CHANDRABABU NAIDU
Chief Minister, Andhra Pradesh concludes landmark visit to U.S, UAE & U.K

CM's US-UAE-UK Trip

- **50,000 new jobs envisaged**
- **$10 billion investment interest generated**
- **Five MoUs**
- **77 Letters of Intent**
- **Engaging the Global Telugu Entrepreneur Network**
- **Non-Residential Telugu Community giving back to Janmabhumi**
- **Hon'ble CM Received Golden Peacock Award**

**9 Days**

**3 Nations**

**50 Meetings**
In October, I embarked on a nine day, three countries and seven city tour to the United States, United Kingdom and United Arab Emirates with my team of government officials from Andhra Pradesh and Team APEDB who facilitate all of our engagements overseas. Our trip was strategized, to focus on enabling increased investment into the state, adopting new technologies learning best practise from our friends overseas, re-engaging the Global Telugu Community, and reviewing the iconic secretariat and other government office structures in Amravati at Foster + Partners. I think we did very well on all these fronts and I am especially pleased that the Andhra Pradesh government delegation came home with sustainable investments with significant employment generation.

In the United States, I participated in the internationally renowned World Food Prize-2017 laureate award ceremony event held in Des Moines, Iowa, on the sidelines of which I met with top agricultural scientists, food experts and representatives from top seed and agro companies over roundtables and one-on-one meetings. Andhra Pradesh Government focuses on accelerating agricultural growth, and farmers' welfare. We are making efforts to transform Andhra Pradesh into a knowledge-based economy. I participated in a roundtable meeting with seed experts at the Iowa State University Seed Park. I also visited DuPont Pioneer, leading producer of hybrid seeds and genetically modified crops, as part of my goal to learn more about the latest technologies in the areas of seed quality, climate and soil management, crop genetics and farm productivity.

I am focusing on technology to make agriculture profitable for my farmers. To achieve this we are collaborating with foreign investors to understand the best way to integrate technology with agriculture for our developmental model. My government strongly believes that agricultural growth is only possible by combining advanced technology with effective policies.

In the UK, receiving the Golden Peacock Global Award (Distinguished Fellowship and Leadership Award) for leadership in Public Service & Economic Transformation presented by the Institute of Directors (IOD) in the United Kingdom was a win for my team and the state. I also gave my inputs to finalize the plan for Secretariat and Administrative offices in Amaravati with Fosters + Partners was crucial. The tour attracted huge investments especially in Dubai. I reminded my friends from the Telugu community to be proud of their homeland Andhra Pradesh which is ranked number 1 in ease of doing business in India and they supported me with overwhelming assurances.

I am confident that Andhra Pradesh's vision of being amongst India's three best states by 2022, the best state by 2029 and a leading global investment destination with sustained double digit growth trajectory by 2050 is inching closer and closer to fruition and we will have to continue to together work for it.

Make Andhra Pradesh your second home. Invest in Andhra Pradesh, and you will in turn be investing in India's future, in a big way!

Messages from Ministers and Officials

Mr. Yanamala Ramakrishnudu, Minister for Finance & Planning, Commercial Tax & Legislative Affairs. The dynamic leadership of Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu has secured the state of Andhra Pradesh the title of one of the fastest growing economy in India with the growth outstripping the growth rate of the Indian economy. In the First Quarter of 2017, while India recorded a growth rate of 5.7%, Andhra Pradesh's GSDP growth rate was at 11.72%. It is with the support of our domestic and foreign investors and collaborations that we are attempting to reduce the deficits and support large scale employment generation in the state. We intend to provide equal emphasis on investment generation and job creation. Our state continue to sustain its efforts in achieving double digit growth through investment promotions across the world.
Dr. P. Narayana, Municipal Administration and Urban Development, Urban Housing. Andhra Pradesh has adopted a citizens-first approach, with the common man’s happiness becoming central to our state’s transformation. The government is striving to build a new capital city in Amaravati, which is a first of its kind. The greenfield capital is being planned as a conglomeration of nine cities i.e., government city, finance city, tourism city, health city, electronic city, knowledge city, justice city, media city and sports city in addition to being an attractive investment destination for both overseas and domestic investors. We believe that the initiative is going to raise the bar for “happiness” among our citizens. Our visit to United Kingdom was a great opportunity to review the designs prepared by Foster + Partners for the AP Legislature and Secretariat in the capital city of Amaravati. Engaging with the investors also helped understand the best practices on the municipal infrastructure in London.

Mr. S.P. Tucker, IAS (Rtd.), Executive Vice Chairman, APEDB and Former Chief Secretary, Government of Andhra Pradesh. The State of Andhra Pradesh has conceived a grand vision; under the leadership of the Chief Minister we are translating this vision into reality by attracting potential investments that generate jobs and establish strategic collaborations.

The preparation that has gone into organising and facilitating Chief Minister led visits to the U.S., UK, and UAE, was rigorous and result oriented. The precision with which the key stakeholders were handled, enables the state to build a country-specific strategy for future visits and also standardised collaboration with other countries. The exposure enables development of institutional structures that integrate the investment across sectors and departments.

The 9-day visit has permuted strong network that translated into prodigious Investment interest. The system has been operationalised to accelerate investment intents generated, transforming physical infrastructure and human capital of the state.

Mr. J. Krishna Kishore, IRS., CEO APEDB. The Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh is a visionary leader and he is determined to have the state of Andhra Pradesh achieve its full potential with sustained double digit growth. This particular trip was extremely crucial. It was at a time when the engagement between U.S.-India, India-UAE and India-UK are gaining momentum. Through the engagements, we are expected to generate over $10 + billion investment into Andhra Pradesh. APEDB is now working with various task forces and the APEDB to help ground these projects. The World Bank report for 2016 has ranked AP as the number 1 state in the Ease of Doing business and we intend to hold this achievement through our efforts.

Dr. Parakala Prabhakar, Communications Advisor. Our dynamic Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu embraces Andhra Pradesh’s role as an enabler for India’s future, and builds an economy that prioritizes real time governance and development. All the Chief Minister’s overseas engagements are purposeful to achieve a perfect balance of bilateral meetings, corporate governance and networking with non-resident Telugu communities. This tour helped forward the CM’s vision of channeling global technological advances to make agriculture profitable in the State. Further, the agreement with Iowa to set up a Mega Seed Park in Kurnool and the Agtech Summit hosted in Vizag this November where we had Bill Gates in participation added to the momentum of this trip.

Mr. Ajay Jain, IAS., Principal Secretary-Energy. Andhra Pradesh is the most investor friendly state in India. Highlighting the opportunity overview of Andhra Pradesh, especially in connectivity, industrial infrastructure and power sector, find resonance in the CM’s speeches and presentations, in many ways CM Naidu helped Andhra Pradesh renew vows with US, UK and UAE. As well as we deepen our ties of, shared values and common interest, Andhra Pradesh’s will continue to acquire increased FDI in the state from these countries.

Mr. Sai Prasad, IAS., Principal Secretary to the Chief Minister. The government of Andhra Pradesh has big dreams to build our Greenfield Capital, Amaravati as a global city of the future. We are confident that the state will strive to adhere to the vision of the Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu and emerge as the most developed state of India by 2029. Investments are critical to economic growth and focused efforts are an imperative to drive growth in chosen sectors of the economy and provide convenience to the investing community. Traveling to U.S., UK and UAE, CM Naidu focused this time primarily on technology in agriculture in addition to IT & ITES breaching collaborations on both knowledge sharing, skill development, and resource management and investment for sustainable economic development in Andhra Pradesh.
NRT (Non-Residential Telugu) Community welcomed Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu to Dubai in October, 2017 with overwhelming support and promise to help develop the people’s capital of Amaravati.
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Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu interacted with NRTs community in Dubai. During the interaction, Chief Minister appreciated Mr. Vemula Ravi Kumar and other NRT leaders for their efforts in development of “Matrubhumi”.
Chief Minister recognizes the role of Global Telugu Entrepreneurs in Andhra Pradesh’s development story

The Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh N. Chandrababu Naidu embarked on a three-nation, nine-day, tour of the US, UAE and UK aimed at mobilizing the global investor community and positioned the state of Andhra Pradesh as the most favourable investment destination in India.

Leading a high-level delegation of government officials, Chief Minister started the first leg of his three-nation tour in the U.S. In the United States, the CM travelled across New York, Chicago, and Iowa to meet several business, political, civic society, education and economic leaders and influencers, and the Telugu diaspora community who have always warmed the Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister’s heart with their overwhelming support.

