>979</td>
<td>652</td>
<td>576</td>
<td>493</td>
<td>381</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Kid. &amp; Abd.</td>
<td>803</td>
<td>677</td>
<td>687</td>
<td>743</td>
<td>661</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Hurt cases</td>
<td>18048</td>
<td>16081</td>
<td>16632</td>
<td>15809</td>
<td>14192</td>
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Table 6: Incidence of Crime against women in AP for the years 2014 to 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl. No</th>
<th>M.O. Head</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018 (up to Nov)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Dowry murder</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Dowry deaths</td>
<td>209</td>
<td>171</td>
<td>190</td>
<td>149</td>
<td>127</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Abetment of suicide</td>
<td>472</td>
<td>491</td>
<td>526</td>
<td>496</td>
<td>361</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Murder (Women)</td>
<td>378</td>
<td>379</td>
<td>343</td>
<td>316</td>
<td>287</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>D.P. Act</td>
<td>1070</td>
<td>980</td>
<td>1109</td>
<td>1174</td>
<td>728</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Bigamy</td>
<td>216</td>
<td>264</td>
<td>240</td>
<td>262</td>
<td>180</td>
</tr>
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</table>
During the last 04 years, 3,099 Red Sanders cases were booked arrested 9,535 Red Sanders smugglers, 28 International Red Sanders seized 1644.973 Mts. RS logs and 2,288 Vehicles

The Govt. of A.P. got Rs.1200 Crore through Red Sanders e-auction. In 19 vulnerable Red Sanders forest areas, CC TV cameras were installed. Propaganda and sensitisation programmes were conducted in Tamilnadu, Karnataka Forest areas.

Road Safety
Equally disturbing factor was increasing road accidents and deaths/injured therein. The determined approach of the Govt to reduce the accident rate and promote Road Safety has produced positive results as per the Chart is given below (Table 7).

Many steps are taken for decreasing the rate of accidents by 50%. Special drives were conducted to educate the people and strictly enforced by Police personnel.

In the year 2018, 45.16 lakh Enforcement cases were booked and Rs. 85.86 Crore fine amount was collected. APPSRP – A Pilot Project was initiated in West Godavari District, now covers the entire State. The APP records the data online from the accident spot itself.

Total of 3432 black spots was identified in all 18 units. 204 vehicles with GPS have been deployed on HGs and SHs to rush to the accident spots, check rash driving, prevent liquor selling near Dhabas. 1711 breath analysers are being used. 92 speed-laser Guns are being used. Interceptor vehicles are being used to impose fines on erring vehicles to control speed. E-Challan has been implemented. Road safety Awareness programmes are conducted.

Awards Received by AP Police for Road Safety

- The Special award to Chittoor Police by Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, GOL., for adopting best practices in road safety.
- The Special award to East Godavari Police by Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, GOL., for adopting best practices in road safety.
- Various awards are received by AP Police force including FICCI, Skotch, technology sabha and Urban Road Transport organisation Awards for Awards for AP Police.

Progress in IT
Technology is used extensively in reducing the crime in the State, and various applications are developed and put in place for use and security of the public. These include Locked House Monitoring System (LHMS), property information and networking system (PINS), offender surveillance, automated fingerprint identification system (AFIS) –papillon RAIS (Red Sanders Accused Information System), In Cloud-based IP CCTV Surveillance project, Badratha&ArogyaBadratha APP, crime & Criminal Tracking Network and Systems (CCTNS), Field Alert Center For Operational Networking (FALCON) etc. 14,770 cameras (PTZ-3119, Fixed-11651) and integration of 5148 existing cameras (PTZ-938, Fixed-4210) has been approved under the Cloud-based IP CCTV Surveillance project.

Body-worn Cameras
BWCs are extensively used in Festival gathering, Dharnas, Agitations, Drunk and Drive & B.B duties. It has helped in reduction of arguments/confrontation by the public. Body worn cameras feed is utilised as evidence in units like Srikakulam, Chittoor etc.

DRONE (Dynamic Remotely Operated Navigation System)
During Krishna Pushkarams (2016) 18 Nos. of DJI Phantom 4 model drones were procured, and issued to all 18 units. At present, 14 drones are working in the field. Drones are allotted to 18 L & O Units, PTCs, Operations, SDRF, ISW/SIB. Important Events during which Drones were deployed in the field include Traffic Monitoring in Major Cities and towns, Fairs and festivals like Bhavani Deeksha etc., Important Summits, International cricket matches, Ganja Survey in SKL, VSP(Rural), VZM & E.G., Black Zones Survey on Highways, Red sandal survey in KDP.

Community Policing Programmes
Cheruva: Cheruva (‘REACHING CLOSER’) – is an effort by AP Police to create a platform for the people to participate, debate, discuss and express on issues relating to policing and achieve a safe society. Community Reaching programmes include vrudda mithra, giri tejam, police seva, garuda sahayak, community police officer (CPO).

Prohibition & Excise Department

Eradication of Belt shops
Government issued strict instructions vide G.O.Ms.No.263 Rev (Ex-II) Dept. Dt.08.06.2014 to eliminate belt shops in the State and reviewing the situation from time to time. The government is taking all steps to remove belt shops in the State. A total of 18170 cases booked and 18630 persons arrested since January 2018 till now besides seizure of vehicles, suspending A4 shops and 2B Bars.

