

Vizag Coaching Yard remodelling set to give major boost to rail infrastructure

- The remodeling project paves the way for Visakhapatnam to handle a larger number of originating, terminating trains
- The additional infrastructure will strengthen Visakhapatnam's ability to accommodate more originating and terminating services
- The remodelling also proposes electronic interlocking, replacing or upgrading existing signalling and route-control arrangements with a modern computer-based system



Additional platform works are in progress at Gnanapuram in Visakhapatnam



Gnanapuram railway station entrance which is set to be transformed
Photos: Vasu Potnuru



Transport Minister Mandipalli Ramprasad Reddy inspecting APSRTC zonal workshop on Friday

Transport Minister calls for cost-efficient APSRTC operations

- Inspects the APSRTC zonal workshop and reviews its functioning
- Says that RTC workers and passengers were like two eyes of the APSRTC and that their interests should be valued

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TRANSPORT Minister Mandipalli Ramprasad Reddy on Friday called upon APSRTC employees and officials to work collectively towards reducing operational costs while further improving the quality, reliability and efficiency of services offered to passengers. Inspecting the APSRTC zonal workshop, the minister reviewed its functioning in detail. During the visit, he toured

key sections, including the engine, machine shop, electrical, body shop and unit departments and examined the maintenance and repair activities being carried out at the facility. Interacting with officials, Ramprasad Reddy sought details about the quality of bus maintenance, repair procedures and workshop operations. He stressed that adherence to prescribed maintenance standards was essential to ensure the safety of passengers, improve vehicle reliability and provide better services across the APSRTC network. APSRTC Visakhapatnam Regional Manager B Appalanaidu briefed the minister on the functioning of the workshop and explained various maintenance and technical activities undertaken by the facility. Emphasising the crucial role of both employees and

passengers in the growth of the public transport organisation, the Transport Minister said RTC workers and passengers were like two eyes of the APSRTC and that their interests should be valued. Highlighting APSRTC's preparations for future transportation requirements, Ramprasad Reddy said the corporation was introducing electric and CNG buses as part of efforts to modernise its fleet, improve efficiency and meet emerging mobility needs. Later, the minister felicitated retiring employees at the workshop, recognising their contribution and years of service to APSRTC. As Transport Minister, he would extend all possible support whenever APSRTC and its workforce required assistance, he assured the employees.

VISAKHAPATNAM is poised for a major railway infrastructure expansion, with Indian Railways approving a comprehensive remodelling of the Visakhapatnam coaching yard at an estimated cost of around Rs 299 crore. The project aims to increase train-handling capacity, ease operational constraints and improve passenger facilities at one of the busiest railway hubs on the east coast. The ambitious remodeling assumes greater significance as Visakhapatnam continues to grow as a major metropolitan, industrial and tourism hub, generating increasing demand for additional train services. Indian Railways identified Visakhapatnam among major cities where originating train capacity is targeted

for substantial enhancement by 2030. Earlier plans for the yard envisaged additional passenger platforms, stabling lines and modern electronic interlocking as part of the capacity augmentation programme. As part of the latest Rs.299-crore proposal, six new platforms and six additional railway lines are planned, while the existing six platforms are proposed to be widened. The expansion would provide greater flexibility for receiving, dispatching and handling trains and could reduce the pressure created when several services arrive or depart within short intervals. Wider platforms are expected to provide more space for passengers and improve movement during peak hours, holidays and festival seasons. The additional infrastructure will strengthen Visakhapatnam's ability to accommodate more originating and terminating services. At present, limitations in terminal and yard capacity influence the introduction and handling of additional trains. Expanding the number of lines and platforms would create room for

future growth as passenger demand rises. A major passenger-oriented component of the project is the proposed development of a new entrance on the eastern side of the station. This would effectively improve access to the station from both sides and streamline passenger movement more efficiently instead of concentrating traffic around the existing approaches. The plan includes surface parking and a redesigned circulation system intended to streamline the movement of private vehicles, taxis, auto-rickshaws and other modes of transport around the station. The eastern-side development could become particularly important as the railway station serves passengers from different parts of the expanding Visakhapatnam urban area. Better segregation of arriving and departing vehicles and improved pedestrian movement could help reduce congestion around station entry and exit points, especially during the arrival and departure of major long-distance trains. The remodelling also pro-

poses electronic interlocking, replacing or upgrading existing signalling and route-control arrangements with a modern computer-based system. Electronic interlocking is designed to safely coordinate signals, points and train routes while providing railway operators greater flexibility in handling movements through a complex station yard. With additional platforms and lines being created, the signalling upgrade will be a crucial part of improving both capacity and operational safety. The Rs 299-crore project comes amid a much broader railway infrastructure push in Andhra Pradesh. In April, Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said the state had received a record railway allocation of Rs 10,134 crore and announced that the South Coast Railway Zone would become effective from June 1, 2026. Visakhapatnam is also set to benefit from major capacity expansion on the railway corridor towards Rajamahendravaram. The Union Cabinet approved multi-tracking of the Rajahmundry-Visakhapatnam section as part of a Rs 24,815-crore