GTEN Network to be strengthened to further empower

The first meeting of the US leg was with the Global Telugu Entrepreneur Network (GTEN) in Chicago where discussions were held on the priorities and preferred opportunities for the Global Telugu Diaspora in several key sectors such as Agriculture and food processing, logistics and warehousing, automobiles and auto-components, IT& ITES, technology and tech-enabled entrepreneurial sectors, education, energy etc. Several ideas were exchanged on sectoral policy mapping and the need to build inclusive partnerships with development agencies, governments, and international organizations. Urging the GTEN members to support AP’s development initiatives, the CM called for collaborations in skill development and promoted knowledge transfer. Another important effort the CM sought GTEN support was sharing of best practices to drive trade and investments in the state more bullishly.

The key takeaways of the meeting included decisions to expand the GTEN network, to strengthen economic ties with AP by engaging top executives of the group, finalization of AI Cloud Hub Policy and facilitating a presence for leading IT behemoths ZOHO, Nutanix, CISCO, Google and others in Andhra Pradesh.

Chief Minister appreciates the role of “500 IT companies set to make AP their base by 2018” Chief Minister in Chicago

The Chief Minister led a high level delegation met with representatives of various IT companies and members of TANA (Telugu Association of North America) in Chicago.

The Chief Minister invited investors from the IT fraternity and assured full cooperation to companies coming forward to set up their businesses in AP. Articulating his vision for the state, he said that he hopes to see Visakhapatnam and the new capital city of Amaravati emerge as major IT hubs.

He assured that full-spectrum infrastructure will be in place at both cities by the end of 2018 to enable IT companies set up offices and commence operations.

The Chief Minister also declared that his target was to ensure at least 500 IT companies set up offices in AP. Responding to the Chief Minister’s invitation, 60 IT companies expressed interest to invest in various sectors including Business Process Management, Software Development and IT services. This initiative will lead to direct employment for 8000 people and indirect employment for 20,000 people.

The Chief Minister also encouraged the NRI (Non-Resident Indians) community to contribute to AP’s progress and play a role in the development of their home state.

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The high-level delegation of Andhra Pradesh met representatives of DuPont Pioneer, at its research facility in IOWA, USA. Global Vice President of DuPont Pioneer, Brad Lance enlightened the delegation on DuPont Pioneer’s research projects and international business presence. With operations in over 90 countries, DuPont Pioneer is the largest producer of hybrid seeds for agriculture and creates solutions by bringing innovative science to address challenges faced by the farmers. DuPont Pioneer also develops and distributes high quality corn, soybean, sorghum, sunflower, alfalfa, canola, wheat, rice, cotton, pearl millet and mustard seeds as well as forage additives apart from providing a variety of services.

**APEDB and DuPont Pioneer to explore collaborations in hybrid technology to enhance agricultural yield for farmers**

The Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh and his team sought to understand gene editing technology and the influence of seeds, climate and soil management on farm productivity. The team spent significant time in acquiring the insights vital to maximizing productivity for farmers in Andhra Pradesh. A key task on the agenda was to explore potential collaborative opportunities between DuPont Pioneer and Government of AP. Extensive discussions were held on potential collaborations in R&D and hybrid technology for high quality corn, soybean, sorghum, sunflower, alfalfa, canola, wheat, rice, cotton, pearl millet and mustard seeds. The meeting established a platform for sustained engagement as DuPont Pioneer offered to support AP in developing and distributing high quality cereals and additives besides sharing its expertise to extend a variety of services for the benefit of farmers in AP. It was agreed that DuPont Pioneer’s Research and Development insights would be made available for farmers from the state of AP to help them maximize productivity.
Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu in a modernized farm-machine in Iowa

Kimberley Kay Reynolds, Governor of Iowa, lauds the Chief Minister, Chandrababu Naidu for his intensive Food Security initiatives in Andhra Pradesh

During our Honorable Chief Minister’s visit to the United States, the CM made a courtesy call on Ms. Kimberley Kay Reynolds (Kim Reynolds) Governor of Iowa state. The governor praised CM Naidu on his efforts towards eradicating hunger and ensuring food security for Andhra Pradesh.
'IOWA round table for agricultural reforms' showcases and references Andhra Pradesh’s Mega Seed Park

Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu along with a delegation from Andhra Pradesh participated in a roundtable discussion at the Iowa State University (ISU) on Deepavali day in October 2017. The Chief Minister was welcomed by Mr. Bill Northey, Secretary of Agriculture, Iowa and Professor Manjit Misra, Director Seed Science Center, following which, there was deliberation on collaborations to increase farm productivity and yield in Andhra Pradesh. Prof. Greg Luecke, Associate Professor in Virtual Reality Application Centre at Iowa State University and Prof. James Oliver, Director, Virtual Reality Applications Centre took the Chief Minister and his team through a tour of the Virtual Reality Application Centre and discussed the status of the Mega Seed Park Project, in Kurnool District of Andhra Pradesh which is being established as a result of an MOU that has been signed in November 2016 between Andhra Pradesh Economic Development Board and Iowa State University, which is arguably the most reputed institution in USA, in the field of Agriculture Science and Research. Prof. Norman Borlaug, the father of the Green Revolution in India and many eminent agriculture scientists are associated with Iowa.

The Mega Seed Park is expected to be a major fulcrum for developing good quality, disease resistant and high yielding seeds, which will benefit not only farmers in Andhra Pradesh, but also other parts of India and Asia. The Investment in the park by the developers and by over 100 seed manufacturing companies from India and abroad, are expected to be over US Dollar One Billion.

The Mega Seed Park will also seek to integrate the synergies of about 2,50,000 stakeholders including seed producing farmers, agriculture students and others. The Seed Park will have a center for excellence and innovation bringing the world’s best practices in Agriculture, for the benefit of farming community. For the first time in India, common facilities for quality testing, equipment sharing etc will be established, which will bring down the costs significantly.

Prof. Dileep Kumar Guntuku, Global Programme Leader at ISU, delivered a detailed presentation on the work so far on the Seed Park and its value chain which allows one to enter the park with a germplasm and leave with a seed packet. He opined that seed policies and regulations must be extensively discussed and worked upon to allow the seed industry to prosper.

As the meeting drew to a close, CM announced his intent to focus on initiatives to associate potential knowledge partners across the globe and attract investments from seed companies to further empower the Mega Seed Park project.

The CM endorsed the university’s cooperation in bringing advanced technology to the state and support in facilitating collaborations with the best agricultural research institutions. Observing that seed security is important to ensure food security, CM stated that “Our aim is to not only help produce high quality seed for the state, but also to export to the world. AP is blessed with good water, power, soil, climate and progressive, hard-working farmers. We need to create a knowledge bank that can leverage the current infrastructure we have in place including real-time monitoring of rainfall / ground water / moisture, drone surveillance for testing soil quality and pest management and other technologies.”

The Chief Minister, instead of the normal practice of celebrating the important festival Deepavali with family, spent the day in Iowa studying the best practices in field of agriculture. The Chief Minister said that the sparkle of happiness in the eyes of farmers is real Deepavali for him.
The Chief Minister seeks collaboration between the United States and Andhra Pradesh in the agricultural Sector

The US-India Strategic Partnership Forum (USISPF) in conjunction with the IOWA State University hosted a roundtable lunch in Des Moines, Iowa for Chief Minister, Nara Chandrababu Naidu. The special session was organized to encourage discussions between the Chief Minister and various companies from the agricultural sector in the United States attending the World Food Prize event.

Earlier in the trip, CM Naidu was invited to attend the World Food Prize Nobel Laureate event. Participants in the event included members of the Indian government and representatives from U.S. Industry and organizations including John Deere, PepsiCo, U.S. Department of Agriculture, U.S. India Foundation, GrainPro, Pioneer, and the Global Food Banking Network.

Andhra Pradesh’s leadership in Indian food and agriculture industry acknowledged

Mukesh Aghi, President of USISPF introduced the Chief Minister at the roundtable, saying, “There are great opportunities for collaboration between the United States and Andhra Pradesh. The state of AP has demonstrated leadership in the Indian food and agriculture industry with progressive initiatives such as setting up of Mega Food Parks and several cold storage facilities.” In his welcome remarks, CM Naidu added, “Agricultural cooperation between the United States and Andhra Pradesh will a healthy exchange of technical knowledge and expertise that would in turn boost agricultural production.”