Elimination of Illicit Distillation
Illicit distillation is a crime under excise laws, and the arrack adversely affects the health of consumers. Therefore, a novel program “Navodayam” has been launched in February 2016 with the objective of eradicating illicit distillation in the State. So far (9) districts have been declared illicit-distillation-free and the remaining (4) districts namely East Godavari, Krishna, Kurnool and Chittoor will be shortly announced as illicit-distillation-free.
Control of Ganja cultivation and substance abuse (NDPS Act)

- Agency areas of Visakhapatnam and East Godavari districts have been Ganja cultivation hubs for several decades. These are Left Wing Extremists affected areas.
- As against the cultivation of ganja in (832) villages/habitations in (9) out of the (11) agency mandals of Visakhapatnam district and (3) villages in (1) mandal of East Godavari district for 2017-18, it is noticed that ganja is being cultivated in Visakhapatnam and East Godavari districts in 2018-19.
- While the estimated land under ganja cultivation for 2017-18 was 10000 acres, it is 7000 acres for 2018-19.
- 322 cases booked and 177.00 lakh plants cultivated in over 3250 acres since September 2017 till now are destroyed under Anti Ganja cultivation operations

Excise Policies

Several policies

- The Shop Policy for 2017-19 has already commenced in 2017 with a license period of 2 years. The most notable features are a reduction of the license fee to 25% of previous year’s fee and levy of additional excise duty @36% on landed cost, reduction of retailer margin @10%. There is no change in the number of shops, and at present (4377) shops are functioning, fetching a license fee of Rs.499.29 Crore. p.a.
- Bar Policy: Reduction of the license fee by about 45%, (5) years license period permitting new bars basing on population are the important features of the bar policy commencing from 01.07.2017.
- Though Beer and Wine parlours are permitted in the State, no Beer and Wine parlour has been established in the State.
- Four Micro Breweries are functioning in the State.
- No changes have been made concerning In-house outlets, and at present, there are (19) C1 clubs and (16) TD1 licenses functioning in the State.

Toddy

There are (4324) Toddy shops functioning – (2344) under Tappers Cooperative Societies and (1980) under Tree for Tapper scheme for the livelihood of the 0.82 lakh tappers. The Government has done away with the toddy rental to the tune of about Rs.3.42 Crore. p.a. All the registered tappers have been brought under Chandranna Bhima cover.

Control Room

One control room is functioning, and a call centre with the toll-free numbers 1800 425 4868 and 9491030853 is established round the clock for the collection of information regarding Excise crime.

Awareness Campaign

To create awareness among the public on the evils of consumption of alcoholic liquors and drugs counselling centres have been established, besides continuous campaigning by the P&E officials by roping in schools, colleges, voluntary organisations etc.
- The massive awareness campaign has been launched, i.e. “war on drugs” and organised fortnightly activities. Several Workshops and seminars are being conducted in the State in Andhra University, SV University and Sri Padmavathi Mahila University.

Some of the significant achievements are given below

- Able to control belt shops for which the people’s satisfaction level is 75.23% for December 2018 (up to 18.12.2018).
- Control of illicit distillation in (9) districts paving the way to declare them as illicit distillation free.
- Making an issue of permits/allotments online under e-Governance.
- Control of Ganja cultivation significantly.

Revenue

Generation of revenue by the P&E Department is incidental to the regulation of production sale, purchase, transportation of excisable articles. The Dept. is not considered as a revenue earning Dept.

An amount of Rs.5760 Crore and 4526 Crore revenue generated during 2017-18 and 2018-19 (up to Nov) respectively under license fee, excise duty privilege fee and others.

Way Forward

Total eradication of belt shops in the State, declaration of (4) districts namely East Godavari, Krishna, Kurnool and Chittoor will be shortly declared as illicit-distillation-free and total eradication of ganja cultivation in the State.
A port that played a significant role in the history of Andhra Pradesh will come to life soon. Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu laid the foundation stone for the Machilipatnam green-field and all-weather, multi-purpose port.

The Masula port was an important trading centre for the Portuguese, the Dutch and the British at the start of the 17th Century. The dream to re-establish the port has been pending for a long time. Thanks to the resolute efforts of the Chandrababu Naidu government, the Machilipatnam Port is now being realised. Machilipatnam is one of the mega-ports and an ambitious project planned under the Sagarmala program. The deepwater seaport, centrally located on the coast of Bay of Bengal in the Krishna district of Andhra Pradesh is a grand project that is well poised to kick-start the local economy thereby uplifting the social eco-system of the area.

Port-based SEZs, power plants, industries, ancillary units etc. are also planned in the port’s vicinity. The port would not only serve the interests of Andhra Pradesh, being the nearest port to the capital city of Amaravati, but the States of Telangana, Karnataka and Maharashtra are only in its hinterland.

Stone laid for all-weather multi-purpose port at Machilipatnam

The port will be constructed on 4,800 acres of land, including an industrial park, and it is estimated that the port and park would lead to 80,000 direct and indirect employment. The deepwater port which will be completed in the next few years will lead to all-round development of the region and the State, the Chief Minister said on occasion. He was speaking near the port town, Machilipatnam, the headquarters of Krishna district, after unveiling a plaque to mark the inauguration of the works on the deepwater port in February. Navayuga Engineering Company Limited (NECL), the flagship entity of the Indian multinational conglomerate Navayuga Group, has formally kicked off the development of Machilipatnam Port.

"The company has set up a world record in executing Polavaram project, and I am sure works on the port will also be completed with the same speed. A deepwater port at Machilipatnam is the dream of the people of this region, and at last, it is coming true, after crossing many hurdles. This is a historic occasion," the CM said. Under the contract, Navayuga Engineering Company Limited will develop the port on a Build-Own-Operate-Transfer basis for a period of 50-years.

The Andhra Pradesh government aims to revive the port to its former glory, as it has a lot of potentials to emerge as a container hub on the east coast, with voyage time to South-east Asian and Asia Pacific regions being considerably lesser than from the west coast. The port is expected to begin functioning by 2021, and the first phase of the port will comprise four berths with operations spread over 1,692 acres of land on the coast. Estimated port traffic for the 2021-22 financial year is 79.90 MTPA of various cargo and 20 MTPA of container cargo.

