

Telangana State Trade Journal

EXPLORING NEW TRADE FRONTIERS

VOLUME - 5

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EXPLORING NEW TRADE FRONTIERS

TELANGANA STATE TRADE PROMOTION CORPORATION LIMITED

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Sri KT Rama Rao, Hon'ble Minister for Industries & Commerce, IT & C & MA & UD released the "Telangana Lifesciences : Vision 2030" report prepared by Life Sciences Advisory Committee, Sri Jayesh Ranjan, IAS, Principal Secretary, Industries & Commerce, IT, Sri Shakthi Nagappan, Life Sciences Director, Sri Satish Reddy, Chairman Life Sciences Advisory Committee & other esteemed members also participated in the event.

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500 copies **Telangana State Trade Journal** are being published every month and circulated to all top industrialists, exporters, Export Promotion Councils & Trade Bodies (across the country), Foreign Embassies, Officials of the Industries & Commerce and other related Departments at all levels both State and Central Government, Government Undertakings, Research, Development & HRD Institutes, Industrial Associations, Financial Institutions, Centres of Excellence, Academic Institutions.

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CONTENTS

Amazon Web Services to invest Rs 20,761 crore in data centres in Telangana	3
Efforts on for a comprehensive, integrated Hyderabad transport plan	4
Hyderabad attracts Rs 700 crore investments in pharma	5
Telangana pillar of strength for India: KTR	6
Manufacturers, experts laud Telangana's futuristic EV policy	7
Telangana govt to give out free software licenses to 20,000 MSMEs	8
Telangana govt planning to set up eight new MSME parks	10
Logistics roadblocks amid festive rush:	
How MSMEs can ace managing inventory and warehouse, goods safety	11
More benefits for IT firms: KTR	12
VEM Technologies sets up advanced Seeker facility in Hyderabad	14
Mahindra Logistics expanding base in Telangana	15
Telangana: AGI Glaspac inaugurates new plant, to generate 4,600 jobs	16
KTR inaugurates WTE plant, proposes two more dumpyards	17
Virtual Open House Meet organized by FTCCI	18
WE-Hub sets up revolving fund for women entrepreneurs	19
HYD Airport Leads Post-Lockdown Revival of Aviation	20
Link roads make travel smooth in Hyderabad	21
KVK farming model suitable for TS: Niranjan Reddy	22
Cotton production gains momentum in Telangana	23
Data Centre Policy, KTR's rapport with firm helped seal Amazon deal	24
CCI chief assures Agriculture Minister of buying all cotton produce, MSP for ryots	25
Life Sciences contribute heavily to TS' economy	26
Telangana continues to be India's pillar of strength: KT Rama Rao	27
Minister Errabelli formally launches cotton procurement in Warangal	28
What India should do as China's economy shifts	29
TRS is in the forefront in solving people's problems: KT Rama Rao	30
80 per cent investment proposals operationalised: KTR	31
Analysis on Indian States Gross Domestic Product	32-37

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Message from the Joint Managing Director's Desk

I am happy to inform that the State of Telangana, **being the youngest in the country, had ranked No.1 in the economic growth rate among top economy states during 2018-19 and 2019-20, it also ranks 2nd in per capita income (after Karnataka)** according to the recent RBI publication "State Finances – A study of Budgets of 2020-21". It is a fact that Telangana state is 12th Populous State, ranks 9th in the size of GSDP and ranks **10th in the manufacturing sector** among 28 Indian States. However it gives me great pleasure to note that Telangana State **also ranks No. 1 in Per capita Revenue Tax as well as Per capita Revenue Expenditure** according to same RBI publication.

The reasons for Telangana in the forefront of economic growth are that, the Government is making committed efforts in all fronts, particularly attracting the major investments to the State. **Amazon Web Services Inc. (AWS)**, an Amazon.com company, announced an investment of a mind-boggling Rs 20,761 crore (\$2.77 billion) to create multiple data centres in Hyderabad. This is the largest **Foreign Direct Investment (FDI)** investment in Telangana State. Hyderabad is emerging as the life sciences hub of India. It has attracted two major investments in Genome Valley. **M/s. Granules India** is investing Rs 400 crore to set up a finished dosages unit while **M/s. Laurus Labs** is investing Rs 300 crore for a formulations manufacturing facility. These two units will generate employment to about 1,150 people.

M/s. VEM Technologies proposed to set up advanced Seeker facility near Hardware Park, RR Dist with an investment of Rs 100 crs spread across 1,25,000 sq. ft. **M/s. OnePlus** has unveiled a new experience store called "OnePlus Nizam Palace", largest in the world in Hyderabad spread across 16,000 sq.ft. **M/s. AGI Glaspac** inaugurated the work on its new plant with an investment of Rs 220 crores to manufacture special glass to create employment to 4,600 persons. **M/s. Mahindra Logistics Ltd (MLL)**, a logistics (3PL) solution provider, added 4 lakh sqft multi-user warehouse capacity at Patancheru.