Chief Minister Naidu calls to focus on technology and innovation for sustaining agriculture at the World Food Prize Laureate Award ceremony

Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh Nara Chandrababu Naidu was invited to attend the internationally renowned World Food Prize Laureate Award ceremony in Des Moines, Iowa, United States, where he represented India.

Earlier 2017 in the month of May, Iowa State University representative Mr. Dileep Kumar called on the Chief Minister at his residence and handed him the invitation.

The World Food Prize is the foremost international award recognizing the achievements of individuals who have advanced human development by improving the quality, quantity or availability of food in the world. The Prize was founded in 1986 by Dr. Norman E. Borlaug, recipient of the 1970 Nobel Peace Prize. Since then, the World Food Prize has honored outstanding individuals who have made vital contributions the world.

Dr. Akinwumi Adesina, President of the African Development Bank, was felicitated as the 2017 World Food Prize Laureate.

On the sidelines of the award ceremony honorable Chief Minister met with top agricultural scientists, food experts and representatives from top seed and agro companies to learn more about best global practices in the field of agriculture and allied industries.

The Chief Minister reiterated that he aims to make Andhra Pradesh the most advanced agricultural state in the country. “The government believes that agricultural growth is only possible by combining advanced technology with effective policies.”

“The government’s primary focus is on accelerating agricultural growth, and farmers’ welfare. We are making efforts to transform Andhra Pradesh into a knowledge-based economy, with an expansion of horticulture by following efficient cropping practices,” CM Naidu added.

The Iowa University and the Government of Andhra Pradesh also organized a special session on agriculture as part of the World Food Prize proceedings. Informing the audience that the Government of AP is ready to utilize advanced technologies to enhance profitability of the agriculture sector in the state, the Chief Minister said, “We’ve saved lakhs of acres of crop by inter-linking rivers; a first-of-its-kind initiative in the country. As the new state of Andhra Pradesh is agriculture-dependent, we are undertaking a host of initiatives to leverage technology for the benefit of our farmers.”
Andhra Pradesh to play a crucial role in the Global Consortium of Knowledge for Agriculture

The Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu met with Professor Louise O. Fresco who is the President of the Wageningen University & Research Executive Board. The tour that targeted at cementing economic ties and cooperation between US and the state of Andhra Pradesh (AP). The meeting with WUR was aimed at inducting Andhra Pradesh into the global knowledge consortium for agriculture, agri-business, aqua and organic farming. The meeting which was held in the Wageningen University chamber was headed by Prof. Fresco where, a wide range of ideas and thoughts on cooperation were exchanged. The discussions also turned to a proposal submitted by the AP Government to promote collaboration between WUR and AP on several areas including the constitution of a Agriculture Knowledge Consortium and cooperation in making farming an attractive and lucrative profession for the millennial farmers in AP.

MoU to be inked between Wageningen and APEDB

During the meeting, the CM highlighted the need for a global consortium of knowledge in agriculture sector and added that AP will hugely benefit from a collaboration with Wageningen University. As an outcome of the meeting, a decision was taken to forge an MoU signing between Wageningen University and the state of AP. It was decided that the deliverables and the scope of the MoU and specific areas of cooperation would be developed jointly, and a proposal is to be submitted, following which the MoU will be signed.

Andhra Pradesh ties up with Maharishi University to increase Organic Farming in the state

The prolific two-day U.S. tour of the Andhra Pradesh Government culminated into a highly productive meeting with top officials of Maharishi University. With an emphasis on attracting investments and forging knowledge collaborations particularly in the farming sector, Andhra Pradesh team spearheaded by Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu interacted with top officials of Maharishi University of Management.

Maharishi University of Management (MUM), formerly Maharishi International University, is an American non-profit university located in Fairfield, Iowa. Founded in 1973 by Maharishi Mahesh Yogi the organization features a "consciousness-based education system that includes the practice of the Transcendental Meditation technique. It is said to offer a ‘whole-system approach’ that aims to move beyond the library and classroom settings and engage students in a personal journey of evolution and growth through meditation and an organic, vegetarian food program.

The Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister said that AP is keen on promoting cost effective technology for organic cultivation and said: “Organic farming is gaining popularity in AP too with over two lakh farmers in the state engaged in organic farming.”

Meeting with Mr. John Hagelin, President of Maharishi University and Mr. Bill Godstein, Dean of Global Development Legal Counsel at Maharishi University, the CM also brought up the innovative concept of Zero-Budget Natural Farming popularized by Subash Palekar. He requested that a team of experts from Maharishi University be deputed to Andhra Pradesh for identifying areas of mutual interest in agriculture. He also sought deeper collaborations between Maharishi University and AP in initiating farmer’s training in cost-effective organic cultivation. The university expressed interest in training the farmers of AP in low cost organic farming. Dr. Dileep, Global Program Leader of Iowa State University was nominated to coordinate with Maharishi University of Management to take the initiative forward.
Andhra Pradesh CM seeks eternal blessings for the State of Andhra Pradesh at the Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque in Abu Dhabi

CM recorded his message in the visitor book: “I'm blessed that I could visit this mosque. I prayed to Allah that my state Andhra Pradesh and my people have his blessings eternally!”
Invites business leaders in Dubai to invest in Andhra Pradesh

Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, Nara Chandrababu Naidu led a high level delegation from Government of Andhra Pradesh on a three-day tour of the United Arab Emirates. The delegation comprising of Yanamala Ramakrishnudu, Minister for Finance and Planning, Commercial Legislative Affairs, Dr. P. Narayana, Minister for Municipal Administration and Urban Development, Urban Housing, Dr. Parakala Prabhakar, Advisor (Communications), P. Sai Prasad, IAS, Principal Secretary to Chief Minister, APEDB CEO Krishna Kishore, Ajay Jain, IAS Principal Secretary-Energy Infrastructure and Investment, Solomon Arokiaraj IAS, Secretary Industries aimed at fortifying the state’s network with the entrepreneurial community in UAE and promote Andhra Pradesh as a potential investment destination. The delegation held extensive meetings with diverse investor groups in the Government and private sectors. The tour included four meetings with Cabinet Ministers of UAE, four business and community roundtables and thirteen one-on-one meetings.

In the Business Meet hosted by Business Leaders Forum (BLF), UAE, the Chief Minister delivered an elaborate presentation on the rich investments opportunities the state of Andhra Pradesh offers to prospective entrepreneurs. Encouraging participants to consider investing in the state, he also stressed on the fact that infrastructure, retail, hospitality and food processing industries are the focus industries. The meeting was attended by leading industrialists including Dr. Ram Buxani, Chairman, ITL Cosmos Group, Mr. Paras Shahdadpuri, Chairman, Nikai Group of Companies, Mr. Sudesh Aggarwal, Chairman, ITEC & GRP Group of Industries, Ms. Sripryiaa Kumaria, Director General of ITEC and Mr. BR Shetty, Chairman, NMC Healthcare.

BLF to invest in Andhra Pradesh

- Four MoUs were signed with a proposed investment of USD 7.5 billion
- Prominent members of the BLF displayed keen interest in investing in Andhra Pradesh: The Rigid Group (Food Processing, Hospitality and Manufacturing), ESPA Group - (Manufacturer of industrial pumps), Danube Group (Building Materials) and Malabar Gold and Diamonds.
- BLF disclosed a fund of USD 500 million committed to invest in India with equity participation from identified, strategic, local partners.
- The Chief Minister suggested constitution of a working group with strategies chalk ed out to facilitate BLF’s investments in Andhra Pradesh. Monthly review meetings between BLF members and the AP delegation will be held to expedite the process.

Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu along with AP’s delegations interacted with business leaders in Dubai. CM presented on the investment opportunities offered by AP.
The State of Andhra Pradesh under the visionary leadership of honorable Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu takes the welfare, growth and empowerment of the NRTs as seriously as any other group domiciled within Andhra Pradesh. The CM views the Non-Resident Telugus a natural extension and an integral part of Andhra Pradesh and its overall growth and development.

On his first day in Dubai, the Chief Minister addressed the NRT community and encouraged NRT entrepreneurs to invest in the state. The Chief Minister further reminded them about their deep-rooted connection with their homeland in Andhra Pradesh. He stated, “It is a matter of great pride that your state Andhra Pradesh has been ranked as No. 1 state in Ease of Doing Business in India.”

Making a strong case for Andhra Pradesh as the ideal investment destination, the Chief Minister urged the NRT community to actively explore investment opportunities, assuring them of swift project approvals and a supportive approach to processing of proposals.