Iron ore, container cargo, crude oil and liquefied natural gas (LNG) will be the direct imports and exports at the new port. In the second phase, 15 more berths will be developed on 3,400 acres of land. The Masula port was an important trading centre for the Portuguese, the Dutch and the British at the start of the 17th Century, with ships sailing from here to Southeast Asia and Europe in the early 1620s.
FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT IN ANDHRA PRADESH SINCE 2014

**TOTAL COMMITTED FDI INVESTMENTS**
Rs. 2,92,910 Cr.

**GONE INTO PRODUCTION – COMMITTED INVESTMENT**
Rs. 25,769 Cr.

**REALIZED INVESTMENT**
Rs. 23,870 Cr.

**FDI COMMITTED INVESTMENTS IN ADVANCED STAGES**
Rs. 33,926 Cr.

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<th>STATUS</th>
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<th>UNITS</th>
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<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TRIAL PRODUCTION</td>
<td>13,947</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MACHINERY ERRECTED</td>
<td>1,490</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CIVIL WORKS COMMENCED</td>
<td>8,694</td>
<td>8</td>
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<tr>
<td>READY FOR FOUNDATION STONE</td>
<td>6,273</td>
<td>4</td>
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<td>LAND IN POSSESSION AND APPROVALS GRANTED</td>
<td>310</td>
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<td>LAND IN POSSESSION AND APPROVALS IN PROGRESS</td>
<td>8,452</td>
<td>9</td>
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<td>GOVERNMENT LAND SOUGHT BUT NOT ALLOCATED YET</td>
<td>18,234</td>
<td>9</td>
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<tr>
<td>DPR TO BE SUBMITTED</td>
<td>1,47,960</td>
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The interim High Court Complex at the capital Amaravati was inaugurated by Chief Justice of India (CJI), Ranjan Gogoi along with Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu on February 3.

The ‘bhoomi pooja’ of the High Court complex was conducted with much pomp since it was one of the first permanent structures to come up in new capital, Amaravati.

The large complex is spread across 42 across and is estimated to cost Rs 819 Crore at Nelapadu. Planned to be built on a sprawling 12.2 lakh square feet, the permanent structure will consist of 36 court halls in the first phase; later another 24 rooms would be added.

The first phase is expected to be completed by 2022, and the entire structure is estimated to be built by 2036. Design and Planning Fosters + Partners, London, are lead designers for the complex, which will come up in the shape of a Buddhist stupa, symbolic of the region which was a Buddhist centre for centuries. Shapoorji Pallonji Co will build the seven-storey building with a built-up area of 20.32 lakh square feet. The project is expected to be completed in two years.

Temporary Structure

The G plus two-storied building constructed at Nelapadu has 16 court halls including 12 on the first floor. The building has 2.70 lakh square feet office space and has been built at the cost of Rs 150 Crore and has a vast conference hall. The Capital Region Development Authority (CRDA) completed the city courts complex on war footing basis to facilitate the functioning of the High Court until the permanent structure is ready. The construction also houses Advocate General, public prosecutors among others.

CM aerial visit with CJI

After the formal foundation laying ceremony, Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu took Chief Justice Gogoi for an aerial survey of the on-going works at capital Amaravati. Separate HCs came into being for both the states on January 1, 2019. The Andhra Pradesh High Court was functioning from a temporary structure, which was earlier housing the Chief Minister’s official residence near Amaravati. Andhra has its HC operated from Guntur for two years after it was divided from Madras in 1954. After AP and Telangana were merged to form Andhra Pradesh, the HC moved to Hyderabad, and the HC was moved back only recently after the passing of AP Reorganisation Act 2014.

Justice Gogoi went around an exhibition, which highlighted the plans for proposed Justice City, Assembly, Secretariat and other upcoming projects in the capital. CRDA Commissioner Ch Sridhar through a video presentation briefed Justice Gogoi about the works undertaken in Amaravati.

Speaking on occasion, CM Chandrababu Naidu said that of the nine theme cities planned in Amaravati, Justice City will come up on 3,307 acres. He explained that Justice City would emerge as an important global city on the lines of London, Singapore and Hong Kong. The Justice City will have law schools, alternative dispute resolution structure, law firms and international institutions; stressing on the setting up of NALSAR University. Andhra Pradesh Chief Justice Praveen Kumar, Speaker Dr Kodela Sivaprasad Rao, Minister Kollu Ravindra and others were present on occasion.
Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu announced Rs 9000 each to the farmers with less than 5 acres land under Annadata Sukhibhava scheme 2019.

The Chief Minister said: "Under Annadata Sukhibhava scheme 2019, an amount of Rs 9,000 will be given to the farmers having land less than 5 acres. This will be in addition to the Rs 6,000 announced by the Central government."

"Farmers having land more than 5 acres, will be given Rs 10,000. This will be solely by the State government, as the Centre is not giving any aid to farmers having land more than 5 acres," he added.

"The farmer assistance scheme of the Telangana government and the one introduced by the Centre do not cover tenant farmers," he pointed out.

Earlier, the State Cabinet announced the policy for extending assistance to the farmers.

Loan Waiver Completed

The AP Cabinet had also decided to release the last instalment of Rs 8,000 Crore for the loan waiver scheme, and in the recent vote on account, Rs 5,000 Crore had been allocated for the Annadata Sukhibhava scheme.

Under the direct cash benefit announced in the February 1 Interim Budget, the Centre will release Rs 2,000 in February to identified farmers, and the State government will add Rs 3,000 and credit the amount to farmers’ accounts, said Chandramohan Reddy. "Though the State is facing a financial crisis after the bifurcation of the State, we have introduced these schemes to support agriculture and farmers," he said.

The Cabinet approved the decision to give smartphones along with sim cards with three-year connectivity to be given to poor women. The Cabinet has also approved the setting up of State agriculture council for regularising the education of agriculture and horticulture. The cabinet further decided to make registration compulsory for practitioners of agriculture and horticulture. The Cabinet decided to form 9 veterinary polytechnics and 9 more for fisheries polytechnics. Each college will have 50 seats. They start classes from the next academic year. The cabinet decided to pay the pending amounts of compensations to the victims of Titli and Pethai cyclone victims.

AP FARMERS TO GET RS15,000 ASSISTANCE

FORM IV (see Rule 8)


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I, Ramesh Babu Kandula, hereby declare that the particulars given above are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Date : 01-03-2019 Sd/-Ramesh Babu Kandula (Publisher)
CM inaugurates restored heritage

KONDAPALLI FORT

Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu announced that ‘Kondapalli Fort Development Authority’ would be constituted soon and a fund of Rs 100 Crore would be earmarked for its development into an important asset of Amaravati and one of the major tourist attractions in the country. He inaugurated the renovated fort on February 4, the final day of the Kondapalli Fort festival.

