

AP Cabinet clears 11 projects with ₹9,076-cr investment

Expected to generate 10,531 employment opportunities in the State

APPROVED PROJECTS

- Acquisition of 63.01 acres in Tirupati district
- Organise concerts across the State
- Large aquarium and office complex for NFDB
- Allotment of land to CII Global Leadership Centre
- Land for Art of Living and Isha Foundation

BIZZ BUZZ BUREAU AMARAVATI

BESIDES giving its stamp of approval to 11 projects envisaged with an investment of Rs9,076 crore mostly in the tourism sector, the State Cabinet on Friday sanctioned 10 multi-village drinking water works at a cost of Rs 9,355 crore.

The Cabinet met at Velagapudi Secretariat with Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu in the chair, in all took up for discussion over 30 agenda points. The meeting gave approval to 2,943 drink-



Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu at the Cabinet meeting in Amaravati on Friday

ing water projects costing Rs1,811.81 crore in severe water-stressed areas. It was decided to take up work on modernisation of Peddaguadda Reservoir command area and Kuppam and Beeragaipalle reservoirs.

A proposal to set up a special court of the National Investigation Agency (NIA) in

Visakhapatnam was cleared. The court will take up NIA cases.

The meeting gave its consent for acquisition of 63.01 acres in Tirupati district and establishing a logistics park. The Cabinet approved a proposal to organise concerts across the State and encourage opening of a large aquar-

ium and office complex for the National Fisheries Development Board. Clearance was also given to consider allotment of land to CII Global Leadership Centre, Art of Living and Isha Foundation in Amaravati.

Following serious deliberations on social media and spread of falsehood by spreading fake videos using AI, Naidu directed the Ministers to launch a counter-campaign by Opposition vested interests to tarnish the image of the government. He said all those responsible for misusing social media with false narratives should be brought to book. A power-point presentation was also given on how social media was being misused.

At the meeting, Naidu asked the Ministers and senior officials to accord more thrust on speed of doing business. All the decisions taken at the 19th State Investment Promotion Board (SIPB) for allowing investments worth Rs9,076.11 crore across 11 projects expected to generate 10,531 employment opportunities in the State were tarified at the Cabinet.

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Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu directed the officials to promote industrialisation to provide additional income opportunities for farming families and enable them to emerge as entrepreneurs. He emphasised on attracting investments to strengthen the rural economy and called for leveraging the growing demand for ethanol. The Chief Minister said that increasing ethanol blending to 40 per cent would provide significant additional income to maize farmers. He instructed officials to actively encourage investments in the ethanol manufacturing sector, noting that ethanol demand would increase substantially for blending with petrol and diesel.

Telangana pitches high-tech sectors to German investors

Sridhar Babu invites Bavarian businesses to partner in manufacturing, AI, semiconductors and lifesciences



BIZZ BUZZ BUREAU HYDERABAD

TELANGANA is the most conducive state for establishing manufacturing industries compared to other states in the country, said Minister for Information Technology and Industries Duddilla Sridhar Babu.

He urged the high-level German delegation to encourage German industrialists to invest in the State.

The Minister said the state government is making planned efforts to transform Telangana into a world-class manufacturing hub with investor-friendly industrial policies, world-class infrastructure, and a skilled workforce.

A high-level German delegation led by Tobias Gotthardt, Vice Minister of the Bavarian Ministry of Eco-

nomics, Regional Development and Energy, paid a courtesy call on Sridhar Babu at the Secretariat on Friday.

During the meeting, both sides discussed opportunities to further strengthen bilateral relations between Telangana and Germany. Sridhar Babu explained the policies being implemented by the State government to accelerate industrial development and the incentives being extended to industries.

He said Telangana offers vast investment opportunities in sectors such as life sciences, biotechnology, aerospace, defence, advanced manufacturing, precision engineering, digital engineering, semiconductors, automotive and mobility, artificial intelligence (AI), digital health, research and innovation, clean energy, global

capability centres (GCCs), and industry 4.0. "The State is systematically developing a comprehensive ecosystem with a focus on advanced technology, research, innovation, and skilling to address future challenges in these sectors," Sridhar Babu said. The Minister said the Telangana government is ready to expand the Telangana-Germany partnership beyond investments to include collaboration in technology, research, and skill development.

The meeting was attended by German Consul General Michael Hasper, Germany's Honorary Consul in Hyderabad Amita Desai, Executive Director of the Bavarian Ministry of Economic Affairs Ulrike Hoffmann, Executive Director of the Bavaria India Office John Kottayil, and others.

Singareni scripts record with five 5-star mines

BIZZ BUZZ BUREAU HYDERABAD

FIVE mines of the Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCL) have been selected for the prestigious 5-star rating in the National Coal Mine Rating Programme conducted annually by the Ministry of Coal, Government of India. According to the list released by the Ministry of Coal, RK Newtech and RK-6 mines of Srirampur area, JVR OC-II of Sathupalli area, Khairiguda Open Cast of Bellampalli area and RG OC-I of Ramagundam-III area have been recognised as 5-star rated mines.