Underlining the importance of this initiative, the Chief Minister said that a dedicated Business Leaders Forum would be hosted every month to facilitate and support all investment proposals received from the NRT community in Dubai. He also urged the affluent NRTs who had come from Kuwait, Dubai, Bahrain and Abu Dhabi to hear his remarks to play an active role in development of their respective native villages in Andhra Pradesh “for the greater good of their home state.” The Chief Minister declared that regular and direct flights from Amaravati to Emirates will be launched soon to ensure improved connectivity for the benefit of all business travelers and regular commuters.

Discussing his earnest plan to alleviate the problems faced by many NRTs from Andhra Pradesh through the AP Migrants Welfare Development Policy, the Chief Minister said that his government is studying the problems of this large community in the Gulf region and has already earmarked a fund of Rs. 40 crores to implement various policies for the over 25 lakh beneficiaries.

The proceedings were enlivened with a spectacular cultural showcase by Dubai-based Telugu performers. Ministers of Andhra Pradesh Government P. Narayana (Municipal Administration and Urban Development), Yamalai Ramakrishnudu (Finance) and Kollu Ravindra (Law & Justice, Skill Development, Youth, Sport) also participated in the event.
Renewed thrust on aviation & Logistics

Infrastructure being a priority sector, the AP delegation led by Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu met with the leading aviation companies in UAE. The Chief Minister called on the leadership of the Emirates Group and invited them to explore strategic investments into the State of Andhra Pradesh.

During the interactions with Mr. Ghaith Al-Ghaith, CEO Fly Dubai and Mr. Adnan Kazim, Divisional Senior Vice President of Strategic Planning, Revenue optimization and Aero Political Affairs at Emirates, the CM outlined AP’s ongoing initiatives aimed at augmenting the business environment and positioned the state as a destination for building an Integrated Logistics Hub. The Chief Minister also stated that Andhra Pradesh is developing extensive infrastructure to promote Civil Aviation and Aerospace. The discussions also dwelt on Emirates Airlines establishing connectivity from Vijayawada to Dubai.

Aviation academy in Visakhapatnam, Fly Dubai flight at AP

The vital agenda of the meeting was the proposal to establish a “Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul” (MRO) facility and an Aviation Academy at Visakhapatnam. The Chief Minister remarked that AP was strategically positioned in South Asia and the State’s major cities such as Amaravati, Tirupati and Visakhapatnam allowed for easy connectivity to Dubai. Mr. Kazim appreciated Mr. Naidu’s instrumental role in establishing Emirates Airline’s operation in Hyderabad during his earlier tenure as the CM of unified Andhra Pradesh and promised to work on the fresh proposals. As the meeting drew to a close, both parties finalized plans to initiate work on the proposed Aviation Academy in Visakhapatnam.

MoU inked for USD 5.5 bn ‘Aviation City Project’

Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu also discussed the important investment plans of Aviation City LLP. He met with H.E. Dr. Mohammed Al Zarooni, Director General of Dubai Airport Free Zone (DAFZA), and Raza Murad Hussain, VP and CEO of Dubai Silicon Oasis (DSO). - Chord Group and Aniyan Kutty, Managing Director of Clarion Shipping. During the meeting, Aviation City LLP expressed interest in developing an Aero City Hub spread across 10,000 acres of land in AP at an estimated investment of USD 7.5 billion with a potential to generate direct employment for 15,000 people and indirect employment for an additional 5000. The integrated Aero City Project would include Domestic and Cargo Airlines, Logistics Park/Special Economic Zone, an MRO, Parts manufacturing, Airport, Education and Training Centre and a state-of-the-art Aerospace Hub/Airport. Vijayawada, Visakhapatnam and Tirupati are being considered as potential sites for the Aero City project. It was agreed that the chord group, with support from APDEB would commence work on the project feasibility and submit the DPR to Government of AP in early 2018.
Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu interacted with Mr. Sultan Ahmed Bin Sulayem, Group Chairman and CEO of DP World, a global leader in maritime logistics. Elaborating on the vast array of investment opportunities Andhra Pradesh has to offer in the areas of marine trade, ports, logistics and inland waterways. The Chief Minister stressed on AP’s geographical advantages, stating that it has the second longest coastline in India with 974 km and enjoys a pre-eminent logistics edge with two corridors - Vizag Chennai Industrial Corridor and Chennai Bangalore Industrial Corridor, and two dedicated freight corridors (Delhi-Vijayawada and East Coast DFC) passing through its territory. As Andhra Pradesh is currently in the process of developing inland waterways, the Chief Minister urged Mr. Sulayem to bring DP World’s expertise to the state.

**Big boost to investments in Maritime and Logistics**

A core team of facilitators from the Andhra Pradesh Economic Development Board (APEDB) led by CEO, Mr. J Krishna Kishore presented on the investment opportunities in the state highlighting the strategic location of Andhra Pradesh that enables it to act as a natural gateway to the east making it the hub of growth geographies of tomorrow. Further among all of the maritime states in India, Andhra Pradesh has the most robust port infrastructure with a major port in Vishakhapatnam and 14 subsidiary ports in Krishnapatnam, Kakinada, Gangavaram, Machilipatnam, Bheemunipatnam etc.

The Chairman of DP World, Mr. Sulayem World expressed his willingness to bring their expertise in Inland waterways for projects in Andhra Pradesh. He also expressed his desire to work with the Chief Minister while indicating DP World’s interest in acquiring a stakes in Gangavaram Port and building a Free-Zone similar to Jebel Ali. The meeting ended with the constitution of a Joint Working Group to explore investment opportunities in Ports and Free-Zones. A special taskforce would be entrusted with the responsibility of structuring the project options including a Logistics Park, Industrial Park, Port, Inland Waterways, Air Cargo facility and Logistics University, with a report to be submitted to the AP government. The Taskforce would also focus on plans for developing an Integrated Financial City similar to Gujarat International Finance Tech-city.
Healthcare, being a key focus area of the Andhra Pradesh Government, the Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu is keen on making Andhra Pradesh reduce import dependency on both medications as well as medical equipment in the Pharma Sector.

The CM in this regard met with the top management of established healthcare groups, Aster DM Healthcare Limited and MTKN Group in two separate one-on-one meetings in Dubai and Abu Dhabi respectively to mobilize investments to the state especially in the Healthcare Sector. The Chief Minister presented the vast opportunities that Andhra Pradesh offers in the healthcare sector and promised full support from his government to facilitate projects during the meeting.

Andhra Pradesh has an integrated pharma city in Atchutapuram, an integrated biocity in Nakkapali, an exclusive pharma fermentation zone in Nellore and a veterinary biotechnology cluster in Kadapa.

Mr. Anoop Moopen, Non-Executive Director, Aster DM Healthcare Limited presented an overview of his Group’s portfolio and their presence in the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) region to the Chief Minister, and expressed interest in establishing their footing in Andhra Pradesh. The Chief Minister suggested that they should pursue setting-up a healthcare facility either in Visakhapatnam or Amaravati. Following the discussions, APEDB assured support to Aster DM Group in facilitating its healthcare investments in AP.

USD 60 million wellness project in AP to generate 750+ employments locally

On the third day of the UAE tour, in Abu Dhabi, the CM met Sheikh Mohammed Bin Tahnovn Al Nehyan of MTKN Group, Mr. Ali Jaber Mubarak Al Ahbabi, General Manager, the Private Office for Sheikh Mohammed Bin Tahnovn Al Nehyan and Ms. Jayaprada, Director - MTKN Commercial Investment Limited. The Group expressed their interest to invest in the wellness space in AP with an initial outlay of approximately USD 60 million. Spread over two facilities in Visakhapatnam (USD 10 million) and Amaravati (USD 50 million). The proposed project has the potential to generate direct employment for at least 750 people in Andhra Pradesh.

UAE mulls agro-commodities logistics hub in Andhra

In Abu Dhabi, the Chief Minister had a breakfast meeting with Dr. BR Shetty, Chairman, NMC Healthcare, H.E. Mahmoud Ebraheem Al Mahmood, CEO of ADS Holding and Director, ADIA, Mubadala and ADNOC, H.E. Nasser Al Nowais, Chairman, Rotana Group and Ms. Shaikha Nowais, Director (Audit), Rotana Group. ADS Holdings discussed ways to ensure food security and a range of investment proposals including setting up of an Agro-Commodities Logistics Hub, Beach-Corridor Road Project and Hospitality assets at AP. The discussions also included initiatives related to the development of the Financial City at Amaravati. The AP Delegation wrapped up the meeting with an assurance to follow-up on all the initiatives discussed with ADS Holdings including hospitality projects, export of AP’s agricultural produce to UAE and logistics support to ship food products to UAE through ports.
Andhra Pradesh to take a leaf out of UAE’s ‘Happiness Book’

The Andhra Pradesh government’s ‘Sunrise AP Vision 2029’ includes focus on psychological well-being, health, education, etc.

