

INS Mysore arrives at Lumut, Malaysia, for 4th edition of exercise Samudra Lakshmana

- INS Mysore arrived at Lumut, Malaysia to participate in the 4th edition of the bilateral maritime exercise ‘Samudra Laksamana’ between the Indian Navy and the Royal Malaysian Navy
- The engagement aligns with the government of India’s vision of MAHASAGAR and the ASEAN–India Year of Maritime Cooperation 2026
- The Indian Navy’s sail training ship, INS Sudarshini, arrived at Livorno, Italy, as part of the ongoing transoceanic expedition ‘Lokayan 2026’

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VISAKHAPATNAM

AS part of the Indian Navy’s Operational Deployment, INS Mysore arrived at Lumut, Malaysia, to participate in the 4th edition of the bilateral maritime exercise ‘Samudra Laksamana’ between the Indian Navy and the Royal Malaysian Navy.

The ship, which arrived on September 9 along with its crew, was warmly welcomed by personnel of the Royal Malaysian Navy and officials from the High Commission



INS Mysore arrives at Lumut, Malaysia, for the 4th edition of exercise Samudra Lakshmana

of India in Malaysia.

Exercise Samudra Laksamana comprises professional engagements in harbour and at sea, including cross-deck visits, operational interactions and sporting engagements. These activities will provide opportunities for personnel of both navies to exchange professional experiences, enhance interoperability and foster greater mutual understanding.

Building upon the momentum generated by recent bilateral engagements, including the 12th India - Malaysia Sub Committee Meeting held on July 1, the visit underscores the strong and enduring maritime partnership between India and Malaysia and reflects the expanding scope of co-operation between the two navies, representing another important step in advancing

maritime cooperation and strengthening professional exchanges between the two countries.

The engagement is aligned with the government of India’s vision of MAHASAGAR and the ASEAN–India Year of Maritime Cooperation 2026.

‘Lokayan 2026’

Meanwhile, as part of the ongoing transoceanic expedition ‘Lokayan 2026’, the Indian Navy’s sail training ship, INS Sudarshini, arrived at Livorno, Italy, on September 9. Sailing over 17,400 nautical miles across 10 countries during the deployment, the ship has been carrying forward India’s maritime traditions and spirit of friendship across the seas.

En route to Livorno, INS Sudarshini conducted a passage exercise with the Italian



Indian Navy’s sail training ship, INS Sudarshini, arrives at Livorno, Italy

Navy’s sail training ship ITS Palinuro in the Mediterranean Sea. The joint evolution involved coordinated manoeuvring and sail-handling drills, providing an opportunity for the crews of the two sailing ships to interact and exchange professional expertise.

Livorno, home to the pres-

tigious Italian Naval Academy (Accademia Navale), provides an opportunity for further professional engagement between the two Navies. During the port call, cross-deck visits and interactions between Indian trainees and Italian cadets will take place and the ship will remain open to visitors.

Special town planning open forum receives 267 grievances on day one

- Citizens attend the forum with documents relating to pending applications and issues and brought them to the notice of the concerned officials
- A total of 107 officers and staff, along with 61 Licensed Technical Persons (LTPs), participated in the programme

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A two-day special town planning open forum, organised as a special initiative to expedite the resolution of pending APDPMS approvals/issues, TDR online pending issues and LRS pending issues within the Greater Visakhapatnam Municipal Corporation (GVMC) limits, received an overwhelming response from the public on the day-one.

As per the directions of GVMC Commissioner Ketan Garg, Additional Commissioner S S Varma, along with Chief City Planner A Prabhakar Rao conducted the special forum at the GVMC head office on Thursday.

A total of 267 petitioners from various parts of the city attended the forum and submitted their grievances. Of these, 63 grievances related to APDPMS,



People approaching officials at the special town planning open forum organised at the GVMC main office in Visakhapatnam on Thursday

191 to LRS and 13 to TDR. Citizens attended the forum with documents relating to their pending applications and issues and brought them to the notice of the concerned officials.

After thoroughly examining the grievances, the officials disposed of 83 applications on the day-one itself, including 40 under APDPMS, 35 under LRS and 8 under TDR. The Commissioner directed the concerned officials to examine the remaining applications and expedite necessary action for their disposal in accordance with the prescribed rules.

A total of 107 officers and staff, along with 61 Licensed Technical Persons (LTPs), participated in the programme. In addition, 83 LRS applications were submitted through LTPs. By bringing citizens, LTPs and concerned officials together, the forum facilitated scruti-

ny of pending applications, identification of issues and faster processing toward their resolution.