Out of 382 coal mines across the country that applied for the 5-star rating, only 50 mines were selected, of which five belong to SCL, marking a significant achieve-

ment for the company. Last year, four Singareni mines had received the 5-star rating. This year, for the assessment year 2024-25, SCL has achieved its highest-ever tally of five 5-Star rated mines, the best performance in the company's history.

Congratulating the officers, employees and workers of the award-winning mines, Deputy Chief Minister and Minister for Energy Bhatti Vikramarka appreciated their outstanding performance and called upon other mines in Singareni to emulate these best practices. The Ministry of Coal conducts this annual programme through its subordinate office, the Coal Controller Organisation (CCO), to encourage excellence in coal mining. Mines are evaluated across seven

major categories covering 50 performance parameters, including scientific mining practices, workers' welfare, environmental protection, mine safety and development of nearby villages.

Every year, the Coal Controller Organisation invites coal mines across the country to participate in the 5-Star Rating programme. Government and private coal mining companies voluntarily undertake a self-evaluation of their mines based on the prescribed criteria and submit their applications. The assessment primarily examines seven major areas, including scientific mining practices, efficient use of mining technology, financial performance of the mine, welfare measures for mine-affected communities and nearby villages.

AI readiness programme in minority schools

Nearly 80,000 students in residential schools to benefit from the initiative

BIZZ BUZZ BUREAU HYDERABAD

IN a major step towards preparing students for the rapidly evolving digital revolution, the Telangana Government on Friday signed the AI Readiness and Digital Safety Programme for nearly 80,000 students studying in the Telangana Minorities Residential Educational Institutions Society (TMREIS). The initiative, implemented in partnership with Doha Consulting Private Limited (DCPL) and MASK NextGen Inc., aims to equip students with essential skills in artificial intelligence, digital citizenship and cybersecurity, while advancing the State's vision of building a future-ready workforce.

The programme, which will be rolled out from Au-

gust 15, will be offered at no cost to the State government, leveraging a Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)-driven partnership model. The initiative aligns with Chief Minister Revanth Reddy's vision of providing quality education to every child and transforming Telangana into one of India's leading destinations for AI and technology-driven employment.

Announcing the initiative after the signing of the partnership agreement, Telangana Minorities Welfare Minister Mohammed Azharuddin described the programme as a landmark development for the State's minority residential education system, which currently comprises 205 institutions catering to students from economically disadvantaged minority communities.



Telangana Minorities Welfare Minister Mohammed Azharuddin is seen speaking on AI Readiness and Digital Safety Programme partnership in Hyderabad on Friday

He said the residential school network has consistently delivered strong academic results and has emerged as one of the country's most successful educational models by providing quality education along with safe campuses, nutritious food, modern infrastructure and technology-enabled learning environments.

"Our Telangana education system is one of the best in India," the Minister said,

adding that the minority residential institutions have built a reputation for academic excellence while creating opportunities for students from underprivileged backgrounds to compete on an equal footing.

Azharuddin credited Chief Minister Revanth Reddy for supporting initiatives that expand access to quality education and ensure that children, irrespective of their socio-economic background,

are equipped with the skills needed for the future.

He said the new programme would expose students to emerging technologies, including artificial intelligence, while promoting responsible digital behaviour, cybersecurity awareness and ethical technology usage. The initiative is expected to help students develop future-ready competencies and improve their preparedness for higher education and careers in the global knowledge economy.

Highlighting the government's commitment to student welfare, the Minister also referred to the recent enhancement in dietary allocations for students in minority residential institutions, describing it as a significant step towards improving their overall well-being.

AP grants fresh deadline for Ramayapatnam project

SANTOSH PATNAIK AMARAVATI

ANDHRA Pradesh Government has given the second extension of deadline to Navayuga Engineering Company Ltd and Aurobindo Realty Ltd, the EPC contractors for construction of the Ramayapatnam Port in Prakasam district, to December 30.

The deadline was reextended following a representation by the EPC contractor that the delay is caused due to non-handing over of balance land (38.03 acres) affecting critical

components such as stackyard, internal roads, railway connectivity, and utilities, unforeseen dredging conditions (hard strata) and operational constraints and Force Majeure conditions, including severe cyclones during construction period and geopolitical situation in West Asia affecting fuel supply chains. The contractor cited delay in external infrastructure works, including power transmission and railway connectivity and change in dredge disposal location, increasing operational time and local hindrances and land acquisition issues



in Karlapalem and Salipeta villages. Earlier, the government had accorded revised administrative sanction of Rs4,923.39 crore for construction of greenfield port at Ramayapatnam in erstwhile SPSR Nellore district. The technical sanction was accorded by the Chief Engineer in 2020. The work

was entrusted to the joint venture comprising Navayuga Engineering Company Ltd. & Aurobindo Realty Ltd with June 23, 2025 as the scheduled date of completion. The first extension was granted till April 27 for completion of Phase-I works without levying liquidated damages. Special Chief Secretary, Infrastructure and Investment MV Krishna Babu in an order issued on Friday said the government after careful examination of the matter, accepted the proposal of Chief Executive Officer, Andhra Pradesh Maritime Board (APMB)

to accord 2nd extension of time (EOT) up to 30.12.2026 for completion of the project "Construction of Greenfield Port at Ramayapatnam in Prakasam District on EPC Basis" without levy of liquidated damages subject to condition that no additional amount will be entertained for the act of issue of extension of time. The government has already approved the issuance of RFP for the contract to a firm/consortium for development, operation and maintenance of the port on DBFOT basis on the recommendation of APMB.