Indicating the importance to happiness, the CM met with Her Excellency Hmoud Bint Khalfan Al Roumi, the Minister of State for Happiness and Wellbeing, UAE. At the meeting, the CM discussed his initiatives in enabling a happy, inclusive, responsible and globally competitive State. Andhra Pradesh is the second state in the country after state of Madhya Pradesh to have started a Happiness Index Department.

The Chief Minister was briefed by the Minister on the importance that UAE places on enhancing the value systems, attitude of the populace and UAE’s efforts to improve facilities in public places, ensure effective complaint registration and responsive Grievance Redressal Systems.

The Minister offered to work with Andhra Pradesh in sharing the best practices adopted by the UAE Government in promoting happiness using both traditional and innovative methods.

**Chief Happiness and Positivity Officer for Every Department in AP**

Andhra Pradesh has got 72nd place in the World Happiness Index 2017, while India has ranked 122 among 155 countries. Srikakulam, one of the backward districts in the state, has topped the list of the Happiness Index, followed by West Godavari. Prakasam district has figured last in the list. Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) has been conducting the survey for World Happiness Index since 2012.

The Chief Minister wants to further improve the state’s overall Happiness Quotient. APEDB will be listed out notes of all success stories and the best practices implemented in UAE by the Happiness Ministry to support Andhra Pradesh formulate its own ‘Department of Happiness’ in order to aid the CM appoint a Chief Happiness and Positivity (HSP) officer for every department. The Happiness & Positivity officers would be entrusted with the responsibility of re-engineering customer service in their respective departments. The CM asserted that Happiness must be embraced as a lifestyle and added: HSP will be inculcated in work and measured across the state to ensure best results. Andhra Pradesh also intends to participate in the ‘Happiness Meet’ scheduled to be held on February 10, 2018 in Dubai.

The Chief Minister also had a luncheon at Abu Dhabi with H.E. Sheikh Nahyan bin Mabarik Al Nahyan, The Cabinet Member and Minister of Tolerance, UAE and the CM also attended a dinner meeting hosted by Mr. Yusuff Ali MA, Chairman and Managing Director of Lulu Group in Abu Dhabi later the same day.
Spotlight on some key feats achieved by Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu in UAE

The Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu met with Mr. Saud Al-Arfaj, Chairman, Al Arfaj Group Holding Company (AGHC), K.S.C., Kuwait in Abu Dhabi and made a presentation on the rich investment opportunities and investor-friendly business climate in Andhra Pradesh. The Chief Minister later met Mr. Nick Robinson, Director of Duke LNG - a Dubai-based maritime company providing a range of maritime and offshore support services, primarily, development of LNG import and regasification infrastructure. The duo discussed the possibility of setting up an LNG terminal in Kakinada, Andhra Pradesh.

CM signs MoU with Al Arfaj Group to bring home to AP a Refinery and LNG Terminal

The Al Arfaj Group along with other global companies proposed to jointly invest in three greenfield refineries and petrochemical complexes in AP. The fully integrated refinery will have a total refining capacity of 600,000 barrels per day (bpd) and will be designed to process at least two types of crude oil.

Per initial discussions, the project is to be located on the coast of AP with rail, road, and port connectivity. As the group is scouting for a local partner to assist in sales and marketing, AGHC was advised during the meeting to consider Haldia Petrochemicals. Al Arfaj group was also keen on exploring equity participation for the Kakinada gas project.

The meeting ended with two MoUs being signed between the Andhra Pradesh Economic Development Board and Al Arfaj Group Holding Company (AGHC), K.S.C., Kuwait formalizing the setting up of the refineries and petrochemicals complex in coastal Andhra Pradesh. The APEDB will also initiate and expedite facilitation of the proposed LNG Terminal of Duke LNG in Kakinada.

UAE-bound Andhra-residents with ZoEasy with hassle-free immigration

The AP delegation met Mr. Evan Burfield, Co-founder, 1776 DC. Ms. Jude Hamod, Partnership Manager-Dubai 1776, Ms. Spandand Palayup, Founder & CEO, ZoEasy and Mr. Rajeshwar Prasad, CEO of RAK Sovereign Holding LLC at Abu Dhabi. The 1776 is a US-based accelerator and incubator, an initiative of the UAE Prime Minister. ZoEasy is a start-up which connects blue collar job seekers across the world with employers in Dubai. Matching the skill sets of job seekers with requirements of the employer, ZoEasy ensures smooth immigration process. During the meeting, several options were explored including establishing operations in Visakhapatnam for ZoEasy to work more sustainable in expediting the hassle-free immigration process. The meeting also discussed ways in which ZoEasy may work with Overseas Manpower Companies of Andhra Pradesh (OMCAP) to facilitate job opportunities in UAE.
APEDB signs pact with Al-Arfaj Group for LNG Terminal, Crude Oil Refinery & Petrochemical Complex

APEDB CEO Mr. J Krishna Kishore and Mr. Saud Al-Arfaj, Chairman, Al Arfaj Group Holding Company (AGHC), K.S. C., Kuwait signed two MoUs with the intent of the latter for the establishment of a Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) terminal and a Greenfield crude oil refinery and petrochemical complex in Andhra Pradesh.

APEDB signs MoU for Aviation City Project with Aviation City LLP

APEDB CEO Mr. J Krishna Kishore and His Excellency Mohamed Abdeirahman Mohamed Al Zarooni of Aviation City LLP, Dubai signed an MoU titled Aviation City Project worth approximately USD 5.5 billion in direct investment. APEDB is thrilled to be the facilitating partner for this project where investing in phases Aviation City LLP will aid the creation of 15,000 direct jobs and 5,000 indirect jobs in Andhra Pradesh. The allotment of land for the Aviation City Project in Andhra Pradesh is estimated at 10,000 acres in all phases to build a unique ecosystem.

APEDB signs MoU with Bin Zayed Group for infrastructure development

APEDB’s CEO Mr. J Krishna Kishore signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Mr. Midhat Kidwai, Group Managing Director of Bin Zayed Group, a leading business conglomerate in Dubai with both national and international interests on Infrastructure Projects. The MoU documented the intent of the Bin Zayed Group to invest USD 2 billion in Infrastructure Projects in Andhra Pradesh such as roads, ports, airports etc.
APEDB signs MoU with MTKN Group

The Private office for Sheikh Mohammed Bin Tahnoon Al Nehayan (MTKN Group) signed an MoU with APEDB CEO Mr. J Krishna Kishore and Mr. Ali Jaber Mubarak Al Ahbabi, General Manager of MTKN Group. The agreement ensures direct investment to the State of Andhra Pradesh for Wellness Resort Projects, involving an investment of approximately $60 million. It is expected to generate 750 direct jobs and more in auxiliary industries. Sheikh Mohammed Bin Tahnoon Al Nehayan is the ruler’s representative of the Eastern Region of the United Arab Emirates and the former Deputy Chairman of the Executive Council of Abu Dhabi.

APEDB signs MoU with Vedanta Resources Plc in London

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed by APEDB CEO Mr. J.Krishna Kishore, and Mr. Kuldip Kaura CEO of Vedanta Resources Plc in London, United Kingdom. The Vedanta Resources is a London Stock Exchange listed, globally diversified natural resources company with interests in Zinc, Lead, Silver, Copper, Iron Ore, Aluminium, Power and Oil & Gas. Vedanta wishes to invest in setting up a Zinc Smelter unit in Visakhapatnam, and commission a research project for mapping of mining, granite and bauxite, to support the building of knowledge city in Amaravati. Vedanta Resources Plc further hopes to develop 100 Nand ghars and a Tirupati smart city in collaboration with ancillaries.
AP Chief Minister meets top business leaders from ADIA, Mubadala, Phoenix Global & others in Dubai & Abu Dhabi to forge stronger and meaningful commitments between Andhra Pradesh & UAE

The Chief Minister along with his high-level delegation held fruitful discussions with ADIA Group, Mubadala Group and Phoenix Global in Dubai and Abu Dhabi inviting business leaders to explore opportunities for investment in the Sunrise State of Andhra Pradesh. In his meeting with H.E. Khalil Mohammed Sharif Foulath, Director, Abu Dhabi Investment Authority (ADIA), CM highlighted AP’s progressive governance initiatives, its reputation as a best state in India in Ease of Doing Business investment climate. The double digit growth curve in Andhra Pradesh for two consecutive years, and a 11.72 percent GSDP growth in the first quarter of 2017 were highlighted as indicators for investment potential in the state. Discussing the tremendous prospects in the Greenfields capital city of Amaravati and along with the beach corridor which is to be connected to all ports in AP, the CM drew ADIA team’s attention to the wide scope for strategic projects such as real estate and logistics.