The Commissioner clarified that the two-day special open forum is not intended for all general Town Planning issues, but is conducted exclusively for three specific categories: pending building approvals/issues under APDPMS, TDR online pending issues and LRS pending issues.

In view of the overwhelming public response, the special town planning open forum will continue on Friday (September 11) from 10 am to 5 pm at the GVMC head office, as scheduled, the Commissioner informed, appealing to people to make use of the platform effectively. City planner Dhanunjaya Reddy, deputy city planners, assistant city planners, other officials and staff participated in the programme.

CMRF cheques distributed to 10 beneficiaries



Beneficiaries who received CMRF cheques from Visakhapatnam Member of Parliament M. Sribharat in Visakhapatnam on Thursday

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GOVERNMENT assistance provides much-needed relief to families facing difficult circumstances, said Visakhapatnam Member of Parliament M Sribharat. Distributing financial assistance cheques to beneficiaries sanctioned support under the Chief Minister’s Relief Fund (CMRF) at his office on Thursday, the MP stated that assistance extended through the Chief Minister’s Relief Fund significantly helps families facing financial difficulties and unable to afford essential medical treatment.

He said efforts are being made to ensure that eligible beneficiaries receive the benefits of various government welfare schemes.

As many as 10 beneficiaries received financial assistance amounting to Rs 5,23,497 to support their medical treatment and related expenses.

The beneficiaries, including Y Vidha Vinshikar, K Santhosh Kumar, Narava Sharanya, K Eswara Rao, D Kantha, CH Rajeshwari, K Appayamma, Chinta Ramana, L Harshitha and R Sridevi, expressed gratitude for the financial assistance provided through the Chief Minister’s Relief Fund.

‘AP has huge potential to emerge as world-class tourist destination’

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UNION Civil Aviation Minister Kinjarapu Ram Mohan Naidu on Thursday said that Andhra Pradesh has abundant natural, spiritual and cultural resources required to emerge as a world-class tourist destination.

Speaking at the 41st annual convention of the Indian Association of Tour Operators (IATO) in Visakhapatnam, Ram Mohan Naidu said the state is home to several remarkable tourist destinations with immense potential for development. He emphasised that Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu is giving special priority to the tourism sector and considering concrete steps to unlock the state’s full tourism potential.

The Union Minister said air connectivity to Visakhapatnam and other major tourist destinations in Andhra Pradesh is further strengthened. He added that the gov-



Union Civil Aviation Minister Kinjarapu Ram Mohan Naidu, Tourism Minister Kandula Durgesh, among others, at the inauguration of the 41st annual convention of the Indian Association of Tour Operators in Visakhapatnam on Thursday

ernment is working towards making tourist travel faster and more convenient by establishing new airports and introducing seaplane services.

Special Chief Secretary, Tourism and Culture Department S S Rawat said a comprehensive report containing statistics on the state’s tourism resources, its growth, incentives and subsidies provided

to investors and infrastructure development was presented at the conference.

Tourism, Culture and Cinematography Minister Kandula Durgesh said the tourism sector had been neglected in the previous government’s tenure. However, after the coalition government came to power, innovative tourism initiatives such as wellness,

eco, adventure, helicopter and seaplane tourism have been accelerated, he underlined.

Durgesh mentioned that priority is given to developing world-class facilities at tourist destinations and stressed that active participation of tour operators and stakeholders in the travel trade is crucial for the sector’s growth. Later, the minister unveiled the prestigious ‘The Godavari Calls’ poster of the AP Tourism Department. The initiative aims to bring spirituality, culture and heritage together on a common platform, similar to the Kumbh Mela.

Durgesh said the initiative includes details of the Godavari Pushkaram scheduled to be held in 2027 along with information on various tourist circuits. Representatives of IATO and tour operators who arrived from different parts of the country were felicitated by tourism department officials. An impressive cultural show was presented on the occasion.

An open forum to resolve grievances

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AN open forum will be conducted at the Visakhapatnam Metropolitan Region Development Authority (VMRDA) on September 11 to provide an opportunity for the public to bring their issues and grievances related to the organisation directly to the attention of the officials.

Under the supervision of VMRDA in-charge Commissioner Ketan Garg, the public will have

an opportunity to directly submit and discuss issues pertaining to all departments of VMRDA with the concerned officials.