package covering projects in Andhra Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh, further strengthening the terminal capacity in Visakhapatnam as the surrounding network gains additional line capacity. Once implemented, the coaching yard remodelling will fundamentally change how Visakhapatnam railway station handles trains and passengers. The combination of six new platforms, six additional lines, widening of the existing platforms, modern electronic interlocking, an eastern-side entrance, surface parking and improved circulation facilities is expected to address present bottlenecks while creating capacity for future growth. More importantly, the project paves the way for Visakhapatnam to handle a larger number of originating and terminating trains as railway traffic grows in the region. Along with the operationalisation of South Coast Railway and other major rail capacity projects around the city, the yard remodelling is set to strengthen Visakhapatnam's position as a major railway gateway for Andhra Pradesh and the east coast.

COUNTDOWN STARTS!



On the eve of the Alluri Sitaram Raju International Airport's inauguration, digital screens at the Beach Road in Visakhapatnam highlighting the significance of the ceremony.
Photo: Vasu Potnuru

Session held on 'Leveraging Technology, Innovation and Intellectual Property for HEIs Excellence'



Speakers, management personnel and faculty members at the Vizianagaram campus

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SATYA Institute of Technology and Management in Vizianagaram, in association with the National Research Development Corporation, NRDC, Government of India, and the Japan External Trade Organisation, JETRO, organised an interactive session on 'Leveraging Technology, Innovation and Intellectual Property for HEIs Excellence'. The programme aimed to promote research, innovation, intellectual property awareness, technology commercialisation and international collaboration among higher educational institutions. Addressing the participants, Nakano Hiroyuki, senior director, Intellectual Property Rights, JETRO, shared valuable insights into Japan's innovation ecosystem, global intellectual property practices and growing importance of international research collaborations. He emphasised that higher educational institutions should foster a strong culture of innovation, encourage patent generation, and develop globally competitive technologies through partnerships with industry and

international organisations. He also expressed JETRO's keen interest in strengthening academic, research, and innovation collaborations between Japan and India. Delivering the keynote address, BK Sahu, regional manager, National Research Development Corporation, highlighted the vital role of Intellectual Property Rights in protecting innovations and transforming research into commercially viable technologies. Earlier, VG Prasanna, dean, research and development, SITAM, presented the institutional profile and showcased the institution's achievements in research, innovation, intellectual property, industry collaborations and entrepreneurship. The JETRO and NRDC delegates highly appreciated the institution's remarkable achievements in research, innovation, and intellectual property creation. They commended the institution for fostering a vibrant research culture and for its sustained efforts in encouraging faculty members and students to develop innovative technologies with significant social and industrial impact. Director of SITAM M. Sashibhushana Rao felicitated the JETRO and NRDC dignitaries on the occasion.

'Leadership goes beyond command'

- India@100 will be defined not only by economic growth but by institutions that continuously evolve, innovate and remain resilient in the face of change
- The conclave highlighted the central role of women leaders in shaping not only organisations but also the broader ecosystems around them
- Through thought-provoking deliberations on leadership, the conclave underscored the importance of equipping women to lead transformational change across sectors

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LEADERSHIP is not just about the command one holds but about collaborating and creating growth opportunities for coworkers and building a conducive ecosystem at workplace,



Chairperson of IWN AP Usha Pantula along with others at the CII IWN AP chapter's leadership conclave organised in Visakhapatnam on Friday

emphasised deputy chairperson of Visakhapatnam Port Authority Roshni Aparanji Korati. Delivering an inspiring talk at the 'Confederation of Indian Industry Indian Women Network Andhra Pradesh Leadership Conclave 2026' organised at Fluentgrid Limited, Rushikonda, the deputy chairperson called for breaking away from preconceived notions of new-age leadership and bringing positive change to others' lives. "Instead of being identified more as the first woman deputy chairperson of the

port, I would rather like to be recognised for the team-centric and infrastructure-led decisions I have made for the organisation," she underlined, encouraging women leaders to make meaningful decisions that help the team grow along with them and contribute to the institution they work for. Themed as 'Leading India@100 - Resilient Systems for the Future', the CII IWN AP chapter's leadership conclave brought together leaders from industry, government, academia and entrepreneurship to deliberate

on how the systems built today will determine the resilience, sustainability and future-readiness of India as it moves towards the centenary of its independence by 2047. Chairperson of IWN AP Usha Pantula reiterated that this gender-agnostic conclave shifted the focus from merely adapting to disruption toward building enduring institutions, leading through uncertainty and creating human-centered systems where technology, policy and economic growth work in tandem to serve society. Delivering the theme address, chairperson of CII IWN Southern Region Sivapriya Balagopal, said, "Women are not just participants in India's growth story but are architects of India@100. By strengthening women's leadership, entrepreneurship and decision-making, we are building resilient institutions and an inclusive future that will benefit generations to come." She