The ADIA team endorsed their interest to invest in Sunrise Andhra Pradesh and sought CM’s support in identifying potential opportunities and scope for partnerships. APEDB is working on an actionable list of investment-worthy assets and will present a curated scope for ADIA’s consideration.

Proposed Petro-chemicals complex in Kakinada

In another productive meeting with H.E. Homaid Al Shimmari, Deputy Group CEO of Mubadala in Abu Dhabi, the Chief Minister underscored Andhra Pradesh’s growing stature as an ideal global business destination. Following a presentation by the Mubadala Group on their diversified business interests includes Aerospace and Defence, Healthcare, ICT, Metals and Mining, Infrastructure, Oil Exploration, Refining, Renewable Energy and Logistics, Mr. Naidu suggested strategic investment opportunities for the group in renewable energy and food processing in Andhra Pradesh.

Referring to the world’s largest single location solar park of 1000 MW which is nearing completion in Andhra Pradesh, the Chief Minister cited examples of reputed private sector players such as Greenko, Softbank, and Azure Power who are currently in the process of making substantial investments in the state.

With the Mubadala team showing keen interest in investing in Andhra Pradesh, the meeting resulted in the formulation of a taskforce to co-evolve projects for Mubadala. Some projects being strongly considered currently include a 5000 MW gas-based plant and a Greenfield petro-chemicals complex in Kakinada. A food processing plant in Andhra Pradesh is in its early stages of discussion.

The Chief Minister also met the team of Phoenix Global DMCC comprising Mr. Gaurav Dhawan, Executive Chairman, Mr. Bilavya Chandra, Executive Director and Mr. Indu Mouli, CEO, SMEG DMCC in Dubai. The CM requested Phoenix Global to explore opportunities in the food processing sector in AP. The company offered to set up a 400 MT per day capacity modern rice mill adjacent to the Kakinada port near Samalkota in Andhra Pradesh. On completion, this project is expected to generate employment for 400 locals apart from enabling easy access for the farmers to sell their produce.

AP CM engages Govt. leaders and Indian Business Group in UAE

Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu took his relationship with UAE Minister of Economy and Federal Civil Aviation Authority Chairman Sultan Bin Saeed Al Mansoori whom he met first at the Partnership Summit held in January 2017 to the next level and extended his invite to the Minister to the Partnership Summit 2018 to be hosted in association with CII and Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion Government of India. Expressing his intent to build closer ties between Andhra Pradesh and UAE, Mr. Mansoori proposed the formation of a mutually beneficial task-force for promoting bilateral trade and investment. The Sultan also expressed interest in collaborating with Andhra Pradesh in the areas of IT and Financial technologies.

Boost to infrastructure in Andhra Pradesh with a collaboration with Bin Zayed Group

Team Andhra Pradesh held discussions with H.E. Sheikh Khhaled Bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Chairman, Bin Zayed Group and Mr. Midhat Kidwai, Group MD in Dubai. Following the CM’s presentation on Andhra Pradesh, the Bin Zayed Group spoke about their expertise in Engineering Procurement and Construction (EPC) projects. The group proposed an investment of USD 2 billion on roads, ports, airports and other infrastructure projects in Andhra Pradesh. The group called for joint identification of projects with the Andhra Pradesh Government to take the proposal forward. An MoU was signed between APEDB and Bin Zayed Group for the investment of 2 billion USD in infrastructure projects in AP.
Team Andhra Pradesh led by the Chief Minister met with Mr. Y K Sinha, the High Commissioner of India to the UK on the final day of their UK trip. The courtesy call also included an agenda request for support in networking with potential investors and discussing mutually beneficial strategies for improved outcomes in facilitation of industrial growth and employment in Andhra Pradesh and assurances that he would work towards promoting collaborations with Andhra Pradesh in the areas of trade, culture, governance and welfare.

**IBPG to help promote trade and investments in AP**
The Chief Minister and his team also attended an event hosted by Indian Business and Professional Group (IBPG) that had Mr. Yusuff Ali MA, Chairman, Lulu Group, Mr. BR Shetty, Chairman, NMC Healthcare, Mr. Rajiv Shah, CEO, Gulf Investment Consultants, Mr. Sudhir Shetty, President, UAE Exchange and Mr. Navdeep Suri, Indian Ambassador to the UAE on the guestlist. Mr. Naidu interacted with over 200 C-Suite executives including CEOs, CFO, and Cxo level managers representing leading business houses in Abu Dhabi and Dubai. The meeting ended with a mutual agreement between AP and IBPG members to create a joint working Group aimed at boosting trade and investments in AP.

**UK & AP to pursue bilateral cooperation with greater vigour**

Team Andhra Pradesh led by the Chief Minister met with Mr. Y K Sinha, the High Commissioner of India to the UK on the final day of their UK trip. The courtesy call also included an agenda request for support in networking with potential investors and discussing mutually beneficial strategies for improved outcomes in facilitation of industrial growth and employment in Andhra Pradesh.

The Andhra Pradesh delegation visits the Indian High Commission in UK

The United Kingdom and the Sunrise State of Andhra Pradesh are collaborating in the development of Amaravati which was identified as one of the three cities to be developed in partnership mode by former Prime Minister of UK, Mr. David Cameron. As part of the ongoing partnership, the Government of UK through Deputy High Commission and DFID submitted in March 2017, a comprehensive final report for various studies undertaken in the purview of urban transport strategy, water and waste water management, Infrastructure financing and efforts in enabling climate resilience.

In addition to the ongoing collaborations, key decisions were taken as a outcome of the meeting. Andhra Pradesh will work closely with Indian High Commission in UK to promote investments from UK to India by organizing roundtables, facilitating investors delegation visits from UK to India and promoting investment opportunities in Andhra Pradesh with shared interests in perspective.

His Excellency Mr. Y.K. Sinha, the High Commissioner of India to the UK delivering remarks at the 17th London Global Convention where Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu (also on the dias) was honored.
Renewed optimism on trade and economic ties with UK

Andhra Pradesh’s visit to UK was of paramount importance as it helped deepen economic ties, attract Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in a host of sectors and enhance cooperation in urban infrastructure management between UK and the state of Andhra Pradesh. Spearheading a high level delegation of AP, Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu participated in several business to business meetings and a CEO forum in UK where he met prominent business leaders and invited them to explore opportunities in the state of Andhra Pradesh.

Mr. Naidu calls on Indian Dy. High Commissioner - UK
Mr. Naidu kicked off his UK campaign with a visit to the Indian Deputy High Commissioner’s office in London. The Deputy High Commissioner (DHC) Mr. Dinesh K. Patnaik and his office played a vital role in conducting APEDB’s visit to UK. Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu acknowledged Mr. Patnaik’s support and requested him to assist the AP government in mobilizing investments from UK. He described the unique planning of Amaravati Capital with its 9 cities and 27 townships and added that the city is poised to emerge as a global destination. The discussions also focused on the ongoing bilateral partnership agreements between India and UK which has an inbuilt focus on the development initiatives of the capital city Amaravati. Mr. Patnaik offered to assist AP in amplifying its economic development initiatives, following which it was decided that an external engagement team would work closely to promote investments from UK to AP by facilitating roundtable meets and investor delegation visits.

Chandrababu Naidu led delegation gain insights on London’s Traffic Management System

Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh N. Chandrababu Naidu and the Andhra Pradesh delegation visited the Transport for London (TFL) command and control centre to gain exposure to how a city like London that has Europe’s worst traffic congestions is using new and unique ways to redeem itself. The Chief Technology Officer and Director at TFL, Mr. Shashi Verma, Chief Technology Officer and Director of Customer Experience at TFL walked the Chief Minister through the process used by TFL to handle public transport including trains, buses and underground railway traffic. Mr. Verma added that a major chunk of London’s traffic depends on the surface transportation system while only 4% of traffic relies on the underground trains. The bus, metro and rail networks are interlinked and traffic is monitored via 30 lakh CCTVs at 6000 traffic signals. There are 19,000 bus stops in the city with one stop available at every 400 meters. Apart from lanes for motorists, separate lanes exist for pedestrians and cyclists as well.

