“Andhra Pradesh will be one amongst the three best states in India by 2022, the best state by 2029, and a leading global investment destination by 2050.”

NARA CHANDRABABU NAIDU
Hon’ble Chief Minister
Andhra Pradesh

Shri Nara Chandrababu Naidu’s distinctive and compelling strain of leadership, which combines his unique visionary capabilities with pragmatism, has been instrumental in placing Andhra Pradesh on the path of rapid transformation. His tenacity of purpose coupled with his industrious work ethic and dogged determination will soon result in a “Sunrise Andhra Pradesh”.

The indefatigable Chief Minister is relentlessly pursuing a vision – a vision of a transformed state that is happy, inclusive, responsible, globally competitive, and innovation driven – that will come about through structural and attitudinal transformation. These qualities demonstrably substantiate his resolve to indeed transform Andhra Pradesh into one amongst the three best states in India by 2022, the best state by 2029, and a leading global investment destination by 2050.
Andhra Pradesh to Sustain its Double-Digit Growth

Amidst the backdrop of robust macro-economic stability, Andhra Pradesh has been at the threshold of two major developments: the state is on the path to a globally competitive economy; and sustained efforts are being taken to become a knowledge economy. These actions will allow Andhra Pradesh to sustain its double-digit growth, and the knowledge economy would augment societal shifts in ideas and make available growth based on quantity, quality and accessibility of information.

Vision and Missions

Under our Vision 2029, Andhra Pradesh proposes to embark on a sustained double-digit growth path over the next 15 years. Andhra Pradesh grew at 11.61 percent during 2016-17 by overcoming major challenges, thereby augmenting growth, expanding employment opportunities, and achieving inclusive social justice.

Our Motivation and Our Performance

Our impetus for policy reform is to reduce poverty, improve people’s livelihoods, ensure a clean environment, provide quality education, and good healthcare through world-class infrastructure and a strengthened economy.

As per advanced estimates, Agriculture and Allied sectors have shown phenomenal growth of 14.03 percent during the Financial Year 2016-17.

Fisheries with 30.09 percent growth, Livestock with 12.18%, and Horticulture with 16.79%, have strengthened the performance of agriculture sector.

The Industrial Sector recorded a growth of 10.05%, and Services grew at 10.16 percent during the year. We will strive to sustain this impressive growth as it is imperative for sustained development, which leads to a happy and prosperous society.

Awards and Recognition

The state received five awards in the Energy sector, one award in the irrigation sector for better water management, one award in the Industries sector for ‘ease of doing business’, one in Revenue for the Mee Kosam portal - a public grievance redressal forum, and three awards to the Finance Department for the Contributory Pension Scheme.

Andhra Pradesh is ranked No. 1 on Ease of Doing Business amongst all States in 2016, with an overall compliance of 98.784 percent, as per the assessment conducted by World Bank and DIPP.

The Single Desk Portal has been rated as a best practice by the World Bank. As of 1 February 2017, 14,751 applications have been approved through the portal.

Andhra Pradesh is also the first state to offer industrial incentive application/processing and allocation of scarce raw materials online in a transparent manner.

I sincerely commend the work done by the Andhra Pradesh Economic Development Board in setting up an environment conducive to the growth of ideas necessary for economic growth and development. They have done this by complementing domestic and external developments with macro-economic challenges.

I wish to work closely with the APEDB and other government departments on formulating new growth paths and engines for realizing our Vision 2029.
Nara Lokesh – A Successful Journey for AP’s Development

As Minister for IT he uses social media aptly while approaching problematic issues, and one recent story is enough to showcase this aspect. A villager, Ramana, from Patapadu village of Kanigiri mandal in Prakasam district was overwhelmed with joy when the decades-old drinking water problem in his village was solved in no time when he tweeted about the problem with pictures tagging Minister Lokesh. Immediately after noticing the complaint, the Minister directed the officials to solve Ramana’s water problem, and now the villagers are getting regular water supply.

He is also keenly involved in job generation in the IT and electronics manufacturing sectors, enhancing water availability, and the Fiber Grid project.

His Background
Politics and governance are in his genes as Mr Lokesh’s antecedents demonstrate. To recall a bit of history - his grandfather was the famous thespian and politician, Mr. NT Rama Rao, who was the founder of the TDP as well as CM of (United) Andhra Pradesh between 1983 and 1995. Moving on to the next generation, his father Mr. Nara Chandrababu Naidu is the present Chief Minister of AP and Chief of the TDP.

Nara Lokesh was born on 23 January 1983. He is the only son of Nara Chandrababu Naidu and Bhuvaneswari. He has an MBA from Stanford University’s Graduate School of Business and a Bachelor of Science with specialization in Management Information Systems, from Carnegie Mellon University.

In the Past
As one of the trustees of the NTR Memorial Trust (popularly known as NTR Trust) on Healthcare, Education, Skills Enhancement and Disaster Management, Lokesh had designed the Trust’s healthcare program so as to provide the poor with better access to medical attention. This program delivers need-based and efficient health care services at the doorstep, and expanded outreach both in rural and urban areas. He has also been responsible for organizing blood banks and health camps.

In his capacity as a trustee Lokesh supervised the disaster response program of the Trust that operates in times of natural calamities. This involves ensuring speedy and smooth execution of relief measures through a hierarchy of coordination committees.
The Cabinet met at the State Secretariat, Velagapudi on 3rd, August, 2017 to discuss the performance indicators of economic and social development in the state of Andhra Pradesh. Path-breaking decisions, including decisions to promote industrial development through investments in the state were taken at the meeting.

**DIPP Andhra Pradesh**

I strongly believe that the state government, under the leadership of Hon’ble CM Chandrababu Naidu, will achieve the targets for 2050 by becoming a global investment destination. The Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP) of Andhra Pradesh has reiterated its plan to create exclusive MSME parks in all the 175 assembly constituencies in the state, which will create employment for around 2.16 lakh in the state.

**DIPP recent Achievements**

DIPP recently organized the ‘National Industries Machinery Expo-2017’ to encourage aspiring entrepreneurs to make use of the opportunities provided by the state government. The department has also set up the ‘single window’ mechanism to enable ease of doing business with the industries in AP, and this will go on to create a conducive business environment in the state on the whole. Overall the main players in Andhra Pradesh, such as DIPP, APEDB, INCAP Ltd., and others, are synergizing to create the best platform for investment promotion in the state.
Swarnandhra Pradesh – Realizing This Long-Term Vision

The integrated long term vision of AP is where every sector works together for a common unified goal, achieving the best standards for all in an inclusive society. The government has pledged its commitment to deliver changes that touch and uplift the lives of the citizens of Andhra Pradesh – across all walks of life – and is moving ahead with a vision for complete transformation towards a happy and globally competitive society.

Work Strategies
Each sector has its own needs, purpose, and vision, and has evolved its own particular strategy for achieving its goal. A particular strategy is broken down into specific interventions to achieve milestones in defined time. Each intervention is designed in the form of a scheme; these are then developed, approved in the Cabinet, and then implemented over a period of time.

Balancing Development and Economic Growth
Fortunately, AP has been successful at striking the right balance between sustainable development and inclusive economic growth. Despite the general understanding that there is a dichotomy between social development and economic development, the postulates of sustainable development and economic growth are closely intertwined. Leveraging upon inclusive and sustainable measures, government initiatives seek to provide vastly improved standards of living, equitable job opportunities, enhanced tourist appeal, and enormous business growth with support from foreign and domestic investors.