encouraged women leaders to step beyond economic matrices and engage in bold thinking for meaningful collaboration resulting in purposeful action. Addressing the gathering, vice chairman of CII Andhra Pradesh G Sambasiva Rao said, "When women lead, organisations become more resilient, innovative and inclusive. Empowering women through opportunities, mentorship and entrepreneurship is not only a matter of equity but a strategic imperative for building a stronger Andhra Pradesh and a developed India by 2047." The conclave included seven stalls set up by women entrepreneurs, providing them a platform to exhibit their products and connect with industry leaders and participants. Sudha Mavuri, vice chairperson, IWN Andhra Pradesh, Vasudha T, past chairwoman, Ramadevi Gourineni, past chairwoman, among others, were present at the event, which included panel sessions.

Raising awareness among exporters and industry stakeholders

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FOCUSING on the ATA Carnet and UN TIR system, the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry, in collaboration with the Vizagapatam Chamber of Commerce and Industry (VCCI), organised a workshop in Visakhapatnam. The objective of the workshop was to raise awareness among exporters and industry stakeholders about essential international customs documents. The event saw participation of over 75 persons, primarily from the exporting community. The platform provided a valuable opportunity to enhance understanding of temporary import and export procedures, helping participants navigate cross-

border trade complexities more efficiently. Principal Commissioner of Customs, Visakhapatnam Commissionerate N. Sridhar, in his keynote address, said, "Mechanisms such as the ATA Carnet and the TIR system are designed to reduce the documentation burden and simplify customs procedures for the temporary movement and transit of goods." He further urged industry stakeholders to effectively use these internationally recognised trade facilitation mechanisms to expand their business opportunities in global markets. Satish Kumar Reddy, trade facilitation expert and consultant, Asian Development Bank (ADB), highlighted the salient features of the ATA Carnet

and the UN TIR system during his presentation. The Visakhapatnam workshop gave participants a comprehensive understanding of the

operational aspects of the ATA Carnet and the UN TIR system and offered exporters, importers, logistics service providers and other stakeholders an

interactive platform to raise queries, share concerns and seek clarifications on procedures relating to the temporary movement and transit of goods.

LOST OF PASS PORT

I, CHAVANAJANEYULU S/O CHAVASA PRASAD, R/O. D.NO-27-3-98, SRI NAGAR, VISAKHAPATNAM, LOST MY ORIGINAL PASSPORT NO.K6867449 WHILE I AM TRAVELLING, FROM MY VILLAGE GAJUWAKA TO PENDURTHI TRAVEL BY AUTO ON 27-06-2026.IF ANYONE FOUND MAY PLEASE CONTACT: 9515268074

CHANGE OF NAME

I, VENKATA RAMANA VIROTHU (New Name) S/o. Virothu Appala Naidu Previously called VIROTHI VENKATA RAMANA (Old Name) R/o. D.No.1-28,Kothavalasa, Visakhapatnam A.P. Now changed my name from VIROTHI VENKATA RAMANA (Old Name) to VENKATA RAMANA VIROTHU (New Name) hence forth I will be Called as VENKATA RAMANA VIROTHU (New Name) for all purposes.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, MAMATA BHUYAN (New Name) W/o.Dalai Manoj Kumar, Previously called MAMATA DALAI (Old Name), Kamakhya Nagar 1st line Gajapati Odisha Now changed my name from MAMATA DALAI (Old Name) to S.PRIYADHARSHAN (New Name) hence forth I will be Called as MAMATA BHUYAN (New Name) for all purposes.

CHANGE OF NAME

I,UPPARAPALLI VENKATA RAMANA MURTHY (New Name) S/o.U. Venkata Rathnam, Previously called UPPARAPALLI VENKATA RAMANA (Old Name) R/o.F.No202, Kasturi Nagar, Old CBI Down Road, 3 Town Police station,Pedda waitair ,Visakhapatnam A.P. 530017. Now changed my name from UPARAPALLI VENKATA RAMANA (Old Name) to UPPARAPALLI VENKATA RAMANA MURTHY (New Name) hence forth I will be Called as UPPARAPALLI VENKATA RAMANA MURTHY (New Name) for all purpose.

CHANGE OF NAME

I,S.PRIYADHARSHAN (New Name) S/o. K.Santha Kumar ,Previously called PRIYADHARSHAN (Old Name)R/o.F.No202, Kasturi Nagar, Old CBI Down Road, 3 Town Police station,Pedda waitair ,Visakhapatnam A.P. 530017. Now changed my name from PRIYADHARSHAN (Old Name) to S.PRIYADHARSHAN (New Name) hence forth I will be Called as S.PRIYADHARSHAN (New Name) for all purposes.