London’s World Class integrated traffic system to be replicated in Amaravati
TFL was established in the year 2000 to overcome the challenges posed by heavy traffic in London in an effort to keep London moving. The initiative with great foresight and planning has proved to be very successful. At least 12 lakh visitors come to London everyday in addition to the local urban population estimated at 86 lakhs. Anticipating a similar volume of pressure in traffic in Amaravati, after the capital city is fully built and thrown open to the public, the Chief Minister asserted that London’s Traffic Management System needs to be replicated in Amaravati as the population of the capital is likely to increase in the near future. This project would be implemented with multi-modal transport integration through the Capital Region Unified Transport Authority (CRUTA) - APCRDA Act.
While in London, Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu visited the office of Foster + Partners and reviewed the designs for the AP Legislature and Secretariat buildings for Amaravati. The London-based architectural firm is entrusted with the responsibility of designing the Government Administrative Complex (GAC) at AP’s capital city Amaravati.

Foster + Partners, Chief Architect Norman Robert Foster presented and briefed the CM on the suggested design layout of the secretariat. The architects explained to the Indian delegation the concept behind every option they presented for the designs of the government complex in Amaravati.

Reviewing the design for the legislative assembly and high court, Chief Minister requested Foster to ensure that the designs reflected the culture and aspirations of the Telugu people. He further added that he was expecting the finest designs as he carried the burden of the expectations of crores of people and their hopes for a greenfield capital. The Chief Minister asserted that he wanted Amaravati to be one of the top 5 cities in the world and requested Lord Foster to ensure that the designs stood out as unique ones.

Inspiring the team to deliver their best, the Chief Minister added that the contribution of Foster + Partners would remain immortal in the hearts of people of Andhra Pradesh as the firm is working on a timeless piece of architectural history for the state of Andhra Pradesh in Amaravati and India by large.

The Chief Minister also roped in Baahubali director SS Rajamouli to give the architects some inputs on how Andhra Pradesh culture could be reflected and incorporated into these designs.
Indo UK Institute to boost Andhra Pradesh's Healthcare Landscape

The Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, Nara Chandrababu Naidu, nurtures the vision of a sustainable healthcare ecosystem with access to advanced, quality healthcare for the people of the state.

With this motivation as a guiding force, in August 2017 Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu laid the foundation stone of the Indo-UK Institute of Health (IUIH) Medicity in Amaravati. The facility is being developed in association with King's College Hospital, London, with an investment outlay of Rs 1,600 crore.

During his visit to London the Chief Minister got the opportunity to follow-up on key developments on this project and met with Mr. Ajay Rajan Gupta, MD & Group CEO of Indo UK Institute of Health (IUIH). The Chief Minister reiterated his goals for a healthy, happy, and productive Andhra Pradesh and sought IUIH's support in building the Health City in Amaravati. IUIH is one of the world's largest healthcare projects with 11,000 beds, 25,000 nurses and 5,000 doctors, providing affordable medical access to about 400 million Indians. Amaravati will also have an IUIH facility soon, the foundation stone for which was laid in August.

During the meeting, the CM was invited to attend a roundtable focused on the healthcare sector along with Amazon, Google, IBM, Medtronics, Johnson & Johnson and Toshiba. The meeting concluded on a productive note with APEDB engaging with IUIH seeking their support and endorsement in facilitating CM’s participation in the upcoming World Economic Forum in Davos-Kioster in 2018 and the Common Wealth Summit in April 2018.

CM interacts with top brass from Santander Bank

Andhra Pradesh delegation led by the Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu held deliberations with Santander Bank’s India Desk Director Edward Dixon and Nigel Philips, Head of Export and Agency Finance in London. The Santander Group, a leading global banking unit, stated that their willingness to lead a delegation of food processing companies to the World Food India event, as agriculture was identified as a focus area.

Identifying synergies in agriculture, horticulture and aquaculture, Mr. Naidu encouraged Santander Bank Group to work with the government of Andhra Pradesh as long-serving partners in agriculture and FinTech. He sought Santander’s support to the state in the areas of agriculture, food processing and exports and imports from Andhra Pradesh to the United Kingdom. Mr. Dixon assured that Santander Bank would act as a liaison between the AP exporters and the UK importers and also extend financial assistance to the trade community.

Santander investment expertise for AP in FinTech and agriculture

The CM requested Santander officials to help promote the FinTech Valley coming up in AP. The CM offered government support to help UK companies set up physical or virtual offices in India, especially in the focus sectors: financial technology, cyber security, block chain technology and agro processing. Santander officials responded favorably to Mr. Naidu’s request and promised to take the discussions forward by identifying prospective UK companies keen on leveraging opportunities offered by the FinTech sector in AP. Importantly, it was decided that APEDB will engage with Santander on funding and sharing of technology and expertise in specific projects in organic farming, agro processing, horticulture and aquaculture.
Andhra Pradesh experiments better care at low cost

On the penultimate day of UK schedule, the Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu met with Mr. Nicola Pangher, General Manager, Foreign Operations at Telemetric & Biomedical Services Pvt. Ltd. (TBS India) and General Manager of the US-India Business Council (USIBC), London. Highlighting the favourable business climate and conducive to investment policies of the Government of Andhra Pradesh, the Chief Minister requested TBS India to consider establishing its footing in Andhra Pradesh. During the interaction, TBS referred to the technology solutions introduced by them in emerging markets to enable affordable healthcare. The discussions also focused on TBS’ expertise in telemedicine and bio medical data analytics and their primary healthcare center in Bangalore.

TBS GB Telematic to enable low-cost healthcare delivery in AP

To take the discussion forwards, the Chief Minister urged Mr. Pangher to establish a TBS unit in healthcare, IT and telemetric products in Andhra Pradesh. Responding favourably, Mr. Pangher expressed interest in setting up a manufacturing unit in India and making it a base for their operations in Asia and Southeast Asia.

The Andhra Pradesh Economic Development Board (APEDB) team assured assistance to TBS in its proposals for the state, including the medical equipment maintenance project, network expansion in AP and identification of local partners for undertaking operational lease contracts. Importantly, the APEDB-TBS collaboration will work towards introducing TBS technology, affordable healthcare delivery, renovation of rural healthcare centers, mobile medicine units and 21st century tel-medicine care models in the state.

Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu felicitates Mr. Magomet Malsagov, the CEO of Pure Circle at a meeting in London. Mr. Yanamala Ramakrishnudu, Dr P Narayana, Dr Parakala Prabhakar, Mr. P Sai Prasad, IAS and CEO, APEDB, Mr. J Krishna Kishore, Mr. P Srinivas were present at the meeting.

Andhra Pradesh and Pure Circle explore opportunities for a Pilot Project in the state

During an one on one meeting with the Chief Minister, London based Pure Circle, a world’s leading producer of high purity stevia ingredients, a natural sweeter which is an alternative to sugar, expressed keen interest in establishing a natural sweetener pilot project in the state of Andhra Pradesh. Mr. Chandrababu Naidu met Magomet Malsagov, the CEO of Pure Circle, in London and invited the company to initiate a project in Andhra Pradesh. Pure Circle has orchards in South America, East Africa and China and are involved in natural-breeding, harvesting, extraction and purification of stevia plant for low calorie sugar substitutes. Pure Circle supplies about 2 million metric tonnes of sugar annually.

APEDB to assist Pure Circle in setting up pilot project

Highlighting the favourable conditions for the farm setup including a large farming community, drones and technology applications for soil testing, uninterrupted water supply and solar power, the CM suggested completion of trial run within the next three months, commencing production in Andhra Pradesh within 14 to 16 months. Mr. Magomet Malsagov assured the Chief Minister that a team would visit AP to study the prospects.

APEDB offered to assist Pure Circle in identifying two ideal test plot locations of one hectare each in AP and help the company in facilitating the requisite Government of India clearances to help acquire mother stock of Stevie seedlings from China.

Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu felicitates Mr. Nicola Pangher, Director of Telemetric & Biomedical Services Ltd & GM of the Indo-US Business Council in London.
Andhra Pradesh to benefit from best practices in economic development and international cooperations

Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu met Ms. Priti Patel, former Secretary of State for International Development, UK, in London aimed at strengthening Andhra Pradesh’s economic engagement with UK and enhancing cooperation on a range of development initiatives. The Chief Minister urged Ms. Priti Patel to support Andhra Pradesh by sharing best practices and technologies driving progress in UK. During the meeting, Chief Minister recalled that UK had earlier helped Andhra Pradesh in establishing the Centre for Good Governance and Human Resources Development Institute when he served as Chief Minister of united AP. Ms. Patel assured co-operation in bringing the best practices to Andhra Pradesh.

Vedanta Resources to invest in the state of Andhra Pradesh

Communication & CSR at Cairn India were also present at the meeting. A Memorandum of Understanding was forged between Andhra Pradesh Economic Development Board (APEDB) and Vedanta Resources Plc on setting up a Zinc smelter in Andhra Pradesh, mapping of mining, granite, bauxite and other mineral resources, setting up of a knowledge city in Amaravati, development of 100 nand ghars in the state, development of a Tirupati Smart City technologies and facilitation of a city centre in Visakhapatnam. APEDB CEO Mr. J Krishna Kishore and Mr. Anil Agarwal, Chairman of Vedanta Resources Group signed the MoU in the presence of the Honorable Chief Minister.

The APEDB focuses on infrastructure and industrial development in Andhra Pradesh as its core sector and is delighted to support and cooperate with Vedanta in facilitating this investment commitment that will also aid increase employment generation to the state of Andhra Pradesh.

During the UK’s visit of Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu lead the Andhra Pradesh delegation to engage with the London-based Vedanta Resources Group. CM Naidu met with Mr. Anil Agarwal, Founder & Chairman of Vedanta Resources Plc and the two representatives identified a wide range of investment opportunities in Andhra Pradesh. Mr. Sunil Duggal, CEO, Hindustan Zinc Limited, Dr. Anand Agarwal, CEO & Director, Sterlite Technologies Ltd, Mr. Pratik Agarwal, non-executive director of Sterlite power transmission Ltd and Ms. Ritu Jhingon, Head, Project Nard Ghar and General Manager, Corporate
Mr. Naidu Meets Director, Astra Zeneca to discuss opportunities in the state

A delegation of Andhra Pradesh headed by Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu called on Mr. Alec Van Gelder, Director International Government Affairs of Astra Zeneca in London. Inviting Astra Zeneca to consider investing in AP, Chief Minister and his team articulated the pro-business policies of AP Government and stressing on the investor-friendly business climate in the state. Astra Zeneca Pharma India Pvt. Ltd. (AZPIL) has a facility centre in Bangalore which manages the company’s sales and marketing activities in India. Astra Zeneca also has a manufacturing facility in India with sophisticated production systems designed to meet the most stringent international standards, conforming to World Health Organization CGMP (current good manufacturing practices) norms.

APEDB to engage with Astra Zeneca-UK to explore investments in Andhra Pradesh

With a view to facilitate the prospective investment, APEDB offered to work with Astra Zeneca in understanding the expansion challenges and to extend the required support. The APEDB also agreed to engage with Astra Zeneca on partnerships for non-communicable disease (NCD) management and health care delivery in AP. The meeting ended with the company expressing its willingness to study and consider the scope for a presence in the state of Andhra Pradesh.

AP explores collaborations in Drone technology with UK

Building on the remarkable progress of the UK tour, the representatives of Andhra Pradesh pitched for greater investments from the UK. Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu led AP’s delegation to meet with Mr. Vipul Jain, CEO ABJ Drones a Global Group and a leader in the drones’ industry offering drone solutions for engineering, construction, public safety, solar energy and agriculture industries with the intent of bringing in the technology to the state of Andhra Pradesh. Other participants who joined the meeting included Mark Caney, MD ABJ Academy, UK and Europe, Elka Goldstein, ABJ Global Head Strategy, Marketing and Sales in ABJ Drones, Sanjay Saxena, MD ABJ, India, Asia & Middle East and Eli Harris, Co-Founder and CEO of Ecoflow Tech.

The CM presented the advantages that AP offers to prospective business investors across the globe. He urged Mr. Vipul Jain to consider investments in AP, considering the growing demand for business-ready infrastructure in the state. Specific discussions were held on the investment opportunities and collaborations in electronics, e-governance, drone services and automation, a dedicated Mega IT city in Vizag, a mega IT hub in Amaravati and the availability of skilled talent and also establishment of ABJ Academy in order to make Andhra Pradesh a global Hub for drones and related services.

The Andhra Pradesh Economic Development Board (APEDB) and Andhra Pradesh Capital Region Development Authority (APCRDA) agreed to work with ABJ Drones to evaluate the potential of using drone services for infrastructure inspection and maintenance in Andhra Pradesh while also helping establish ABJ Academy in Andhra Pradesh.
IOD Round Table: A Fillip to investments in AP

The Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh participated in a roundtable meeting facilitated by the Institute of Directors (IOD) in London. Entrepreneurs and institutional heads representing leading enterprises across industries in UK including Charles Conroy, Managing Director at Green Bank Group, Simon Spier, Head International – Tech UK, Pratik Dattani, MD – EPG Economic and Strategy Consulting, Ibukun Adebayo, Co-Head, Emerging Markets Strategy – London Stock Exchange, Manoj Nair, Founder and CEO – RedGiraffe, Vijay Goel, Senior Partner, Singhania & Co and Sonny Lulla, Managing Member and co-founder of Franklin Park Management (FPM) and CEO of Infrastructure India, PLC.

Inflow from the UK to Fintech, Banking, Education and Infrastructure sectors

The meet provided a wealth of collaborative opportunities with participants including Tech UK which has over 950 member companies including leading FTSE100 companies and innovative start-ups which collectively employ approximately 700,000 people, constituting about half of all tech sector jobs in the UK. Red Giraffe is a transformative Fintech player which counts amongst its rapidly expanding clientele, forty of the largest banks operating in India. The state of Andhra Pradesh is exploring a number of collaborations with the FPM Group that manages infrastructure businesses across the world and also represents Amaravati Development Group (ADG), founded by four development industry veterans from India, the US and UK. The ADG has been involved with over 800 projects valued at over US$4 billion since 2000. The round table offered substantial outcomes as APEDB was entrusted with the responsibility of identifying and driving potential opportunities for collaboration with Tech UK, Red Giraffe, ADG, Green Bank Group and EV sector investors in AP.

Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu interacts with entrepreneurs and institutional heads from industries in UK exploring strategic and bilateral collaborations in the Fintech, Banking, Education and infrastructure sectors.
Honorable Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, Chandrababu Naidu receives Golden Peacock Award for his sustained Global Leadership in Public Service and Economic Transformation

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu was honored with the prestigious Golden Peacock Award at the 17th London Global Convention. The Chief Minister was awarded in the category of "Global Leadership in Public Service and Economic Transformation" by the Institute of Directors for Leadership in Transferring Governance.

During his acceptance speech Chief Minister presented an overview on Andhra Pradesh’s vision and remarked, “Today, the entire world concentrated on governance and transparency have increased. Much like corporate companies are accountable to its shareholders, I am also accountable to the common man.”

“In corporate sector, Managing Directors remain in their posts for some time but in politics, we face election every five years. Therefore, I always strive to work better,” he added.

Speaking about his vision for the state the CM added, “Our vision is to make Andhra Pradesh the most developed state in India by 2029, including in happiness index and the best investment destination in the world by 2050. Post bifurcation, ours became a new state. Despite of resources crunch, we are making wonders by making impossible things possible. When I became the Chief Minister, our state had 22.5 million units power deficit. With the help of power reforms, we brought wind energy and reduced the cost of solar power. We will reduce power tariffs in the future.”

The Chief Minister invited the industrialists and corporate present at the ceremony to invest and join the development in the state of Andhra Pradesh. “Andhra Pradesh has excellent human resources and support infrastructure, including power, water and other necessary infrastructure facilities” he added.

The Chief Minister’s wife Nara Bhuvaneshwari, who is also the Vice Chairperson and Managing Director of Heritage Foods Limited Company, received the award in the category of "Corporate Governance and Sustainability".

In 1991, the Institute of Directors established the Golden Peacock Awards for the recognition of "corporate excellence".

Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu receiving the “Golden Peacock Award” from Ms. Priti Patel, Former Secretary of State for International Development, London.
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APEDB team headed by CEO J. Krishna Kishore interacted with Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu at one of the investor's meetings in UK where, the team-APEDB gave CM the details on the strategic action plan for the international tours to USA, UAE and UK.