The UN’s Human Development Index (HDI) is generally considered while drawing up the state’s development goals and Andhra Pradesh aims at achieving a target of 0.9 on the Human Development Index by 2029, with equitable improvements under Education, Health and Income parameters.

In fulfilment of its obligations to ensure basic needs and wellbeing to each of its citizens the state has taken up a saturation approach under Samajika Vikasam and Kutumba Vikasam. While the former assures each village of 10 basic facilities, the latter provides for similar assurances on IS economic and social security aspects at the household level.

One example at this point will make the picture clear. Suppose the state wants to construct 10 lakh houses, the Housing Corporation is allowed to borrow by giving adequate guarantee. Employment at all levels in the economy is expertly tied with social and skill development of individuals. In order to spur employment in the state, upskilling and training of 2 crore individuals by 2029 has been proposed.

The state has identified MSMEs as significant drivers of large scale employment opportunities, especially in rural and backward areas, and has introduced an institutional framework to advance the progress of this sector and deliver associated services.

The state has introduced various initiatives to establish a welcoming ecosystem for economic investment through a well-planned and coordinated policy, as well as through regulatory and administrative actions to make the state more globally competitive with ease of doing business.

Fiscal Responsibility for Furthering the Vision
The finances of a state are generally not on par with the demands made on it. The only way to face this challenge is to take a balanced view; ensure proper allocation for both welfare needs and infrastructure. All the same, gaps in funding will necessarily arise which demand the use of various mechanisms. A number of budget techniques and mechanisms have to be employed so that resources are provided to agencies that require funds that they have not got from the budget. The main sources of funding for the state are from its own resource mobilization and from the Central Government’s allocations. Another less frequently used mode is through loans, but there is a statutory limit on this.

The state repays this borrowing over a period of time as per its convenience. Another way is to allow private persons to invest in infrastructure and industry by offering them both monetary and non-monetary incentives. Thus all commitments are met through a judicious and tactful use of different methods. In general Andhra Pradesh does not see financial limitations as a hindrance to its growth.

Andhra Pradesh has been able to bring down its fiscal deficit to 3.06% which is 0.6% over the limits prescribed for borrowing by states under the FRBM Act. The state’s Tax: GSDP ratio stands at 7.04% and it ranks 7th among Indian states in terms of highest Tax:GSDP ratios. Andhra Pradesh is going full steam ahead under dynamic leadership, so let’s contribute our best to it.
Creation of a Happy and Globally Competitive Society

The newly set up Andhra Pradesh promises a better future for all with great inclusive growth accompanied by social and economic transformation. The vision is one of remolding the state under the rubric of ‘A Happy and Globally Competitive Society’.

The Surge towards a Higher Growth Rate

When the state focused more on agriculture and allied sectors it was able to grow at a faster pace on the economic front.

Some GSDP growth rate figures validate this
• 2014-2015: 8.51%,
• 2015-2016: 10.95%,
• 2016-2017: 11.61% (A.E.) at constant price.

The state has set up an optimistic target of 15% for the future, which could be achieved through an aggressive growth model which focuses on a 12% GSDP growth, supported by a 1% increase in resource productivity per annum.

The APEDB Modus Operandi

The Andhra Pradesh Economic Development Board, and the Vision Management Unit of the planning department were set up to make the state’s Vision 2029 a reality. They are comprised of teams of young professionals from diverse backgrounds who work together on clear-cut targets, economic and social indicators – all according to international standards – with the eventual goal of making AP the best place for investment opportunities.

SIT-AP

To transform AP into a globally competitive state it plans to set up a Strategic Institution for Transforming Andhra Pradesh (SIT-AP). This body will provide task-oriented training on leadership building, policy analysis, and performance monitoring and ranking, which will enable AP to transform itself. It proposes to organize annual events to promote peer-to-peer learning on adaptive leadership, economic models, theory of construction, people’s movements, and talent management, as done by the World Economic Forum (WEF) and the Global Transformation Forum (GTF).

The APEDB Newsletter

As part of APEDB’s information and dissemination strategy, we’re happy to launch our inaugural Sunrise Andhra Pradesh Newsletter, which is specifically brought out to help investors, investment agencies, start-up initiators, and departments to understand the opportunities offered by the state. It aims to reach the majority of investors in the world with the ultimate goal of making Andhra Pradesh the most productive state in India. Finally, I strongly believe that APEDB’s initiatives will surely help GoAP in nurturing the best growth stories.
What APEDB Does

To align ourselves with the long-term objectives of the state’s leadership, APEDB has initiated and fostered a strong culture of governance. It has instituted strategic direction and invested in human capital, furthering the achievements of the state. While adopting a balanced approach towards promoting the private and social sector, APEDB uses innovation and technology as its preferred engines of growth, building sustainable partnerships and growth models for the state.

Showcasing pragmatic flexibility in the pursuit of economic objectives has been the hallmark of APEDB. While bringing in investments into the state, APEDB also supports the Government of Andhra Pradesh in external engagement, project facilitation, and strategic planning, among others, thus intensifying the state’s economic growth.

APEDB, driving GoAP’s Vision

J. Krishna Kishore, CEO, APEDB

In early March, 2016, the Andhra Pradesh Economic Development Board (APEDB) was conceptualized by the Hon’ble Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, Shri N Chandrababu Naidu, to reinvigorate growth, provide a stable macroeconomic framework for growth, and to ensure a market-friendly environment to secure investments into Andhra Pradesh.

APEDB’s Major Achievements in a Brief Span

APEDB has registered remarkable achievements since its formation, by contributing towards Andhra Pradesh’s successes – including signing more than 65 MoUs amounting to approximately INR 3.6 lakh crore of investments into the state. We have also forged partnerships with 12 countries, inking international agreements through 24 outbound delegations and 20 inbound delegations.

APEDB has introduced its own brand of excellence in the Government, and through its unmatched work ethic and steadfast determination, APEDB wishes to contribute even more to the state’s objectives of rapid, yet sustained development. Given this background, we hope to take our achievements forward and become an integral part of Andhra Pradesh’s journey towards creating a happy, inclusive, and sustainable society.

Unique Single Point of Contact for Investment Promotion

Special Investment Promotion Setup of Andhra Pradesh

The government of Andhra Pradesh intends to create a development and investment-friendly atmosphere in the state. Unlike other agencies/states AP set up APEDB to act as a single point of contact for investments in the state. To enable the state to achieve its long term vision of transforming itself into a developed and globally-competitive state, APEDB:

- promotes inter-departmental coordination,
- conducts project facilitation and appraisal,
- engages with national and international investors, funds and governments,
- sets up Special Purpose Vehicles, venture funds,
- mobilizes funds for major projects into the state, and
- promotes entrepreneurship, a start-up culture, and skill development in areas of economic significance.

How does APEDB do it?

Apart from the above mentioned APEDB also acts as a unique one-stop interface for all external engagements on behalf of the Government of Andhra Pradesh with various foreign governments, departments, trade organizations, investors and companies. In order to boost investments into Andhra Pradesh from global investors, APEDB actively promotes the state as the ideal destination for investments. It facilitates Ease of Doing Business in the state, functions as a think tank for the development of conducive economic policies, develops strategies for accelerated economic growth, and so on.

