

# CM Naidu moots e-cycles for Gramin Dak Sevaks

Says no postal organisation in any other country has a network as vast as the Indian postal system

BIZZ BUZZ BUREAU  
GUNTUR

ANDHRA Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu has said Gramin Dak Sevaks are serving as one of the most vital logistics systems in the country and emphasised that even with the growth of technology and the advent of artificial intelligence, no one can replace the role of Dak Sevaks.

Participating in the Gramin Dak Sevaks Conference here along with Union Ministers Jyotiraditya Scindia and Pemasani Chandrasekhar, the Chief Minister said that the logistics services of Gramin Dak Sevaks from Kashmir to Kanyakumari are commendable.

He noted that no postal organisation in any other country has a network as vast as the Indian postal system. He said that out of more than 1.64 lakh post offices in the country, nearly 90 percent are located in rural areas and around 2.7 lakh Gramin Dak Sevaks work across them. In Andhra Pradesh alone, more than 9,100 post offices operate with over 17,000 Gramin Dak Sevaks and it is estimated that about 33 percent of financial assistance through DBT is delivered via Dak Sevaks.

The Chief Minister described Dak Sevaks as the backbone for achieving Viksit Bharat and Swarna



Andhra and opined that Union Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia is working to enhance the dignity of Dak Sevaks.

Naidu reiterated that despite technological advancement, Dak Sevaks perform their duties with a human touch. He appreciated the introduction of a dress code for Dak Sevaks and requested the Union Minister to provide them with electric bicycles, stating that it would reduce pollution and help

them perform their duties more efficiently.

The Chief Minister stated that the state is witnessing rapid development under a double-engine government, with welfare being delivered in the last 20 months and development progressing swiftly.

He said good governance has been initiated and government services are being delivered to citizens' doorsteps through WhatsApp Governance...

# Olectra bags 1085 electric buses order from TGSRTC

Hyd roads to go abuzz with e-buses making city more sustainable

TOWARDS GREEN COMMUTE

- At the forefront of India's electric mobility transition
- Over 3,600 EVs deployed across the country
- Comprehensive zero-emission mobility ecosystem
- Clocked more than 500 million green kilometres

BIZZ BUZZ BUREAU  
HYDERABAD

OLECTRA Greentech Ltd., electric commercial vehicle manufacturer and a pioneer in advanced urban mobility solutions, has secured a Letter of Intent (LOI) issued by the Telangana State Road Transport Corporation (TGSRTC) through Evey Trans Pvt. Ltd. for 1,085 electric buses under the PM E-DRIVE initiative, led by Convergence Energy Services Limited (CESL), aimed at accelerating the adoption of electric public transport across Indian cities.

The electric buses will be deployed in Hyderabad, further strengthening the city's clean, efficient, and sustainable public transport ecosystem.



established itself as India's leading electric commercial vehicle brand, consistently holding the No. 1 market share in electric buses both year-to-date and in the last financial year.

Headquartered in Hyderabad, Olectra has been at the forefront of India's electric mobility transition, delivering not only electric buses but also electric tippers that support sustainable urban infrastructure development. With over 3,600 electric vehicles deployed across the country and an order book exceeding 10,000 vehicles, the company is building a comprehensive

zero-emission mobility ecosystem. Having clocked more than 500 million green kilometres, the company combines scale, indigenous engineering, operational reliability, and continuous innovation to drive India's shift towards clean and future-ready transportation.

Mahesh Babu, Managing Director of the company said, "This is a defining moment for the Olectra family and a significant milestone in our journey of powering India's electric mobility transformation."

Our continued commitment to the Make in India

vision and to building world-class electric buses has received strong reinforcement through this prestigious order under the PM E-DRIVE programme. We are proud to bring our advanced, reliable, and indigenously developed electric mobility solutions to Telangana.

Hyderabad is not just our home state, but a city that represents innovation and progress. We look forward to working closely with TGSRTC to deliver efficient, comfortable, and sustainable public transportation that meets the evolving expectations of citizens while con-

The company has firmly established itself as India's leading electric commercial vehicle brand, consistently holding the No. 1 market share in electric buses both year-to-date and in the last financial year

tributing meaningfully to India's clean energy and net-zero ambitions."

For this order, Olectra buses will feature 12-metre low-floor configurations in both air-conditioned (AC) and non-AC variants, indigenously designed and engineered to suit Indian road conditions and high-frequency urban operations. Each bus will be equipped with advanced front and rear air suspension systems to enhance ride comfort and passenger safety.

Powered by high-capacity Lithium-ion battery packs offering a range of over 250 kilometres per charge, the buses will support opportunity charging in approximately 45 minutes to ensure operational efficiency. Dedicated wheelchair accommodation will also be integrated, reinforcing Olectra's commitment to accessibility and inclusive mobility.

# Rahul as PM is only solution: Bhatti

BIZZ BUZZ BUREAU  
HYDERABAD

DEPUTY Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka asserted that if Rahul Gandhi assume the role of Prime Minister, the entrenched challenges confronting the nation will be resolved.