CM, after inaugurating the newly refurbished fort spoke to the gathering at the courtyard and remarked that in the coming years, the fort development authority, comprising of archaeology, tourism, department of forests as well as district administration would ensure that the fort is developed and made into a tourist spot such that it attracts international tourists. Measures would be taken to make sure there are adequate facilities and activities that can keep the visitors around for a much longer time. “Much smaller forts in other countries have better facilities and documentation, and there is a need for us to develop our forts. Kondapalli will be the gem of Amaravati and a great asset of the capital,” he said.

He further added, integration of the fort with the core capital, the iconic Kuchipudi bridge over the Krishna river, Pavitra Sangamam and the likes, would become much more popular as best tourist corridors in the State.

The Kondapalli Fort Utsav was witnessed by a large number of people. After renovating it, the State government is developing Kondapalli Fort as a major tourist attraction. This will bring back the lost glory of Kondapalli toys and other traditional handicrafts of the region, CM tweeted after his visit to the fort.

Renovated structure of the fort

It houses the Orientation Plaza, which will have information on the facilities available at the fort, to guide the visitors through it. At entry A, various

- Kondapalli Fort Development Authority to be constituted
- Kondapalli Fort to make it to the big league of tourist destinations
- Rs 100 Crore to be spent for further enhancement
- Kondapalli Fort festival held for two days from February 3
components of the fort complex; at entry B, the ticket counter; at C, toilets; at entry D, souvenir shop and at entry E, a food court were there.

The main Durbar Hall has the exhibition gallery at entry F, sculpture and inscription gallery at G and administrative offices at entry H. The exhibition gallery has been divided into four sub-galleries namely Andhra Fort Gallery, which showcases the history and significance of the forts in the State and their typology and evolution; Kondapalli Fort Gallery, which displays the tactile model of the fort and has panels with information on the fort complex; Dynasty or the Timeline Gallery, which will have maps, and other details on the evolution of the fort through time.

The fourth sub-gallery will have information on how the fort is linked to the areas around it such as the Kondapalli village. A souvenir shop has been proposed at the fort. It would have archive-themed items such as mugs, key chains, copies of miniature farm-mans as wall hangings, calendars, handmade tiles, copper plates with customised engravings etc. In the last couple of years, works worth Rs 10 Crore was taken up.

Plans for a Stairway

He said the trekking path to the fort from Kondapalli village would be developed into a stairway on the lines of the stairway at Tirumala and the ghat road from Ibrahimpatnam would be widened, and medicinal plants would be grown in the reserve forest area. The government had already spent Rs. 10.90 Crore for restoration and development of the fort.

Gallery enabled with augmented reality

The district officials and tourism department collaborated for an undoubtedly exciting project at the fort- a gallery at the durbar hall; depicting the rich history with the help of technology. CM expressed satisfaction over the attraction and appreciated the concerned officials for their efforts. He even opined that the durbar hall could be used to host a government meeting as well.

First ever adventure sports at the Khilla

For the very first time, the tourism development authorities have organised adventure sports like rock climbing and rappelling at the fort, during the two-day festival. According to the district Collector, there were five to six enthusiastic participants from Malaysia, China, Slovenia, Dubai and Singapore who have enrolled for the event, besides hundreds of them from across the country. District Youth Officer, Velaga Joshi mentioned that they have put in place necessary equipment and pitched temporary tents for providing accommodation and leisure for the participants. A trial run was conducted before the actual event began and a technical team with expertise in adventure sports supervised.

Besides, there was a huge spread of authentic Andhra cuisine spanning vegetarian, non-vegetarian, sweets and snacks at the venue that catered to the visitors including school children, youngsters and history buffs. Cultural programmes took place at the fort on day one of the fest. Minister D Umamaheswara Rao, Tourism Secretary Mukesh Kumar Meena, Archaeology and Museums Commissioner G. Vani Mohan were among those present.
Andhra Pradesh Finance Minister Y Ramakrishnudu presented an interim (vote-on-account) budget for 2019-20 in the State Assembly, with emphasis on welfare schemes. The Minister presented the Rs 2,26,117.53 Crore-budget, with a deficit of Rs 32,390.68 Crore. The revenue expenditure amounted to Rs 1,80,369.33 Crore and the capital expenditure Rs 29,596.33 Crore. In the budget, a new scheme for farmers - Annadata Sukhibhava - was introduced with an allocation of

**Highlights of the Budget 2019-2020**

*We wholeheartedly committed ourselves to be a womb-to-tomb companion to people*

Finance Minister Yanamala
Rs 5,000 Crore. It envisages transferring a certain amount of money into the accounts of farmers, along the lines of the scheme announced in the Union Budget. The State Government has subsequently announced the details of the scheme, named *Annadata Sukheebhava*.

Pensions for the aged and widows have been enhanced from the present Rs 1,000 to Rs 2,000, with an allocation of Rs 10,401 Crore. Allowances for the educated unemployed youth under the "Yuvanestam" scheme have been enhanced from Rs 1,000 per month to Rs 2,000, with an allocation of Rs 1,200 Crore. The allocation for Anna canteens where meals are provided for Rs 5 has been pegged at Rs 300 Crore.

For another major welfare scheme - Pasupu-kumkuma - an allocation of Rs 8,604 Crore was recently made by the State government in the budget. Additional financial assistance of Rs 10,000 would be given to each member of the women’s self-help groups in the State in three instalments during the next three months.

Several new BC corporations were announced in the budget and also a few for the upper castes such as Kshatriyas. For the Kapu corporation an allocation of Rs 1,000 Crore was made, for the BC Corporation Rs 3,000 Crore, for the Brahmin Corporation Rs 100 Crore, for the Kshatriya Corporation Rs 50 Crore and for the Vysya Corporation Rs 50 Crore.