What Else?

APEDB participates and conducts road shows, meetings, seminars, workshops to meet and engage with investors, thus contributing to Andhra Pradesh’s sustained double digit growth.
Andhra Pradesh has topped in the ease of doing business ranking in the World Bank Report, ‘Assessment of State Implementation of Business Reforms 2016’, which was prepared by WB in association with the government. The report was based on a 340-point business reform action plan and its implementation by the state.

The measures included tax, environmental and labour reforms, single-window online clearance, and setting up of commercial courts.

Andhra Pradesh achieved an energy saving of 1,500 million units in two years through the use of LED lighting. The state will be adding 6000 MW of wind and 5000 MW of solar, a total of 11000 MW will be available by 2019. The state target is: 10 GW of solar and 8 GW of wind by 2022. Out of this, the state has already commissioned 1000 MW of solar and 2000 MW of wind energy.

Andhra Pradesh is one of the top five states in terms of two broad pillars: economic climate and N-SIPI Industry Survey. AP ranks high in availability of labour. The state also fares extremely well on VAT productivity, DIPP score, and industries’ perception on ease of acquiring land.

Top state for ease in acquiring land for industrial purposes, DIPP score percent for computerization of land registration.

Ranks high in labour conditions, mainly availability of skilled labour.

AP also fares well on perception of infrastructure, fuel production and low power shortage; and it also has a number of Smart Cities.

AP also does well on: having a technically educated workforce, volume of cargo handled at ports, and competitive wage rates for salaried workers.

91.4% of respondents told that they have not faced any problem in acquiring land for business establishments in AP.

More than 80.29% of the respondents felt that road quality and connectivity was good in AP.

85.7% of respondents felt that labor participation is very good; and 88.6% stated that labor law is favorable for investment activities.

93.2% of the respondents felt that average wages are ensured for Educated and Vocationally Trained Labour.

63% of respondents have not faced any problem in acquiring land for business establishments in AP.

The state ranked first in India (98.2%) on industry-related policies and 74.3% of respondents felt that they faced no issues on that.

Andhra Pradesh has contributed 45 percent of total exports, and State’s aqua products hold the lion’s share of 65 percent.
Government Realizes its Vision of a Digital State

Q. How is Cisco working closely with the state of Andhra Pradesh to enable the digital transformation of the state?

Digitization opens up unprecedented opportunities for every country, state and city. I greatly admire Chief Minister ChandraBabu Naidu for his strong vision to digitize Andhra Pradesh, and Cisco is honored to be a partner in their digital transformation.

Cisco is partnering with the government of Andhra Pradesh on a series of strategic initiatives to boost local innovation, enhance research, foster entrepreneurship, and accelerate economic competitiveness and citizen engagement in the state.

Cisco is helping boost research and innovation and get a highly skilled workforce ready by training 10,000 students across the state through the Cisco Network Academy program, establishing an Innovation Centre in Visakhapatnam, a Technology Center of Excellence and Research Lab in Tirupati and sponsoring a research program at Andhra University. Cisco is deploying key smart city technologies in the Golden Mile project in Vijaywada and helping implement AP Fiber Net, the first statewide broadband project in India.

Q. AP Fiber Net is a massive step towards providing broadband to everyone in the state of Andhra Pradesh, and the first statewide broadband project in India. Tell us more about this landmark project.

Broadband is a fundamental technology upon which other things are built. It enables collaboration, innovation and has a transformative effect on the economy and society.

We are proud to partner with the Government of Andhra Pradesh to design and implement AP Fiber Net, the first state-wide broadband project in India. AP Fiber Net is a huge step toward realising the government’s vision to provide broadband on fiber to every house in the state.

AP Fiber Net is a transformational project aimed at providing on-demand, affordable broadband connectivity to households and institutions. Cisco has designed and implemented the network infrastructure for AP Fiber, Net using statewide high-speed, aerial-optical fiber leveraging existing electricity distribution assets. AP Fiber Net is a powerful symbol of how if we invest and build a national broadband infrastructure for the entire country, everybody benefits.

Q. What other strategic investments is Cisco making in the state of Andhra Pradesh?

I’m a strong believer in India, and over the last twenty-two years, we have made significant investments in the country. Our investments in Andhra Pradesh are strongly aligned to our commitment to help the Government realize its vision of a digital state. We see Andhra Pradesh as a blueprint of a digital state for other states to follow. Our investment is a commitment to help the state develop an ecosystem of talent, entrepreneurship and innovation to drive growth, generate jobs, diversify the economy and support sustainable growth.
Industrial Development in Andhra Pradesh

Industrial Development is one of the most important growth drivers for socio-economic prosperity. The Hon’ble Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh has envisioned the State as globally competitive, and to emerge as the economic engine of the country, and a leading investment destination by 2050.

Government of Andhra Pradesh is committed to provide a conducive investment climate for investors and has undertaken several initiatives to create enabling frameworks, drive investment promotion activities, and ground investments.

Enabling Policy Framework: To spur industrial growth, various best-in-class policy instruments and fiscal incentives have been offered to make industries based in Andhra Pradesh globally competitive. Ten focus sectors have been identified, namely Agro & Food Processing, Life Sciences, Textile & Apparel, Electronics, Aerospace & Defence Manufacturing, Automobiles & Auto Components, Petrochemicals, Energy, Mineral based industry, and Leather, to take forward the State’s industrial growth agenda.

Ease of Doing Business: Under the visionary leadership of the Hon’ble Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, the State has emerged as the National Leader in Ease of Doing Business. Andhra Pradesh improved upon its 2nd rank in 2015 to emerge as the top State in the country to implement business reforms in 2016, post an assessment of all States conducted by DIPP and the World Bank. A key driver of the conducive business environment is the Single Desk Portal (SDP), which was conceptualized as a single window mechanism to eliminate multiple investor-department interfaces. SDP serves as a one-stop shop for providing regulatory approvals to industries in Andhra Pradesh, within a 21-day period. Since the launch of the portal in April 2015, more than 20,000 approvals have been provided.

We are now benchmarking with the global best practices to further improve the business environment in the state.

Industrial Infrastructure: Andhra Pradesh is meticulously working out strategies to develop robust infrastructure to promote manufacturing. The state will host 2 large Industrial Corridors – Visakhapatnam-Chennai Industrial Corridor (VCIC) and Chennai – Bengaluru Industrial Corridor (CBIC). A number of infrastructure projects are being planned to link gateways such as ports and airports with manufacturing clusters.

Investment promotion: Over the past three years, there has been focused promotion activities towards attracting investments across sectors. Many industrial projects have gone into production including Isuzu Motors, Mondelez, Pepsi, Foxconn (Rising Star), Amara Raja, Hospira, Laurus Labs, Dr. Reddy’s Laboratories, Aurobindo Pharma, Berger Paints, Gamesa, among many others. The state also has a strong pipeline of investments across sectors such as Automobile, Electronics, Food Processing, Textiles, Pharmaceuticals, Chemicals & Petrochemicals, and Renewable Energy. This year, Andhra Pradesh has attracted one of the largest FDI investments in recent years in the form of a USD 2 billion investment from Kia Motors, along with its subsidiaries and ancillaries, to set-up an ultra-mega integrated automobile project.