He urged the presidents of the district Congress Committees from both Andhra Pradesh and Telangana to engage tirelessly until Rahul Gandhi is appointed Prime Minister, emphasising the importance of striving to secure a maximum number of parliamentary seats across both states. His remarks were delivered during a training camp for district Congress committee presidents convened in Vikarabad on Monday.

Bhatti Vikramarka addressed the theme, "Caste Issues and Reservations - The Role of Congress Workers in Combatting Caste Discrimination." He noted that in instances of untouchability or discrimination throughout the country, Rahul Gandhi takes personal initiative to visit affected areas. Citing



the situation at Hyderabad Central University, he recalled that following the tragic suicide of Rohith Vemula, who reportedly experienced caste discrimination, Rahul Gandhi made a direct visit to the university, engaged with students, and played a pivotal role in shaping the ensuing movement.

Bhatti Vikramarka highlighted that during that period, Congress leaders prohibited party workers from accessing the campus, as Rahul Gandhi maintained that untouchability should be addressed as a social concern rather than being politicised.

He elaborated that initiatives are currently in progress in Karnataka and Telangana to introduce legislation in memory of Rohith Vemula.

# PRISM plans to add 300 hotels

HYDERABAD

PRISM, the parent brand of OYO, has announced plans to add 300 company-serviced hotels across Telangana and Andhra Pradesh, with a strategic focus on Hyderabad, Warangal, Karimnagar and Khammam. PRISM said Telangana's improving infrastructure, strong air connectivity and growing domestic tourism make it a key expansion market. Ashish Saurabh, Regional Head, PRISM, said: "Telangana is one of the most structurally strong hospitality markets in the country. Business hubs like Hyderabad continue to generate consistent corporate demand, while rising aspirations and improving connectivity are unlocking new leisure corridors. We are building a network that is not just larger, but stronger and more reliable for guests." The announcement was made at a hotel partner summit in Hyderabad, outlining a 360-degree growth roadmap centred on supply expansion, improved quality standards and enhanced guest experience. The move aligns with rising demand driven by Hyderabad's medical and business tourism as well as religious destinations such as Yadadri and Bhadrachalam.

# MEMPA holds training on 'Mana Dabbulu Mana Lekkalu' app

BIZZ BUZZ BUREAU  
VIJAYAWADA

MISSION for Elimination of Poverty in Municipal Areas (MEPMA) on Monday conducted a training program on the usage of the 'Mana Dabbulu Mana Lekkalu' (MDML) app and mobile bookkeeping for field staff and training the trainees (TOTs). Self-Help Groups (SHG) members, bookkeepers, IT anchor persons, resource persons (RPs) and others.

The training was held at the SERP Head Office, Vijayawada, under the chairmanship of Additional Mission Director K. Naga Venkateswara Rao. The MDML app, developed by the Government of Andhra Pradesh under the MEPMA initiative, enables SHG members to transparently record and review their monthly financial and non-financial transactions directly on their mobile phones.



instructions, experienced SHG members, bookkeepers, and RPs from each district were selected as TOTs, along with IT Anchor Persons and TE-IBs, to attend this training.

To ensure smooth implementation of the MDML app, a special action plan was scheduled from February 16 to 25. This included app field testing, issue resolution, demo sessions, finalization, TOT training, and preparation of district/ULB-wise action plans. Furthermore, SPMU officials from MEPMA headquarters were allotted districts to oversee and monitor the accurate uploading of SHG transaction data by April 15.

The training program was attended by the Additional Mission Director, SERP IB, TCS staff, State Mission Managers, Head Office staff, SHG members, bookkeepers, and RPs.

# Buildathon 2026 grand finale held; CVR emerges winner

First-of-its-kind innovation platform organised exclusively for civil engineering students across Telangana

HYDERABAD

THE grand finale of Radha TMT's unique initiative, "Creators of Tomorrow - Buildathon 2026," a first-of-its-kind Civil Engineering Innovation Platform organised exclusively for civil engineering students across Telangana was held here.

CVR College of Engineering emerged as the winner for their innovative proposal titled "Water Treatment Waste into Sustainable Building Solutions." The team was declared the winner of the challenge and walked away with a cash prize of Rs2.5 lakh.

Rajiv Gandhi University of Knowledge Technologies (RGUKT), Basara, secured the first runner-up position and bagged Rs 1 lakh, while JNTU Hyderabad was declared the second runner-up and received Rs50,000. Consolation prizes of Rs 25,000 each were awarded to Sreenidhi Institute of Science and Technology (SNIST), University College of Engineering (Osmania University), Gokaraju Rangaraju



Institute of Engineering and Technology (GRIET), and VNR Vignana Jyothi Institute of Engineering and Technology (VNR VJIET).

Over 100 engineering colleges and a couple of hundred civil engineering students participated in the multi-level competition, culminating in seven finalist teams. The finalists included teams from JNTU Hyderabad, University College of Engineering-Osmania University, GRIET, VNR VJIET, SNIST, RGUKT Basara, and CVR College of Engineering.