For industries, an allocation of Rs 4,114.92 Crore was made, with an additional allocation of Rs 400 Crore for MSMEs, and for Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MNREGA) Rs 1,000 Crore. An allocation of Rs 1,006.81 Crore was made for the IT and communications sector. For market intervention, a fund of Rs 1,000 Crore was set apart.

The Finance Minister informed the House that the ruling party, Telugu Desam Party, had promised in 2014 that farm loans would be waived off in the State and “true to our promise we spent Rs 16,000 Crore for the purpose since 2014. The remaining two instalments (roughly Rs 8,000 Crore) would be adjusted soon in the coming weeks. The total amount would be roughly Rs 24,000 Crore.”

The Minister said the TDP Government had assumed office in 2014, after the bifurcation of the State, in very trying circumstances and “even though the Central assistance has been grossly inadequate we have fulfilled all our promises to the people and we intend to do so in future.”

Finance Minister Ramakrishnudu said that the TDP Government had spent more than Rs 81,500 Crore on agriculture during the past four years, and nine months and it showed the importance his Government gave to agriculture.

**Some of the Highlights of the Budget**

**Women Empowerment & Development**

Shouldering the responsibility of *Anna* (elder brother) of DWACRA and MEPMA *Aadapuduchulu* (women members), the Chief Minister decided to financially empower the SHGs and give another assistance of Rs. 10,000 in three spells of Rs. 2,500 in February, Rs. 3,500 in March, and Rs. 4,000 in April 2019. This would benefit 93.81 lakh SHG members with an outlay of Rs. 9,381 Crore.

**Farmers Welfare**

Recognising the current farm crisis in Andhra Pradesh in 2014, Chief Minister, as *Annadatha ki Apathanadavudu*, decided to alleviate the debt burden of farmers with an outlay of around Rs 24,000 Crore. The final two instalments will be credited shortly. For horticulture debt redemption Rs.384 Crore have been credited into 2.23 lakh loan accounts of farmers.

To ensure that the incomes of farmers are not adversely affected due to market uncertainties, the Government has enhanced the size of market intervention fund from Rs. 500 Crore to Rs. 1,000 Crore for the crops that do not have a Minimum Support Price.

In 2019-20, the Finance Minister proposed to allocate Rs. 200 Crore for feed and fodder development. A sum of Rs. 200 Crore for insurance of the livestock to safeguard farmers against loss due to animal death was proposed.

**Youth Empowerment**

The Government launched *Mukhyamantri Yuvanestham* scheme for extending unemployment allowance (Nirudyoga Bhruthi) of Rs. 1,000 per month for the educated unemployed youth of Andhra Pradesh. The Government increased this quantum to Rs. 2,000 per month.

Under Mukhyamantri Yuvanestham, the Government have sanctioned the benefit to 4.3 lakh people. The Government intends to implement this scheme on a saturation basis.

The Government created total employment of 7.7 lakhs through the private sector – 2.51 lakhs from large and mega projects, 3.3 lakhs from MSMEs, 1.78 lakh placements facilitated by APSSDC and 0.13 lakhs promoted by APITA. In addition to this, the Government has sanctioned recruitment for 42,000 posts. The significant construction activity taken up by
Government also is also creating a large number of jobs. “I am proud to inform the Hon’ble Members that Andhra Pradesh is the only State that has begun placing the details of jobs created online, employee wise in the spirit of transparency,” the Minister said.

**Social Empowerment and Welfare**

Overall, this Government has incurred a direct expenditure of Rs. 32,843 crore on SC welfare, Rs. 8,950 Crore on ST welfare, Rs. 28,805 Crore on BC welfare in the last four and half years (as on December 2018).

The FM proposed to allocate a sum of Rs. 3,000 Crore for BC Welfare Corporations. This would be distributed among the corporations in proportion to their population.

The FM proposed to allocate Rs. 600.56 Crore in 2019-20 for creating infrastructural facilities in SC localities in ULBs.

Under the BC component, our Government is setting up Mahatma Jyotiba Phule Smaraka Bhavan and Park with a budget of Rs. 100 Crore in 10 acres of Amaravati, Yanamala announced.

The Government has extended Chandranna Pelli Kanuka to Economically Backward Classes (EBC) in saturation mode to cover every poor family. The FM proposed to allocate Rs. 14,367 Crore for SC sub-plan for 2019-20, marking an increase of 28% over the previous year, Rs. 5,385 Crore for ST sub-plan, marking an increase of 29% and Rs. 16,226 Crore for BC sub-plan, marking an increase of 33%.

For the overall development of weavers, the Government is implementing a package worth Rs. 1,004 Crore.

The FM proposed to establish *Drivers Sadhikara Samstha* on the lines of *Ryuthu Sadhikara Samstha* and *Mahila Sadhikara Samstha* to promote their social and economic wellbeing with an allocation of Rs. 150 Crore.

**Social Security and Poverty Alleviation for All**

Taking into consideration the rising cost of living, the Hon’ble Chief Minister, like a responsible Pedda Koduku (eldest son), doubled all the social security pensions to Rs. 3,000 per month and to Rs. 2,000 respectively with effect from January 2019. With this the pension amount has increased 10 times in this tenure, the FM said.

The coverage under PDS as sanctioned by Government of India is limited to 2.68 Crore people, but the State Government extended coverage to another 1.52 Crore people and has issued 24 lakh new ration cards.

In addition to PDS, Anna Canteens have been started with an objective to provide subsidised hygienic and affordable food to poor people at the cost of Rs. 5 per meal. A total of 368 Anna canteens, 216 urban canteens and 152 rural canteens, were sanctioned covering all 175 assembly constituencies. Till date, 160 canteens have been completed and have started functioning in 14 Municipal corporations and 4 Municipalities.

**Human Development**

**Health:** The budget allocation for health was nearly doubled to Rs. 8,463 Crore in 2018-19 from 2014-15. The major achievements in the health sector have been a reduction in MMR from 83 in 2014-15 to 65.81 in 2018-19 and also the decrease in IMR from 37 in 2014 to 10.51 in 2018-19.