Focus on MSME Sector: Andhra Pradesh is committed to developing the MSME sector. The state has witnessed over 20,000 MSME units established over the past three years. The government is now setting up a dedicated AP MSME Development Corporation to support and handhold the development of the sector. MSME Parks will also be set up in each assembly constituency, with an objective to minimize infrastructural costs for MSMEs as well as to make them competitive.

Andhra Pradesh is poised to be at the forefront of India’s growth story, and holds strong promise of a very bright future. We invite investors across the world to make Andhra Pradesh their business hub.
Andhra Pradesh – Becoming an Example for all of India

Background
The defining moment for Andhra Pradesh (AP) came when it was born as a new state of India on 1 June 2014. The newborn state came into being saddled with problems – a revenue deficit, coupled with inadequate industrial, social and educational infrastructure. These were the main issues that the leadership had to tackle if it wanted Andhra Pradesh to take its place as not just a developed state but a shining example of what a state could become with the right leadership.

The Vision and the Goal
Growth, development, inclusivity, along with an interest in every citizen’s welfare and happiness were the drivers of this task. To attain this goal the new state began by identifying the main focus areas that needed to be developed: primary sector, social sector, industry sector, infrastructure, service sector, knowledge and skill development, and urban development. These translated into seven missions; and these missions were synchronized with Andhra Pradesh’s long term Vision 2050, prepared for the overall development of the state.

The aim of this Vision is to make AP:
- one of the three most-developed states of India by 2022;
- the foremost state in India by 2029; and
- become a top global investment destination by 2050.

Moving Forward
By 2016-17 the change was starting to set in with Andhra Pradesh registering a sustained double digit growth rate of 11.64%, which is higher than the average growth rate of India.

Blessed with various topographical advantages such as a long coastline of 974 km with natural deep draft ports, rich mineral and petroleum deposits, and a strategic geographical location, Andhra Pradesh is now looking to harness these assets towards attaining its vision. Furthermore, fourteen ports, twelve airports including a mega Aerotropolis airbase, An integrated road network covering 45000 kms has been developed and another 65000 kms is being proposed with inter-regional connectivity. 888 km of national inland waterways are being developed.

Andhra Pradesh is positioning itself as India’s ‘Gateway to the East’ through port-led development of its long coastline. One of its greatest advantages is that it is a ‘power surplus’ state that supplies non-stop power to industries. This is being further augmented with an additional 15,400 MW capacity by 2019 so as to provide a conducive ecosystem for investors keen on initiating projects in the state. Thus AP, in a very short time, has maneuvered its strength as a power state into playing a major role in India’s growth.

A New Capital for a New State
Amaravati, the Greenfield capital of Andhra Pradesh, is being developed with an emphasis on resilient urban infrastructure, promotion of smart technology and creation of sustainable public spaces. State-of-the-art technology and world class expertise from around the globe is being deployed to develop the capital city.

Using Latest Technology to Realize its Vision
The state’s e-Pragati platform is India’s most comprehensive e-Governance platform. It is supported by the CM Office Real-time Executive Dashboard (CORE Dashboard) which provides an interface to enable real time monitoring so as to promote accountability and efficiency.

Through the use of the Internet of Things, information is being disseminated and collated to develop mapping and predictability models to support the implementation of government initiatives. The state’s plan of creating ‘an entrepreneur in every family’, has led to the setting up of an Innovation Society and a Start-Up Village that support young entrepreneurs.

Today’s Development for Tomorrow’s Well-being
What makes Andhra Pradesh an ideal investment destination is that it is marked by a strong leadership, an investor-friendly environment, a strategic geographical location, and a detailed development plan that collectively make for the state’s rapid progress.
Global Telugu Empowerment Network (GTEN)

The State of Andhra Pradesh is on its way to becoming one of the most preferred investment destinations in India, and has emerged as a top destination for FDI inflows in the country.

1. APEDB is entrusted with the role of investment planning and promotion in State’s priority sectors, facilitate investments through multipartite coordination and carry out economic policy research. APEDB acts as a dynamic interface between the State and the investor community at large.

2. In line with its mandate to promote Andhra Pradesh as the ideal destination for investors, entrepreneurs, academicians, think tanks, and increase the inflow of foreign direct investment, APEDB plans to develop focused engagement and outreach initiatives with the Global Telugu Diaspora to leverage their global presence for investment promotion, market access, technology transfer activities, etc., that would help Andhra Pradesh achieve the targeted accelerated growth.

3. The Honorable Chief Minister has also observed that a number of Non-Resident Telugus are in positions of influence and can influence decision making in important organizations and entities. They can help in the overall development and economic growth of Andhra Pradesh.

4. In this regard, the Hon. Chief Minister has desired that an advisory council, called the GTEN Council (Global Telugu Empowerment Network Council) be created separately in various countries, consisting of prominent members of the non-resident Telugu community, who can actively work for the benefit of the local Telugu diaspora and for the overall development of Andhra Pradesh State, especially in matters concerning investment promotion.

5. Given the above context, APEDB has created the GTEN Council that will be led by key individuals from the Telugu diaspora from across the globe – to promote and position Andhra Pradesh as an investment destination through activities such as investment promotion, market access, technology transfer activities, etc. The GTEN Council will be supported by a team of experts having proficiency in such activities.

6. It is expected that with the creation of the Global Telugu Empowerment Network the state will benefit thus:
- Advise on priorities and preferred opportunities of the Global Telugu Diaspora under priority sectors for Government of Andhra Pradesh.
- Advise on sectoral policy development ensuring that globally relevant priorities and instruments are adequately captured.
- Building inclusive partnerships with development agencies, governments, bilateral and multilateral agencies and international organizations.
- Share experiences and leading global practices that could strengthen State’s position globally as preferred investment destination.
- Promote collaborations for skill development and knowledge transfer.
- Enable trade and investment promotion by harnessing financial and non-financial resources to promote growth in priority sectors.
- Funding and growth mechanics. Advise APEDB on funding decisions to promote the local start-up ecosystem in the State.
- Advise APEDB on disruptive initiatives (Internet of Things, Cloud native models, Analytics/ML/AI to name a few) across global markets for the State to develop an edge as first mover in feasible areas.
- Foster and mentor global as well as local community of entrepreneurs by acting as a bridge between global expectations and local market forces.

Conclusion: By using the skills and services of the Global Telugu Diaspora around the world Andhra Pradesh can leverage its strengths, and enable the diaspora in playing an effective role in State’s economic development.
The Andhra Pradesh Economic Development Board (APEDB) has set up sector-specific Task Forces for the following reasons:

- To promote sector-led development; and
- For fostering inclusive development.

**Functions of Task Forces**

- The Task Forces are mandated to coordinate and develop synergy between the departments, industry and all other key stakeholders.
- The Task Forces will also coordinate with the concerned representatives of the Government of India to ensure that policies are aligned with the developmental priorities of the country.
- These are slated to play an instrumental role in reinvigorating the sectoral potential of Andhra Pradesh.