The competition showcased pioneering and practical ideas addressing real-world infra-

structure challenges. One of the notable presentations focused on pothole-free roads. Highlighting that nearly 2,161 people die annually due to pothole-related accidents and that the government spends between Rs1,000 crore and Rs3,000 crore annually on maintenance, students proposed a preventive solution using micro-encapsulation technology with waste and used cooking oil. Their approach targeted micro-level cracks in roads, aiming to prevent crack expansion, block water penetration, maintain structural integrity, and eliminate the root causes of potholes.

# Vizag at inflection point: From Port City to powerhouse, says noted port evangelist

Says if leveraged intelligently, each major exit along this corridor - from Anakapalli to Gurralapalem and beyond - can emerge as a focused development node

SANTOSH PATNAIK  
VISAKHAPATNAM

NOTED port evangelist Muralidharan Krishnamoorthy has said that Visakhapatnam, once known as a cluster of fishermen villages and subsequently transformed into a growing metropolis with rapid industrialisation, is taking the shape of a powerhouse with several mega investments in the pipeline.

Krishnamoorthy, former CEO of Andhra Pradesh Maritime Board, who hails from this city, told Bizz Buzz that for decades, Visakhapatnam has been known as India's eastern maritime gateway - a dependable port city, a defence hub, and an industrial backbone of Andhra Pradesh. Having spent more than three decades in ports, logistics, and infrastructure development, he says he has seen Vizag evolving steadily. "Yet today, the city stands at a far more



decisive crossroads than at any time in its recent history. What lies before us now is not incremental growth. It is the opportunity for structural transformation," he felt.

He pointed out that three powerful forces are converging in Vizag: digital infrastructure, port-led industrialisation, and next-generation connectivity. Investments in data centres and Global Capability Centres, the upcoming international airport at

The city stands at a far more decisive crossroads than at any time in its recent history. What lies before us now is not incremental growth. It is the opportunity for structural transformation -- Muralidharan Krishnamoorthy, former CEO of Andhra Pradesh Maritime Board



Bhogapuram, the proposed metro system, and new high-way corridors are together laying the foundation for a truly integrated city-region. Alongside this, the vision of developing a new, well-planned city in the outskirts offers a rare chance to decongest the core and create space for future institutions, industries, and housing.

Krishnamoorthy said at the heart of this transformation is the Anakapalli-Vizag By-

pass corridor, which already provides Vizag with a natural ring-road-like advantage. Starting from Anakapalli and extending around the city, this bypass has the potential to function much like Hyderabad's Outer Ring Road - not merely as a transport facility, but as a powerful engine of urban and economic growth.

If leveraged intelligently, each major exit along this corridor - from Anakapalli to Gurralapalem and beyond - can emerge as a focused development node. These nodes can host integrated townships, educational and healthcare campuses, technology parks, logistics and industrial estates, and commercial hubs. Over time, they can absorb population growth, reduce pressure on the core city, and create multiple centres of employment and opportunity. He observed that this is precisely how Hyderabad's ORR reshaped that city's economic

geography. It converted peripheral land into productive urban ecosystems. Vizag today has a similar moment before it - perhaps with even greater strategic advantage, given its port, airport, and coastal corridor. Equally significant is the strengthening of Vizag's external connectivity - to central India, Telangana, and the eastern hinterland - through new and upgraded highway corridors. These routes are shrinking distances, improving reliability, and integrating Vizag more deeply into national supply chains. The city is steadily positioning itself as a gateway between the coast, the heartland, and global markets.

However, infrastructure alone does not create prosperity. It only enables it, he remarked and pointed out that the real test lies in governance, coordination, and execution. Roads, airports, ports, and metro lines must

be supported by reliable water supply, power systems, drainage, housing, and social infrastructure. Land-use planning must be disciplined. Development must be guided, not left to chance. Without this, even the best infrastructure can produce congestion, inequality, and inefficiency.

"In this context, leadership matters. The experience of Andhra Pradesh shows that when political will, administrative focus, and professional execution come together, ambitious visions can be translated into reality. What many call the "Naidu magic" is, in essence, this ability to align vision with delivery. The scale of transformation that Vizag now requires can only be achieved through such sustained commitment," he opined.

To a question, he felt that equally important is investment in human capital. As digital services, advanced

manufacturing, and high-value industries expand, Vizag must strengthen its universities, technical institutes, skilling centres, and research partnerships. A city grows sustainably only when its people grow with it.

From an economic perspective, Vizag is entering a virtuous cycle. Infrastructure attracts investment. Investment expands consumption and public revenues.

These revenues, if reinvested wisely, strengthen public services and reinforce growth. Protecting this cycle is the central policy challenge of the coming decade.

The expert said "as someone who has worked across greenfield ports, industrial corridors, and logistics systems, I firmly believe that Vizag possesses all the ingredients to become a model coastal metropolis for India."