The FM proposed to increase the budget of the NTR Vaidya Seva programme from Rs. 1,000 Crore to Rs. 1,200 Crore in 2019-20. The FM proposed to increase the budget for development of infrastructure in medical institutions to Rs. 329 Crore and the budget for the purchase of drugs and medicines from Rs. 300 Crore to Rs. 402 Crore in 2019-20. The allocation for health in 2019-20 is proposed to be increased to Rs. 10,032 Crore, which is an increase of 18.53%.

**Industry and Services**

In 2019-20, I propose to allocate a sum of Rs. 1,000 Crore for MSME sector – Rs. 100 Crore for the revival of stressed MSMEs, Rs. 400 Crore for incentives to new MSMEs, and Rs. 500 Crore for developing MSME parks.

**Praja Rajadhani, Amaravati**

The overall cost of construction of Amaravati is Rs.1,09,023 Crore. The Phase I is estimated to cost Rs.51,687 Crore out of which construction works of Rs.39,875 Crore are under execution on the ground.

The State Government started the construction integrated Secretariat and HoD buildings of 5 Towers and target to finish by October 2020. 36,3,840 housing units for MLAs, All India Service Officers, NGOs, GOs, Class IV employees and low income urban poor are under advanced stages and targeted to be completed by first half of 2019. Amaravati Marina project, India’s most massive Marina project, will be a crucial Tourism destination. It will be operational by June 2019. Lands have been allotted to Eight Hotels (4-star & 5-star) including all significant hospitality brands.

**Rural Water Supply:** The State Government aims is to provide every rural household with adequate water by
2024 with an estimated cost of Rs. 22,000 Crore. The tender process is going on. It is also planned to cover all water quality affected and stressed habitations by water purification plants on the hub and spoke model under NTR Sujala Pathakam. 103 clusters have been identified to include about 7,787 such dwellings.

To promote electric vehicles charging stations, the Government provided a subsidy of Re. 1 per unit from Rs. 6.95 per unit to 5.95 per unit, effective from next financial year. Our Government has not proposed any increase in tariff for the year 2019-20.

**Employees:** The Government constituted a new PRC and set up a committee to suggest necessary changes to the Contributory Pension Scheme (CPS).

The Government spent Rs. 860 Crore under employee health scheme benefitting 2.8 lakh employees.

To enhance employment opportunities for youth in the public sector, the State Government sanctioned recruitment for a total of 42,000 posts by way of direct recruitment, which includes teaching and police, posts. We also relaxed rules regarding compassionate appointments.

**Budget Estimates 2019-20:**

For the financial year 2019-20, I propose an expenditure of Rs. 2,26,177.53 Crore, with revenue expenditure estimated at Rs. 1,80,369.33 Crore and capital expenditure estimated at around Rs. 29,596.53 Crore, which includes Rs. 8,994 Crore towards principal repayment of public debt, the Minister said.

The 2019-20 budget estimates entail an overall increase of around 18.38 % over the 2018-19 budget estimates. While the revenue expenditure is estimated to increase by about 20.03%, the capital expenditure is expected to grow by around 3.20% over the 2018-19 financial year.

The estimated revenue deficit is around Rs. 2,099.47 Crore and the fiscal deficit is estimated at around Rs. 32,390.68 Crore. The fiscal deficit will be around 3.03 % of the GSDP, whereas the revenue deficit would be approximately 0.20 % of the GSDP.

Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu laid the foundation stone for the Vaikuntapuram Barrage, to be built at an estimated cost of Rs 2,169 Crore across the Krishna River near Amaravati. The proposed 23.22-km barrage will have 67 piers and 168 vents. Designed to store 10 tmcft of water, it will take care of the drinking water needs of the A.P. Capital in future.

The tender process for the project is under progress. On February 13, 1954, the first Chief Minister of Andhra, Tanguturi Prakasam Pantulu, had laid the foundation stone for Prakasam Barrage. Recalling the history, the CM said, “As the first Chief Minister of the Andhrapradesh, I now performed the ‘bhoomi puja’ for the Vaikuntapuram on the same day Feb 13”.

The CM also laid the foundation-stone for 30 projects worth Rs 8,000 Crore in the State’s future capital city Amaravati. He also launched the Amaravati Smart Citizen Card that enables citizens to avail of government services seamlessly without visiting any office. The projects include the development of a nature park at Sakhamuru village by the Amaravati Development Corporation, road infrastructure packages and flood mitigation works in the capital with public funds. Other projects belong to private entities that will develop hotels, resorts, schools and an international convention centre. Chandrababu also laid the foundation-stone for Gopichand Sports Excellence Centre.

The Chief Minister earlier inaugurated the three-day ‘Happy Cities Summit,’ organised by the AP Capital Region Development Authority. State Municipal Administration Minister P Narayana, U.S Consul General Katherine Hadda, British Deputy High Commissioner Andrew Fleming, Canadian Consul General Nicole Girad, Thimpu (Bhutan) Mayor Kinlay Dorjee and others attended.
The last day of the present session concluded with full of emotion by the members on February 8. This is the Assembly during the last five years where the Assembly have given a standing ovation to Chandrababu Naidu after his last picture. In the picture are CM Chandrababu Naidu, Deputy Speaker M Buddha Prasad.
The Last Time

The occasion of Andhra Pradesh Assembly sessions and greetings amongst the members of the 13th Session of the present term. All the MLAs and Ministers in the House. Seated are the members, Ministers and MLAs.

MARCH 2019
**Stone laid for Gandikota ropeway project**

Minister for Marketing and Animal Husbandry C Adinarayana Reddy laid the foundation stone and performed ‘bhumi puja’ for the ropeway project proposed at Gandikota. The Minister who took part in the ‘Gandikota Festival’ said that the ropeway proposed an estimated cost of Rs 7 Crore would connect the two cliffs at the famed tourist destination. Gandikota was being promoted as a vital tourist destination in the State.