**Sector-specific Task Forces**

The Task Forces proposed under APEDB are as follows:

I. Pharmaceuticals and Biotechnology
II. Transport and Logistics
III. Skill Development, Innovation and Entrepreneurship
IV. Construction and Infrastructure
V. Automobile and Auto Components
VI. Defense and Aerospace
VII. Resource Mobilisation and Alternate Specific Sector Investment Funds
VIII. Tourism and Hospitality, including Medical Tourism
IX. Textiles and Apparel
X. Electronics and Semiconductor industry
XI. Information Technology including Cloud Computing, Internet of Things (IoT), Analytics, Artificial Intelligence
XII. Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises
XIII. Agriculture and Food Processing Industries

**How will this be done?**

This will be done by engaging with stakeholders across the spectrum through sector-specific Task Forces. Each of these Task Forces will be chaired by the Hon'ble Chief Minister and coordinated by Mr. SP Tucker, Executive Vice-Chairman of APEDB. The Task Forces will also include representatives of the government, industry players, and other stakeholders.
Andhra Pradesh is re-inventing itself as a global investment destination and APEDB is actually making it happen by engaging with the international community, which includes foreign governments, multilateral and bilateral agencies, development banks, overseas trade associations, and several other influential groups.

APEDB Plays a Strikingly Atypical Role

Unlike other government systems, AP set up APEDB to be the one-stop interface for all engagements on investment-related activities, whether it be with foreign governments or with the Government of India. This aspect makes APEDB strikingly unique and markedly attractive to all investors.

The APEDB Approach

APEDB performs several functions as it is responsible for AP’s economic growth and overall development. It works closely with

• The Ministry of External Affairs, Govt. of India, New Delhi;
• Indian Embassies and Consulates around the world;
• Foreign Embassies and Consulates of South Korea, Japan, Germany, Switzerland, Malaysia, France, Denmark, Belgium, Sri Lanka, Russia, Canada, Australia, USA and UK;
• International trade bodies and agencies, such as the Japan External Trade Organisation and Korean Trade Investment Promotion Agency in order to channelize investments into the state of Andhra Pradesh.

It also supports inbound and outbound missions of the AP Government, thus enabling greater bilateral ties with foreign governments. APEDB has been successful in hosting and engaging with around 20 delegations in 2016-17.

In Conclusion

Within a short time APEDB has achieved a lot in strengthening trade and investment linkages, as well as in developing a meaningful engagement strategy.
Participating at the BIO-USA International Convention

The CEO of the Andhra Pradesh Economic Development Board, Mr. Krishna Kishore led a four-member team to the Biotechnology Innovation Organization’s International Convention (BIO-IC), 2017, held at San Diego, USA, in June 2017. The BIO-IC hosted by the Biotechnology Innovation Organization represents more than 1,100 biotechnology companies, academic institutions, state biotechnology centers and related organizations across the world.

The Andhra Pradesh Pavilion at the Convention

APEDB set up the Andhra Pradesh Pavilion as a part of the India Pavilion at the BIO International Conference, USA. At the convention, the team from APEDB had an opportunity to interact with global biotechnology and pharma leaders through bilateral meetings and by participating in seminars. With more than 16,000 attendees from 76 countries, the convention provided a great platform to showcase the roadmap of the Life Sciences sector in Andhra Pradesh and engage with potential investors. More than fifteen bilateral meetings were planned and facilitated by APEDB for the purpose of discussing mutually beneficial projects and potential areas of collaboration.

The Indian Pavilion at the BIO Convention

The Indian Pavilion at BIO International Convention & Exhibition 2017, was inaugurated by the Minister of State for Science & Technology and Earth Sciences, Shri Y S Chowdary. The MAKE IN INDIA theme was the emphasis of the Indian Pavilion. Inaugurating the Pavilion, the Minister stated that the positive discussions during BIO will lead to a lot of new opportunities for Indian start-up companies in Science & Technology; and also boost the confidence of international stakeholders in India’s biotech sector. More than 30 start-ups, companies, state governments, biotech parks and research institutes held exhibitions at the India Pavilion.

The Minister also released a 60-page India Biotech Handbook 2017, showcasing the strengths of India’s fast-growing $42 billion bio-economy.

APEDB Promoted the Potential of Andhra Pradesh at the Convention

The Andhra Pradesh Lounge was set up by APEDB. Apart from this, bilateral meetings with investors were arranged to discuss mutually beneficial projects and potential areas of collaboration in the state of Andhra Pradesh. The Chairman, APIIC, represented Andhra Pradesh State at country presentations and showcased the opportunities available under the Biotechnology Sector in the state. The team interacted with over 300 investors and conducted one-on-one meetings with potential leads.

Hon’ble Minister of State for Science and Technology, Shri Y S Chowdary, releasing the India Biotech Handbook, 2017 at the Indian Pavilion in the BIO-USA International Convention that was held in USA in June, 2017. The Chairman of APIIC, the CEO of APEDB, Mr. J Krishna Kishore, and others were present at the occasion.
Advantage AP – A Destination for Global Textile Industries

Textiles India 2017

The Govt. of India’s Ministry of Textiles organized Textiles India 2017 in June, at Gandhinagar, Gujarat, to provide a platform for various individuals to connect and collaborate with global manufacturers, investors, and buyers in the textiles sector. Being the first ever global textile and handicrafts event of this scale, Textile India 2017 attracted stakeholders from across the textile value chain.

Andhra Pradesh at Textiles India 2017

Andhra Pradesh State participated as a partner-state in Textiles India 2017. The AP Pavilion showcased the advantages of setting up business in the state – the state’s natural assets, readily available robust infrastructure, availability of skilled labour and specialized development initiatives. The Pavilion had an extensive display of handlooms and handicrafts with representation from various organizations, such as:

- Department of Textiles and Handlooms,
- Department of Industries,
- Andhra Pradesh Industrial Infrastructure Corporation,
- Andhra Pradesh Economic Development Board,
- Society for Weavers Welfare in Andhra Pradesh,
- Andhra Pradesh State Handloom Weavers’ Co-operative society Ltd.,
- Lepakshi, and
- Department of Sericulture.

Activities at the Pavilion

A large number of dignitaries and participants, including the Hon’ble Prime Minister of India, the Hon’ble Minister of Textiles, and other dignitaries visited the AP Pavilion. Representatives of the state also organized an exclusive state session – Advantage Andhra Pradesh. At this session, the Hon’ble Chief Minister, members from the industry, government and related associations shared their thoughts on the opportunities at hand for the industry in Andhra Pradesh. Following the state session, industry groups and representatives of companies had bilateral meetings with the Hon’ble Chief Minister. The representatives of these companies discussed their investment plans in the state.

Roundtable on AP as the Ideal Destination

On the second day of the event a Roundtable on Andhra Pradesh: Destination for the Global Textile & Apparel Industry, was organized to focus on the various opportunities available to investors in the textile sector in AP. The session was interactive with the representatives of the industry discussing implementation side concerns with the representatives of the Government of Andhra Pradesh. In tune with its investor-friendly policies, most of the grievances raised by the investors were addressed in real time.

A Telling Conclusion

Textiles India 2017 provided Andhra Pradesh with a great opportunity to establish itself as one of India’s most preferred destinations for domestic as well as global investments in the textile sector, simultaneously allowing the state to recommit itself to the growth of the nation. Potential investments amounting to approximately INR 1000 crores were considered at the event. The state’s favorable investment environment with its culture of innovation has created an ecosystem suitable for hosting world-class textile and apparel parks.
APEDB Engages with Invest India on FDIs

Invest India and World Bank’s Promotion Workshop

On 7 and 8 June 2017, Invest India in association with the World Bank conducted a capacity building workshop for investment promotion agencies of the states of India in New Delhi.