AP nod to ₹750-cr Tirupati 'City of Lakes and Tanks' project

Project proposes rejuvenating water bodies, restoring interlinkages, improving groundwater recharge

AMARAVATI

THE Andhra Pradesh government has accorded in-principle approval for a Rs 750 crore project to develop Tirupati as a 'City of Lakes and Tanks', boosting climate resilience and flood mitigation, Municipal Administration and Urban Development (MA&UD) Department Principal Secretary S Suresh Kumar said.

The proposed Climate Resilient Integrated Water Management project, prepared by the Tirupati Urban Development Authority (TUDA), aims to restore Tirupati's interconnected lakes, tanks and drainage channels, transforming the temple city into a national model for integrated lake rejuvenation and sustainable



water management. Kumar said that rapid urbanisation, siltation, shrinking water bodies, encroachments, broken lake interlinkages and sewage inflows weakened Tirupati's historic water network, while the November 2021 floods exposed its vulnerability. The project proposes

rejuvenating water bodies, restoring interlinkages, strengthening stormwater management, improving groundwater recharge, reducing flood risks and preventing sewage, siltage and solid waste inflows into lakes. The estimated project cost is Rs750 crore, including Rs250 crore each for water

body restoration, stormwater management and contingencies, studies and administration.

The government also plans to secure about Rs500 crore, equivalent to EUR50 million, in concessional funding from Germany's KfW Development Bank.

The proposal includes rejuvenating about 25 water bodies, restoring cascades, strengthening bunds, sluices, surplus channels, desilting lakes, pollution mitigation and creating blue-green infrastructure. Avilala Tank has been identified as a priority, with the chief minister directing officials to develop it on the lines of Hyderabad's Tank Bund (Hussain Sagar).

The Integrated Storm Water Management component

will rehabilitate drainage networks in Tirupati Municipal Corporation and adjoining areas using rainwater harvesting and nature-based solutions.

Kumar said the approval enables TUDA to prepare detailed project reports and related studies.

He said Tirupati's traditional lakes are vital for flood moderation and groundwater security, while integrating them with modern drainage systems will improve resilience and public spaces. Kumar clarified the approval covers only project preparation and appraisal, with implementation requiring statutory clearances, engineering investigations, financial appraisal and other mandatory approvals. The government author-

ised TUDA to coordinate with Tirupati Municipal Corporation, Water Resources Department, Commissioner and Director of Municipal Administration, Andhra Pradesh Urban Finance and Infrastructure Development Corporation and other agencies.

It also directed Andhra Pradesh Urban Infrastructure Asset Management Limited to complete the detailed project report and financial tie-up within six months.

Once implemented, the project is expected to improve climate resilience, reduce flood risks, revive traditional water systems, enhance groundwater recharge and strengthen Tirupati's ecological balance, Kumar added.

IN BRIEF

Panel seeks report on food poisoning

HYDERABAD: The TGHRC on Friday directed the Nagarkurnool district collector to submit a detailed report on the circumstances leading to an alleged food poisoning incident at a state-run tribal welfare boys' residential school, in which 26 to 27 students reportedly fell ill after consuming breakfast. The commission took cognisance on its own of media reports about the alleged food poisoning incident at the institute in Mannanur village, Amrabad mandal, Nagarkurnool district, on Thursday. The Telangana Human Rights Commission called for a detailed report from the collector on the circumstances leading to the incident and the present health condition of the affected students. It also sought details of the inquiry findings, the analysis of food and water samples, the action taken against those responsible, if any, and the preventive measures put in place to prevent a recurrence. The matter has been posted for a report on August 11, a press release said.

Finance firm support to LVPEI solar



VISAKHAPATNAM: LV Prasad Eye Institute (LVPEI), as part of its Green LVPEI initiative, has installed a rooftop solar power system. LVPEI said on Friday that it is deeply grateful for its association with Maanaveeya Development & Finance Private Limited in implementing their high-impact CSR initiative, since 2020. The partnership has strengthened over the years, with Maanaveeya supporting LVPEI's green initiative through CSR grants for the installation of solar rooftop systems across several LVPEI campuses. "We are pleased to announce the inauguration of a newly installed 75 kW rooftop solar power system LVPEI here with the CSR support extended by Maanaveeya Pvt Ltd. With this addition, Maanaveeya has supported a total of seven green initiatives across different campuses of LVPEI, bringing the cumulative solar capacity supported by it to 363 kW," according to a press release.