**Digital door number programme launched**

The Vijayawada Municipal Corporation (VMC) has launched the Digital Door Numbers initiative as part of the comprehensive geographic information system (GIS) survey. The new digital door numbers would immediately replace the old door numbers with QR codes. The QR code would hold the geographic location of the property and make finding addresses easier. It makes it easy to identify the house for door delivery purposes. The digital door number plates would be fixed on every property in the city for free. Citizens can report in case of any demand for tips or payments by the personnel, said concerned officials.

**Tech graduates to be trained in Cyber security**

The Andhra Pradesh Information Technology Academy (APITA), in collaboration with Microsoft and the Data Security Council of India (DSCI), will train women engineers in cyber security in Vijayawada. As part of the CyberShiksha programme, women will be trained and also receive placement assistance. “The State government is committed to adopting new technologies and to secure women gainful and sustainable employment. The programme aims at preparing a pool of industry-ready women professionals who can contribute to safeguarding cyber frontiers,” said APITA CEO Bhaskar Reddy. The programme is open to science and engineering graduates between 20 and 27 years of age. The training comprises an interactive, four-month long course, which is a combination of theory, case studies and hands-on projects.

**Free Tractor Rental for ryots**

Agriculture Minister Somireddy Chandramohan Reddy launched ‘JFarm Services’, a CSR initiative of TAFE (Tractor and Farm Equipment Ltd.) to enrich the lives of farmers by providing them easy access to farm mechanisation solutions through rental of tractors and modern farm equipment to small and marginal farmers and provide localised weather forecast, latest mandi prices, agrri-news alerts and advisory which will help them enhance productivity and improve income. The initiative facilitates hiring of tractors and modern farm machinery by farmers free of cost through a Farmer-to-Farmer (F2F) rental platform which will be available across the 13 districts of the State.

**Made-in-AP e-scooters to hit the road**

Retrosa, the first-ever electric two-wheeler to be manufactured in Andhra Pradesh by a city-based firm, is scheduled to hit the roads from the end of March. Manufactured by Avera New & Renewable Energy Moto Corp Pvt. Ltd. in Nunna, Retrosa will offer levels of performance, robustness and range that have never been offered before by other electric two-wheelers, says A Venkata Ramana, founder and CEO of Avera. Retrosa offers a top speed of 92 kmph and a range of over 140 km on a single charge. Apart from service centres in all districts, Avera will offer free power to all its vehicles through charging stations that are coming up in Vijayawada, Amaravati, Mangalagiri, Visakhapatnam and Tirupati very soon. Bookings were opened on January 23, and so far 250 bookings were made.

**Free Wifi at Borra Caves**

Tourists visiting Borra Caves in Ananthagiri mandal of Visakhapatnam will now have easy access to the Internet as Andhra Pradesh Tourism Development Corporation (APTDC) has announced the tourist hotspot as a

**Foundation stone of cancer hospital laid**

Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu laid the foundation for Basavatarakam Indo-American Cancer Hospital and Research Institute at Tullur village in Amaravati. A world-class cancer hospital and research institute with 1,000-bed capacity will be built in 15 acres of site allotted by State govt, in three phases. In the first phase, 300-bed hospital will be developed for awareness, prevention and early detection of cancer. It will provide State of the art diagnostic facilities, advanced treatment as a nonprofit organization in the service of cancer patients. Speaking on the occasion, the Chief Minister stressed upon the need for more research programs to prevent cancer. The stone laying ceremony at Amaravati.
Students of Fathima Institute of Medical Sciences (FIMS) called on Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu at his residence in Undavalli and expressed their gratitude for sanctioning Rs 13 Crore towards payment of medical course fees for two years. Their admissions were declared invalid by the MCI on technical grounds. Some of the students and their parents even attempted suicide following delay in getting justice. Finally, the issue came to the notice of the CM and Rs 13 Crore was released for those students who qualified in NEET-2018 and got seats under B Category and released Rs 13 Crore. The funds were given by NTR University of Health Sciences funds for the 42 students.

Free WiFi zone. The district administration made an announcement in this regard via Twitter. Borra Caves will be among the several other tourist destinations in Andhra Pradesh where free WiFi will be made available. The idea is to attract more visitors from India and abroad.

**AU to set up Centre of Excellence**

In an attempt to bridge the gap between academia and industry and to make the students industry-ready, the Andhra University, in partnership with Purdue University, U.S.A., will set up a Centre of Excellence on its south campus with an investment of Rs. 35.23 Crore. It will run from a four-storey building with the floor area of 20,000 sft, which will be built in the place where the old Fine Arts Department once existed. “The centre will have a State-of-the-art laboratory, where pharmaceutical and manufacturing industries can test their products. It will give an exposure to our students and research scholars to new inventions and technologies. The lab will be embedded with an entrepreneurship development cell and an innovation centre too.

**Stone laid for Muktyala lift irrigation**

CM laid foundation stone for the Muktyala Lift Irrigation project, which will be completed within a year’s time. The formality was digitally done from Praja Vedika venue. “With the completion of the project at a cost of Rs 489.28 Crore, the long pending demand of the farmers of Krishna district upland areas will be fulfilled.” He said the farmers of Jaggaiahpet, Vatsavai and Penu-ganchiprolu Mandals will benefit from this project tremendously. The State government has taken up overall 69 irrigation projects at a cost of Rs 70,000 Crore, out of which 19 projects have been inaugurated and 24 projects are yet to be inaugurated. Vyuktapuram project, another barrage on river Krishna has been taken up at a cost of Rs 2,109 Crore, through which the water can be stored at a stretch of 100 km for the use of Amravati capital region, added he.

**15 more SW Residential Schools**

CM announced that AP government has sanctioned 15 Social Welfare Residential Schools in the State at a cost of Rs 502 Crore, to provide admission to about 14,200 students. The new residential schools have been sanctioned in Kotabommali-Srikakulam, Narasayapalem-Guntur, Pasivedala-West Godavari, Peddapuram-East Godavari, Vellatur-Krishna, Kovelampadu-Prakasam, Gottiprolu-Nellore, Palamanda-Chittoor, Pttikonda-Kurnool and Chomandepalli-Anantapuram areas. Over 1,12,000 students will be enabled to have access to education through the overall 188 Social Welfare Residential Schools in AP. Facilities like English medium teaching, digital and virtual classrooms will be ensured in all the residential schools. “The students have achieved praiseworthy results in examinations, on par with students of private schools. They have scored 95% in 10th standard examinations,” said the Chief Minister.