The open forum will be held on Friday from 10 am to 2 pm at the conference hall on the 9th floor of the VMRDA office. VMRDA Metropolitan Commissioner Ketan Garg has appealed to the people in the VMRDA jurisdiction to make use of the opportunity and bring their issues to the notice of the concerned officials.



A view of the VMRDA Office in Visakhapatnam

Life coach, motivational speaker inspires students

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AS part of the ongoing induction programme for first-year B.Tech students, an interactive session ‘campus to career’ was organised at Satya Institute of Technology and Management (SITAM) in Vizianagaram.

Life coach, motivational speaker, and author Uday Kumar Alajangi interacted with students and emphasised the importance of setting clear career goals from the beginning of their college journey and systematically developing the required skills to achieve them.

With over two decades of experience in the training and development field, Uday Kumar Alajangi advised students not to limit their college education to obtaining a degree but to develop skill sets covering technical knowledge, communication, critical thinking, and problem-solving skills. He encouraged students to dedicate at least one hour a day to self-development, suggesting



Life coach Uday Kumar Alajangi with institution management and students at the interactive session organised at the campus in Vizianagaram.

a simple 20-20-20 approach: 20 minutes for improving English communication, 20 minutes for technical learning and another 20 minutes for reading, exploring AI or developing problem-solving abilities. He also stressed the importance of attending classes regularly, listening attentively, learning something new every day and continuously practising communication skills.

Encouraging students to develop a positive mindset,

Uday Kumar urged them to replace thoughts such as ‘My English is weak’ with, ‘I am improving my English every day’.

He underlined the importance of self-improvement rather than comparing oneself with others and adopting the attitude of being a better version each day.

Later, SITAM director Majji Sasibhushana Rao, Principal DV Rama Murthy, faculty members and students felicitated Uday Kumar.

‘World Suicide Prevention Day’

ZPHS Peddaboddepalli organises an awareness session



Students and the Headmaster of ZPHS Peddaboddepalli taking part in the awareness session organised at the campus on Thursday

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MARKING the ‘World Suicide Prevention Day’, Zilla Parishad High School, Peddaboddepalli, conducted an awareness session on Thursday. During the session, Headmaster Gotteti Ravi emphasised the value of human life and stressed that suicide is never a solution to life’s challenges. Engaging children of various classes, he highlighted the importance of developing emotional resilience, coping mechanisms during adolescence, and fostering hope.

Exhorting students to be

saviours, Ravi advised them to identify early warning signs, stay attentive to sensitive people around them, and inform family members and teachers if they see any warning signs of distress in their classmates. He stressed that such alerts aid in timely intervention and prevention of any extreme step.

Highlighting the helpline number 14416, the toll-free number for Tele-MANAS (tele mental health assistance and networking across states), the HM urged the students to seek assistance if any individual is experiencing distress and to save a life before it is too late.

Capacity-building training programmes conclude

- The training programmes under the ‘Swamandhra @ 2047 vision’ will play a crucial role in transforming AP into a developed state
- The programme provided officials with awareness of gross value added and gross domestic product calculation methods in key sectors

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ANAKAPALLI

ECONOMICS Professor Kothe Satyanarayana said that awareness and capacity-building training programmes under the ‘Swamandhra @ 2047 vision’ would play a crucial role in transforming Andhra Pradesh into a developed state with sustainable economic growth and leadership across all sectors by 2047.

Speaking at the concluding ceremony of the capacity-building training programmes organised for district, constituency and Mandal-level officials at the Collectorate meeting



Economics Professor Kothe Satyanarayana at the training session held in Anakapalli on Thursday

hall here on Thursday, Prof. Satyanarayana stated that the training programmes would serve as a foundation for achieving the vision’s goals. He said the initiative would not only improve the speed and quality of government services but also create wider employment and livelihood opportunities for youth. The state would emerge stronger economically and socially through systematic planning and effective implementation of development programmes, he added.

The Economics Professor said that the training had been specifically designed to enable district-level officials to work more effectively towards achieving economic targets and development goals. Such training programmes would help strengthen the economic

system and put the state on the path of sustainable development, he informed.

He explained that meaningful development could be achieved only when financial resources at the district level were properly assessed and managed.

Officials were trained through various case studies on measuring key performance indicators and maintaining department-wise statistical records effectively. The programme provided officials with awareness of gross value added and gross domestic product calculation methods in key sectors, including agriculture, horticulture, sericulture, animal husbandry, manufacturing and services. Sessions covered important sectors such as health and education.