The workshop was led by Mr. Daniel Nicholas and Mr. Joe Phillip from the World Bank. Senior officials from the Ministry of Commerce and Industry and senior representatives from investment promotion agencies from across India participated in the event. The workshop began with discussions on the latest trends in FDI in India, highlighting the sectors which are currently attracting maximum investments.

Happenings at the Workshop

The representatives of the various states shared their individual experiences on handling investments. Mr. Ramesh Abhishek, Secretary, Department of Investment Policy and Promotion, discussed the latest reforms in India, including the Make in India initiative, FDI policies, and tax reforms, which are rapidly transforming India into an attractive investment destination.

The representatives of Invest India insisted on the need for sub-national cooperation to enable seamless investments into India. To achieve this, Invest India will meet representatives of the states regularly and ensure capacity building and coordination between the different organizations. The workshop provided a great platform for young professionals of the APEDB team to learn from experts across the country.

APEDB at the Workshop

Mr. J Krishna Kishore, CEO, Andhra Pradesh Economic Development Board (APEDB), led the discussions during the States Session. He shared the experiences of APEDB, especially those relating to AP’s special ‘single-point of contact’ procedure for investments into the state. His presentation highlighted various aspects of the state’s investment promotion and external engagement activities.
Developing New Ties with Guizhou Province of China

On 23 June 2017, a delegation from the Guizhou Province of China – led by Mr. Liao Liu, Chairman of Guizhou Heavy Engineering Group; Mr. Zhang Zhao, Vice President of the Federation of Guizhou Chamber of Commerce and Industry; and Mr. Supei, Chief of Guizhou Maritime Silk Road International Investment Corporation (GIC), India Working Group – met an Andhra Pradesh State representative committee consisting of Mrs. Sumitra Dawra, Principal Secretary, Transport Roads and Buildings; Mr. M. Malakondiah, Vice Chairman & Managing Director of APSRTC, and Mr. Nagreddy, Director, Andhra Pradesh Capital Region Development Authority (CRDA), at the Secretariat in Velagapudi. This meeting between the representatives of both the regions was facilitated by APEDB.

AP Presentations on Road Development
The officials of the AP Department of Transport, Roads and Buildings made a presentation on the existing and proposed village roads, state roads and national highways in the state. The representatives also mentioned the state’s plan to widen the roads from Vijayawada to Anantapur to promote travel between the two regions.

Chinese Support for Infrastructure Development in AP
The Chinese delegation shared their vast experience in construction of robust infrastructure, including bridges, tunnels and extensive highways. The representatives promised to support infrastructure development in the state through financial and technical collaborations. It was also decided that a Joint Working Group would be set up to monitor the progress of the projects. APEDB will take the collaboration forward by ensuring continuing communication and discussion between the two sides.

A presentation was made by a team from APEDB to the delegation from Guizhou Province of China at the conference hall in APEDB. Mrs. Sumitra Dawra, PS, Transport Roads and Buildings, Mr. Malakondiah, Vice Chairman and MD of APSRTC, and other officials were present at the occasion.
APEDB and Taiwan

The Andhra Pradesh Economic Development Board hosted a Taiwanese delegation, headed by Dr. Simon Cao, a serial entrepreneur who founded and built a number of public companies in USA, China and Australia. The India-Taiwan Trade Promotion Alliance (ITTPA) is a select group of Taiwan companies and technology entrepreneurs interested in promoting investments between India and Taiwan. The initiative means to enhance trade and FDI into Andhra Pradesh. Further, it will streamline investments into the state and allow entrepreneurs from Andhra Pradesh to leverage Taiwanese technology.

Mr. SP Tucker, Vice Chairman, and Mr. Krishna Kishore, CEO, APEDB, made a presentation on investment opportunities and avenues for investment into the state, along with the measures being taken by the Government of Andhra Pradesh to facilitate ease of doing business in the Food Processing and Consumer Goods value chain.

APEDB Interactions with Singapore

Making a World-class Capital for Andhra Pradesh

 Amaravati, the new Greenfield capital city of Andhra Pradesh, is being developed in a consensus-driven participatory mode, with partnership from various countries including Singapore, United Kingdom, Japan, Switzerland, and China. The development is being carried out with emphasis on smart technology, robust connectivity and environmental sustainability.

APEDB and the Singapore Connect

Ascendas Singbridge, one of Asia’s leading urban developers headquartered in Singapore, well-known as a space solutions provider, is collaborating with Andhra Pradesh on developing Amaravati. The representatives of this company were hosted by APEDB on 12 July 2017, in Vijayawada.

Outcome

A team from APEDB will be working closely with the Ascendas Singbridge group and the Capital Region Development Authority (CRDA) to facilitate the implementation of agreements between the two groups, for the development of the capital region. The areas of collaboration include:

- capacity building in urban development,
- creation of a Master plan for the capital city, and
- development of the seed/start-up plan.

A Taiwanese delegation headed by Dr. Simon Cao visited the APEDB Office on 10 July 2017. Executive Vice Chairman of APEDB Mr. SP Tucker, and CEO of APEDB Mr. J Krishna Kishore made a presentation on the investment opportunities across various sectors in AP.
The US-India Business Council was set up at the request of both the Indian and US governments in 1975 for the purpose of furthering US-India commercial ties. Today USIBC is the largest bilateral trade association in the USA, with a liaising presence in New York, New Delhi, and Silicon Valley.

On the fifth day of his US tour the Hon’ble Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu was lauded by USIBC with the Transformative Chief Minister Award in recognition of his role in advancing US-India partnership at the state level. The award by the US-India Business Council was presented during USIBC’s West Coast Summit in Silicon Valley, California.

USIBC is a major player in the business world as it is comprised of 350 top-tier US and Indian companies that greatly advance US-India business ties.

The journey of Kia Motors Worldwide (Kia), in Andhra Pradesh began with the first meeting of seniors officials of Kia with the Hon. Chief Minister on May 21, 2016 organised by APEDB. Subsequently, the officials of APEDB spared no efforts in taking the officials of Kia to various site locations. The Industries Department played a proactive role in taking the project further, culminating in signing of an MoU between Kia and Government of Andhra Pradesh for setting up Kia’s first Greenfield manufacturing plant in India- at Erramanchi in Andhra Pradesh. This mega project will accelerate AP’s industrial development and add to its fast-growing automotive ecosystem. The MoU was signed at a ceremony in Vijayawada, in the presence of Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu and Mr. Han-Woo Park, the President of Kia Motors, which was also graced by several Kia Motors executives.

Kia Motors in Andhra Pradesh
Kia, the largest South Korean auto maker after Hyundai Motors, will invest about Rs 12,800 crore to set up the facility which is expected to create about 10,000 jobs. Kia will also set up a township and a Research & Training centre at the facility that will be spread over 536 acres allotted by the Andhra Pradesh Government.

“The tie-up will give a major boost to AP’s efforts to emerge as an industrial manufacturing hub,” said Mr. N Solomon Arokia Raj, Industries Secretary of AP.

“This is a significant step in our efforts to turn Andhra Pradesh into an automobile manufacturing hub. It is a historic day and the strong bond between AP and Kia will endure,” Mr. Naidu said.

A Win-Win Situation
This will be Kia’s first plant in India and its seventh in the world.