Telangana Electric Vehicle & Energy Storage Policy aims to attract \$4 billion in investments and creating 1.2 lakh jobs in EV space by 2030. The electric bus manufacturers, **M/s. Mytrah Energy**, signed a MoU to invest Rs. 2,000 crore and generating employment of 6,750 people. **M/s. Olectra**, signed a MoU to invest Rs 300 crore and generating employment of 3,500 people. The three-wheeler EV manufacturer, **M/s. ETO Motors** signed a MoU to invest Rs 150 crore with employment generation of 1,500; **M/s. Gayam Auto Works** has announced to invest Rs 250 crore with employment generation of 1,400. **M/s. PUR Energy** announced to invest Rs 500 crore with employment generation of 1,500. **M/s. Uber** announced to introduce electric cars and rickshaws in the State.

The above trends of the investments in the State witnesses that the Telangana State is the Most Happening State and will become the best investment destination in the country.

I am happy to inform that TSIIC has established **8 (eight) new MSME parks** at Kundanpalli (Peddapalli district), Buggapadu (Khammam), Kallem (Jangaon), Sultanpur (Sangareddy), Warangal (Warangal Urban), Mandapalli (Siddipet), Shayampet (Warangal Rural) and Narmala (Rajanna Sircilla). Similarly, **upgrading the existing 12 MSME Parks** at Hayathnagar (Ranga Reddy), Bhongir and Chityala (Yadadri Bhongir), Jeedimetla (Medchal Malkajgiri), Gadwal (Jogulamba Gadwal), Jadcherla (Mahabubnagar), Mancherla (Mancherla), Paloncha (Bhadradi Kothagudem), Palem (Nagarkurnool), Nalgonda (Nalgonda), Bodhan (Nizamabad) and Kodad (Suryapet).

I am sure that the industrial infrastructure proposed to create would promote plenty of MSMEs in the state to create huge employment / self-employment to the local youth.

E. Venkat Narasimha Reddy

Amazon Web Services to invest Rs 20,761 crore in data centres in Telangana

Hyderabad : 7th Nov 2020

Telangana State, acknowledged as a trail-blazer on various fronts, cemented its position as a major investment hotspot in the country when Amazon Web Services Inc. (AWS), an Amazon.com company, announced an investment of a mind-boggling Rs 20,761 crore (\$2.77 billion) to create multiple data centres in Hyderabad. This is the largest Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) investment in the State yet.

The investment is for setting up an AWS Region with three Availability Zones (AZs) in Hyderabad. The AWS Asia Pacific (Hyderabad) Region is expected to start operations by mid-2022. “This investment from AWS will be the largest FDI that the State has attracted since its inception and will act as a strong anchor to attract other technology investments,” IT and Industries Minister K T Rama Rao said in his comments on the AWS announcement.

The Minister went on to say that AWS choosing Hyderabad as their preferred destination speaks volumes of the swiftness with which the State government operates as also the transparency in the system. “This investment further strengthens the existing relationship that Telangana enjoys with Amazon. We, in Hyderabad, are already hosting the largest office campus of Amazon,” he pointed out. Rama Rao, it may be recalled, had met with AWS officials during his Davos visit earlier this year and subsequently arrived at the closure on the investment in a swift manner. AZs consist of multiple data centres in distinct locations within a single region that are engineered to be operationally independent of one another with independent power, cooling, physical security, and connections via a low-latency network.

The investment from AWS would position Telangana as one of the preferred destinations for other companies that are looking to set up data centres in the future. Establishment of data centres such as AWS is expected to support Telangana’s digital economy and IT sector multi-fold.

The AWS Asia Pacific (Hyderabad) Region will enable more developers, startups, and enterprises as well as government, education, and non-profit organisations to run their applications and serve end-users from data centres located in India. Establishment of data centres in a region will increase the operations of sectors such as e-commerce, public sector, banking and financial services (BFSI), IT, and more, the company said.



Advantage Telangana

Highlighting why AWS chose Telangana, Puneet Chandok, president-Commercial Business, Amazon Internet Services, AWS India and South Asia said, “Telangana is one of the most progressive States with policies targeted specifically towards advancing the growth of IT and IT-enabled services (ITES) companies in India.”