**Heritage & Culture festival at Kondaveedu Fort**

Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu inaugurated the newly laid ghat road for Kondaveedu Fort in Guntur district, on the occasion of the Heritage and Culture festival (Kondaveeti utsavalu) organized on the fort by the AP State Tourism Department Corporation on February 17 and 18. The ghat road will now make the fort more accessible to the visitors. The fort is a conglomeration of 50 hills. The approach to the fort had now become easy, thanks to the ghat road laid at a cost of Rs 34 Crore replete with electrification. An additional Rs 2.5 Crore had been spent on eco tourism and Rs 1.5 Crore towards construction of steps. CM further assured setting up of a museum, a star hotel and a rope way besides trying to establish a zoo and a botanical garden at the fort. The forest area spread across 14,000 acres is ready for transformation into a major tourist destination.

**AP Innovation helps find jobs post maternity**

IT Minister Nara Lokesh launched the poster and digital material for State’s another innovative project, ‘AP Innovation’, which helps women to find jobs that suit their talents, post maternity break. The Innovation start-up works with the motive of career reboot. It helps create a multitude of opportunities for them, who have previous work experience and exhibit enthusiasm to take up jobs again. The specialty of the start-up is they provide flexibility and choice for the women to honor their skills.
Two prestigious projects from Malaxmi Group - Malaxmi DoubleTree by Hilton and Malaxmi Glendale - are coming up in Amaravati. Bhoomi Pooja was performed in the presence of dignitaries and religious heads at Seed Access Road, Mandadam for the projects.

Malaxmi DoubleTree by Hilton Five Star Hotel and Malaxmi Glendale International Boarding School will now be established in Amaravati on 4 acres and 8 acres of land respectively. Director General of AP Vigilance and Enforcement Gautam Sawang and Mukesh Kumar Meena, Secretary, Govt of Andhra Pradesh were present during the ceremony that was attended by several distinguished guests. Sawang expressed happiness about the onboarding of two important projects that will lift the pulse of hospitality and education in the city. He said that lands were allotted with the purpose of bringing such landmark projects into the capital region for the benefit of people. Both the hotel and school will be built on Seed Access Road, Mandadam, opposite the upcoming Sri Venkateswara Temple of Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD).

Mukesh Kumar Meena, Secretary Tourism appreciated the Group’s efforts to bring vital projects to Amaravati with popular entities like Hilton and Glendale Academy. He appreciated Malaxmi’s effort to adopt, nurture and uplift the students of Govt schools present in the three Mandalas. Malaxmi Group, along with Glendale Academy will identify 100 students from these schools and offer scholarships. Y Harish Chandra Prasad, Founder & Chief Mentor of Malaxmi Group said that Malaxmi DoubleTree by Hilton will be established across 4 acres of land with Rs 200 Crore investment and will become one of the prime hospitality destinations in the state.

Equipped with state of the art infrastructure and convention hall that will accommodate 2000 guests, the hotel will have a world-class swimming pool, service apartments and other amenities.

State IT Minister Nara Lokesh has inaugurated the manufacturing unit of home-grown handset maker Karbonn Mobiles at Tirupati on February 10. The investment made on the unit is Rs 200 Crore while the production capacity stands at 1 million cell phones per month. The factory by Karbonn Mobiles is set up at Sri Venkateshwara Mobile and Manufacturing Hub under the aegis of Andhra Pradesh government. ICEA Chairman Pankaj Mohindroo said, “The facility will be spread in phase wise and across one lakh square ft. The facility will be rewarding work to more than 1,000 employees.” Karbonn Mobiles Chairman and ICEA Southern Zone Chairman Sudhir Hasija also spoke on occasion.

Lokesh also inaugurated the manufacturing facility of Dixon Technologies at the Electronic Manufacturing Cluster -2 (EMC-2) in Renigunta. According to the Electronics and Communication department of Dixon Technologies, the company is in the process of investing Rs 150 Crore in the first phase, which is expected to create 800 jobs. “The facility in the EMC-2 will initially manufacture televisions and security cameras. In about three months, the company will also start manufacturing cell phones, washing machines and other consumer electronics,” said Dixon’s spokesmen, adding that once the full-fledged operations are launched, around 1,500 jobs will be created for the local youth.

Dixon, which also supplies components to Xiaomi, Panasonic, Sanyo and other electronic firms, will shortly establish a skill development centre and an innovation centre in Tirupati.
Pic 1: All the auto-rickshaws in AP will soon be upgraded to cost-effective and low-maintenance electric vehicles. CM Chandrababu Naidu trying his hand on an auto rikshaw. The auto drivers met him to thank for waiving off life tax.

Pic 2: CM Chandrababu Naidu at the Andhra Energy Innovation Summit 2019 in Vijayawada. The forum discussed the many ways in which AP will position itself in the global Energy sector.

Pic 3: The CM inaugurated APIIC Tower-I and laid the foundation stone of Tower-II at Mangalagiri. Tower-I was built at a cost of Rs. 110 Crore. The towers will facilitate and boost investments in Andhra Pradesh.

Pic 4: The second edition of the Happy Cities Summit-2019 was held in the capital region in February. Representatives from the U.S., the U.K., France, Canada, Mexico, Costa Rica, Switzerland, Portugal, Ghana, the UAE, Australia, China, Bangladesh, among other nations, discussed the guiding principles for happy cities.

Pic 5: The CM laid the foundation stone for Adani Data Centre Park in Kapuluppada IT Park. The Rs 70,000 Crore project will position AP as a data center hub for the country and Southeast Asia.

Pic 6: The iconic ten-storeyed Millennium Tower inaugurated by the CM at Vizag. The tower built by APIIC at a cost of Rs. 145 Crore will be home to blockchain and cloud-based companies.