The press release from Kia reported: “Construction of the new manufacturing facility will commence in the final quarter of 2017. The manufacturing facility is expected to begin production in the second half of 2019 and produce up to 300,000 units each year. Kia plans to produce a strategic compact sedan and a compact SUV especially for the Indian market at the new plant, which will occupy around 23 million square feet and incorporate facilities for stamping, welding, painting and assembly. The site will also be home to numerous supplier companies’ facilities.”

“We are delighted to announce that Kia’s newest manufacturing facility will be here in Andhra Pradesh,” said Han-Woo Park. “It will enable us to sell cars in the world’s fifth largest market while providing greater flexibility for our global business. Worldwide demand for Kia cars is growing and this is our latest step towards becoming a leading global car manufacturer.”

APEDB has also been in touch with the ancillary units of Kia to bring the entire supply chain ecosystem to AP.
Chief Minister’s Meeting with Google X

On the second day of his weeklong visit to the USA, the Hon’ble Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh Mr. N Chandrababu Naidu, visited the Google X facility in Mountain View, California. This is the facility that developed driverless cars and Google Glass projects, besides using balloons for internet.

After Mr. Astro Teller’s (CEO) impressive tour of the facility, the CM applauded Google for its pioneering research and stated that AP was moving full thrust ahead with technology and innovation, and was especially keen on collaborating with Google for the state’s tech improvement. He said that the state had the potential to be the ground for experimenting and launching innovations carried on by Google X.

“You r experiments, such as using of stratosphere balloons to give Internet access in inaccessible areas is one of the experiments that can be carried out in our state,” the CM said.

In Other Meetings
• On the same day the Chief Minister took part in a meeting with H Russell Drinker, global director of M Moser, an architectural firm, and the latter expressed interest in the construction of Amaravati.
• The Chief Minister also met Sridhar Vembu, CEO of ZOHO, a billion dollar company, which provides SAAS services. The CEO said that they are interested in selecting small towns in southern Andhra Pradesh for their IT operations.
• He also met Padmasree Warrior, a successful US American of Telugu origin from Vijayawada, who is the CEO of NIO U.S., a Chinese Corporation that manufactures autonomous electric cars.
• The Chief Minister also had a discussion with Jeff Williams, Apple Inc’s COO, and invited him to open a manufacturing facility in Andhra Pradesh.
• Another meeting was with Gopi Sirineni (vice-president of QUALCOMM Technologies Inc.), who expressed keenness to work within Andhra Pradesh on the Fiber Grid project. The Chief Minister asked him to study the current status of the project and identify where his firm can contribute.

Meeting between the Hon’ble CM, Mr. Chandrababu Naidu and the CEO of Google X, Mr. Astro Teller at the Google X facility in California. The Finance Minister, Mr. Yanamala Ramakrishnudu, and other dignitaries from the Government of AP were also present.
The State Government of Andhra Pradesh has entered into a Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) with the State of Iowa, USA. This MoC will facilitate knowledge sharing and technological assistance in adopting best practices in the agricultural sector.

The MoC documents were signed and exchanged on 8 May 2017, at the World Food Prize Foundation in Des Moines, in the presence of Hon’ble Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu and Iowa Secretary of Agriculture, Mr Bill Northey.

Mr. Kenneth Quinn, President of the World Food Prize Foundation, and Mr. Craig Hill, Director of the World Food Prize Foundation witnessed the signing of the MoC. Others present at the occasion were Mrs. Neeta Bushan, Consul General of India in Chicago; Hon’ble Minister for Finance & Planning, Commercial Taxes & Legislative Affairs Mr. Yanamala Ramakrishnudu; Mr. G Sai Prasad, Principal Secretary to CM; Mr. J Krishna Kishore, CEO, APEDB; Mr Ajay Jain, Principal Secretary to government; Dr Parakala Prabhakar, Communication Advisor to the government; and the delegation from Andhra Pradesh.

At the Event
Mr. Bill Northey, Secretary of Agriculture, Iowa, in his address extended a warm welcome to the Chief Minister and said that Iowa and Andhra Pradesh share a lot in common, agriculture being one of them. “Together we make a commitment today to collaborate to make farmers’ lives better, agriculture fare better, and to wipe out hunger from the world,” he said.

The Chief Minister said that he was happy to enter into an MoC with Iowa. He said that his government is working relentlessly to double the incomes of the farmers of Andhra Pradesh, which was famous as the rice bowl of India.

In his Keynote Address, the Chief Minister mentioned that he had come all the way from India to Iowa to study their best practices so as to make agriculture prosper in Andhra Pradesh as well as in India on the whole.

“Today’s farmers are facing difficulties because of the lack of knowledge and information, I am keen to fill this gap,” said the Chief Minister.

Engagements like these will bring in more knowledge on soil health, micronutrients, water management, and market information.

The Chief Minister stressed that the Mega Seed Park Project should be implemented on a priority basis so as to increase agricultural productivity and help increase the incomes of all farmers in the near future.

Later several leaders of California, including the Mayor of San Jose, Mr. Sam Licardo, Congressman Ro Khanna, Senator Bob Wieckowski, and Assembly members Kansen Chu and Ash Kalra met the Chief Minister.
The Interactions of the CM in US

The Chief Minister enjoyed several interactions – both in his capacity as AP’s chief executive and as a beloved Telugu – in the city of Dallas. Details are as follows:

- He interacted with Mr. Chad Sparks, Director, Bell Helicopters, and told him that the AP government had put out an attractive aviation policy that could be appealing to Bell. Further work had to come from the company to materialize plans for further action.
- The CM networked with high-end technology entrepreneurs and Indian CEOs in a meeting organized by Klynveld Peat Marwick Goerdeler (KPMG) at San Francisco.
- A special session organized for Mr. Naidu was chaired by Mr. Arun Kumar, who had held a key position in the Obama administration and had also been a former partner and director with KPMG. This important meeting held the ‘who’s who’ of Indian business in the US. Addressing this meeting the CM emphasized that despite being neither a technocrat nor a scientist he still understands how technology can impact people’s lives.
- At the end of this meeting, 28 IT service companies agreed to start their operations in Andhra Pradesh. Premier IT Solutions, Global Outlook, Tekpros and Arcus Technologies are some of them. These companies will lease space in Visakhapatnam and Amaravati, providing employment for 310 and 64 professionals, respectively.
- The Telugu diaspora arranged a grand reception for the Hon’ble Chief Minister in Dallas. Mr. Naidu confided in them that bringing prosperity to Andhra Pradesh and Telugus was always at the back of his mind.

"I want the best practices from all over the world to be adopted in Andhra Pradesh so that our people will benefit from the best available knowledge in the world."
- Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu

In Conclusion

The Chief Minister informed the that he has big plans to harness solar energy, which is abundantly available in India. He added that Andhra Pradesh provides enormous opportunities in sectors such as agro processing, apparel, aqua culture and asked the CEOs to consider investments in these sectors.

Sharing his ambitious plans for Amaravati, the Chief Minister said that he perceives the building of the capital as both a challenge and an opportunity. "I gave a call and people came forward and gave 33,000 acres of land for Amaravati. This proves the faith the people of Andhra Pradesh have in me and the goodwill our government has generated in them." The Chief Minister reaffirmed his commitment to make Amaravati one of the five best cities in the world and the most livable metropolitan city in India.
Meeting with CISCO

During his tour of the US the Hon’ble Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu held a meeting with Mr. John Chambers, Executive Chairman and former CEO of Cisco Systems. Cisco Systems Inc., an American multinational technology conglomerate headquartered in San Jose, California, in the heart of Silicon Valley, develops, manufactures, and sells networking hardware, telecommunications equipment and other technology services and products.

