CM releases white paper on energy and infrastructure

AP to be developed as preferred destination:CM

Amaravati, Dec 29: Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu said Andhra Pradesh will be developed as a preferred destination. He said AP bagged number one position in power sector with the reforms introduced earlier. He said as part of second phase of reforms, priority is given for renewable energy including solar and wind energy.

Releasing a white paper on energy and infrastructure here today, the Chief Minister said by June 2014 the state has a deficit of 22.5 million units per day. The solar power per unit stands at Rs 6.50 during 2014 and it came down to Rs 2.70 per unit at present. He said the renewable energy sector recorded 22 per cent growth rate at present.

The Chief Minister said 31,725 solar pump sets were set up so far. He said the solar parks were set up in Anantapur, kadapa and Kurnool with a producing capacity of 4000 mw of power. World biggest solar park with 1000 mw capacity was set up in Kurnool district. He said over 36,604 people got employment opportunities in renewable energy sector. He said 6.23 lakh LED bulbs were arranged in 110 municipalities in adition to 20 lakh LED street lights. With this move 30 per cent of energy saved.

The Chief Minister said Rs 6,030 cr released towards subsidy to energy sector during 2018-19. The energy sector bagged 137 awards. To top it all the AP govt did not increased power tariff for the past four and half years and decided not to increase power tariff till 2020. He said smart power grid system was introduced to localise power distribution.

Referring to civil aviation sector, the Chief Minister said the air passengers traffic increased from 1.1 milllion to 5.5 million at present. Civil aviation policy was introduced in 2015. Though necessary lands were allotted for expansion of airports, the central govt has been causing hurdles for flight services. We are unable to operate international services from Tirupati and Vijayawada due to indifferent attitude of central govt.

Coming to marine cargo transport the AP state reached 173 million units in sea cargo transport. He said Steps have been taken to develop Bhavanapadu, Kakinada, Machilipatnam and Ramayapatnam ports. He said the state govt has been providing internet facility to each house through AP fibernet. He said Jakkampudi would be developed as finance city. He said Amaravati would be developed as world class
blue and green city. He said the Amaravati city needs Rs 51,000 cr in first phase and Rs 50,000 cr in second phase for development. He said R&B roads were developed at a stretch of 2400 kms. Traffic monitoring taken up through command control centre.

The Chief Minister stressed the need for improving roads, rail and sea cargo to make AP a logistic hub.