Mr. Chambers gave a presentation on how modern communications can connect the world and demonstrated how he conducts meetings from his boardroom with executives around the world.

At the end of the presentation the Chief Minister affirmed that “Andhra Pradesh is at the forefront in integrating technology in governance and the government is keen on strengthening the eco system and we need to explore all possible areas of collaborating with you.”

Mr. John Kern, Senior Vice President; Mr. Guy Dietrich, Vice President; and the delegation from Andhra Pradesh were present at this event. Mrs. Aruna Sundararajan, IT Secretary, Government of India was also present.

Mr. Naidu also visited the headquarters of Applied Materials in California, and met Mr. Gary Dickerson, President and CEO, Mr. Om Nalamasu, Senior Vice President, and other representatives. Mr. Dickerson opined that a lot of talent in the field of semiconductors and applied materials comes from India which can transform India, while Indians go about transforming the world.

An Important Visit to Stanford

While meeting Dr. Lloyd B. Minor, the Dean of Stanford University School of Medicine, the Hon’ble Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu said that he had always admired Stanford University for its academic excellence. Further on, he reaffirmed his strong belief that only education can change the future of society. “Andhra Pradesh aspired to be a knowledge state and we would like to have Stanford as our knowledge partner,” he added.

To this Dr. Lloyd replied that they are specialists in precision care and they want to transform the very nature of healthcare to one of personalised care focused on keeping people healthy.

To mark the occasion the CM presented a coffee table book to Dr Minor – The Sunrise State Andhra Pradesh – published by APEDB.

As part of the USA visit, the AP delegation headed by Hon’ble CM met Cisco System Chairman Mr. John Chambers.
CM Meeting the Governor of California

The Hon’ble Chief Minister Mr. Nara Chandrababu Naidu met Mr. Edmund Gerald “Jerry” Brown Jr., the Governor of California in Sacramento, on his visit to the USA in May 2017. They largely discussed political affairs; and eventually the Governor showed keen interest in the agricultural, industrial and technological capacities of Andhra Pradesh.

Going on, Mr. Jerry Brown expressed a strong desire to partner in the agricultural, industrial and technological sectors that will play a huge role in the making of the state. The community of Andhra Pradesh looks forward to receiving invaluable advice and counselling from eminent and experienced personalities, such as Mr. Brown.

Neither Civil Nor Servant

This authorized biography of Mr. Philip Yeo talks of his engaging journey through several of Singapore’s biggest post-independence military, economic and political adventures. At all times the mind of Mr. Yeo, one of Singapore’s most colourful and most accomplished bureaucrats, who coincidentally was the Chair of Singapore’s Economic Development Board, sees the possible in the impossible.

Mr. Yeo discusses the journey of the Economic Development Board of Singapore and his half-century career, which helped put Singapore on the road map towards development and economic growth.

The book also discusses Mr. Yeo’s strategic, out-of-the-box thinking that helped him to revamp and reinvigorate Singapore’s economy – from identifying growth engines to mapping priorities and taking Singapore’s development indices to the world.

Known for his ingenious ideas and creative work style since his early days as a bureaucrat, Mr. Yeo remolded himself to fit into the space of business and enterprise.

His contributions towards the development of defense, electronics, and life sciences along with the knowledge capital of Singapore by implementing sustainable development models, remain relevant even in today’s new geo-economic realities.

This book is a must read for anybody who wants to understand the development of investment promotion agencies, the dynamics of growth engines, and the path-breaking economics needed to develop a newborn nation.
Why Chandrababu Naidu is Andhra’s Greatest Salesman

There is no stopping Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu when it comes to selling what his state has to offer. No wonder, on the fifth day of his hectic weeklong US tour, which concluded on May 11, the US-India Business Council (USIBC) presented him with the ‘Transformative Chief Minister’ Award for his role in advancing US-India partnership at the state level. CISCO’s executive chairman, Mr. John Chambers gave the award to Naidu during the USIBC West Coast Summit in Silicon Valley.

The Summit brought together top minds in the industry and the Government of India to discuss ways to improve prospects for more and better US-India technology partnerships. Chambers also invited the CM to his home for a meeting with 30 CEOs because of his personal admiration for Naidu. After seeing the CM’s spectacular and meticulous presentation, Mr. Chambers’ response was equally momentous, “This is why I believe in this man so much.”

Conscious about Amaravati
Andhra Pradesh chief minister N Chandrababu Naidu finds building the state capital Amaravati a responsible task and there is no let up on his audacious goal to develop it to global standards. The grand plan is to include an iconic bridge on the Krishna and develop eight islands, in the vicinity of Amaravati, as tourist’s spots. Naidu has raised hopes way beyond normal expectations.

The CM’s Sales Pitch
For his part, before and after the Summit, while on the tour, Naidu raised his sales pitch by showcasing the potential of his 13-district state, which is starved of a metropolitan area. This is a priority for the CM, therefore what he is planning for is much more than an urban sprawl, but a world-class city that would be worth emulating.

Always focused on his mission, the CM kept harping on the same theme: “If you miss the opportunity now, you will miss it forever”. Truly a man who believes in what he says!
Vijayawada Airport gets International Status

In a recent development the Union Cabinet has granted international airport status to Vijayawada airport. This is being done in keeping with the Andhra Pradesh Reorganization Act, 2014. According to businessmen, this will open up the airport to more international flights to various cities of the world. Moreover, the airport situated at Gannavaram, about 13 km from the city, is close to National Highway 16 that runs from Kolkata to Chennai, which gives it better connectivity.

Need for a Better Airport
The decision to give international airport status to the Vijayawada airport was taken keeping in view passenger traffic growth, demands from airlines, and requests from the Andhra Pradesh Government. The Airports Authority of India has undertaken upgradation of requisite infrastructure and facilities for international operations.

On the Ground
Transportation plays a major role in business development and in this regard AP needed better connectivity to Middle Eastern and Asian countries. Therefore the evolution of this airport will work towards marked improvement of commerce in AP. The improved infrastructure at the airport will help expand several businesses in AP as new overseas markets will open up for the products manufactured in these parts. In turn, this will boost the economic growth of the state, and see it make an impact both nationally and internationally.

Apart from better business, the airport will go a long way towards attracting domestic and international tourists to AP. Most of all, it will provide jobs to more than 1150 people, says Mr. Venkaiah Naidu, the Union Minister for Urban Development.

The decision of approving Vijayawada Airport as International Airport will provide a wider choice of services at competitive costs to the air-travelers and give a boost to domestic and international tourism and socio-economic development of Andhra Pradesh by bringing in international passengers and cargo traffic.

Major Expansion
The new airport with the approved design has been released recently. However, to cater to growing demand, plans are on the anvil for major expansion including the following:

- Increasing the length of the runway to Code F category to enable airbus A380, Boeing 747 and other large aircraft.
- Building a larger new ultra modern terminal with aero-bridges.
- Developing a number of parking bays and hangers to help increase connectivity etc.

Vijayawada Airport as International Airport will provide a wider choice of services at competitive costs to the air-travelers and give a boost to domestic and international tourism and socio-economic development of Andhra Pradesh by bringing in international passengers and cargo traffic.
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