Data powerhouse

TELANGANA CHOSEN FOR ITS GOVERNMENT SUPPORT AND MOST PROGRESSIVE DATA CENTRE POLICY

- AWS Asia Pacific (Hyderabad) Region to have three Availability Zones
- Each zone to have multiple data centres in distinct locations
- The region will cater to developers, startups, enterprises as well as government, education, and non-profit organisations
- E-commerce, public sector, banking and financial services, IT companies to benefit from the development
- The new region will join the existing nine AWS regions and 26 Availability zones across Asia

AWS CHOOSING HYDERABAD AS THEIR PREFERRED DESTINATION SPEAKS VOLUMES ABOUT THE SWIFTFNESS WITH WHICH THE GOVERNMENT OPERATES AND ALSO THE TRANSPARENCY IN THE SYSTEM. THIS INVESTMENT FURTHER STRENGTHENS THE EXISTING RELATIONSHIP THAT TELANGANA ENJOYS WITH AMAZON

— K T RAMA RAO, Telangana IT & Industries Minister

HYDERABAD IS A CITY THAT RECORDED THE HIGHEST GROWTH RATE IN THE IT SECTOR OVER THE YEARS AND IS HOME TO MANY INNOVATIVE STARTUPS, ENTERPRISES, AND A SKILLED WORKFORCE. AWS CHOSE HYDERABAD BECAUSE OF THE SUPPORT PROVIDED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA, ROBUST POLICY FRAMEWORK, AND BECAUSE IT BEST MET THE RIGOROUS REQUIREMENTS FOR AN AWS REGION

— PUNEET CHANDOK, PRESIDENT-COMMERCIAL BUSINESS, AMAZON INTERNET SERVICES, AWS INDIA AND SOUTH ASIA

“Hyderabad is a city that recorded the highest growth rate in the IT sector over the years and is home to many innovative startups, enterprises, and a skilled workforce. AWS chose Hyderabad because of the support provided by the government of Telangana, robust policy framework, and because it best met the rigorous requirements for an AWS Region,” he added.

“Together with our AWS Asia Pacific (Mumbai) Region, we are providing customers with more flexibility and choice, while allowing them to architect their infrastructure for even greater fault tolerance, resiliency, and availability across geographic locations,” added Peter DeSantis, senior vice president of Global Infrastructure and Customer Support, Amazon Web Services.

Pooling capabilities

The launch of the AWS Asia Pacific (Hyderabad) Region will provide customers with even lower latency across southern India. The new Region, which will consist of three Availability Zones at launch, will join the existing nine AWS Regions and 26 Availability Zones across Asia in India, Australia, Greater China, Japan, Korea, and Singapore.

Globally, AWS has 77 Availability Zones across 24 infrastructure regions, with announced plans to launch 15 more Availability Zones and five more AWS Regions in India, Indonesia, Japan, Spain, and Switzerland.

Efforts on for a comprehensive, integrated Hyderabad transport plan

Hyderabad :November 02, 2020



A comprehensive, integrated transport plan for Hyderabad will be charted out and taken up with the Telangana Chief Minister K Chandrababoo Naidu for approval and prioritisation of various projects. The decision for a comprehensive plan comes after a detailed review meeting of various transport projects, including Hyderabad metro rail and as per the directives of the Chief Minister.

During the Board meetings of Hyderabad Metro Rail Limited (HMRL) and Hyderabad Airport Metro Limited (HAML) presided over by State Chief Secretary and Chairman, HMRL & HAML, Somesh Kumar the members reviewed the Metro Rail operations, safety measures and new projects.

A detailed presentation on the Metro Rail operations, the Phase-2 expansion plans and

Elevated Bus Rapid Transit System (EBRTS) project were made and discussed. While discussing Metro Rail phase-2 expansion plans and the 18 km EBRTS project from KPHB Metro station to Financial District, Somesh Kumar suggested that a team of senior officers shall jointly inspect the proposed projects, the Outer Ring Road, the Musi River project and other important traffic corridors of the city to develop a comprehensive traffic and transportation plan for the city.

AECOM

During the meeting, AECOM India and AECOM Singapore Pte. Ltd, were re-appointed as the Independent Engineer for reviewing and monitoring the Metro rail operations for the next five years. The contract worth ₹6.94 crore was approved by the HMRL Board.

Hyderabad attracts Rs 700 crore investments in pharma

Hyderabad : 27th Oct 2020

The life sciences hub of India, Hyderabad has attracted two major investments in Genome Valley. Granules India is investing Rs 400 crore to set up a finished dosages unit while Laurus Labs is investing Rs 300 crore for a formulations manufacturing facility. Granules India, a Hyderabad-based pharmaceutical company, will be making a major investment of Rs 400 crores to set up a manufacturing facility with a capacity to make 10 billion units of finished dosages. The proposed unit will generate employment to about 1,600 people.

Granules India already has manufacturing sites in eight locations and presence in 75 countries across the globe. The company already operates the world's largest commercial Pharmaceutical Formulation Intermediates (PFI) Facility at Gagillapur near Hyderabad.

Telangana to raise Rs 1,000 crore Development Loan

Hyderabad : 10th November

The State will raise another Rs 1,000 crore State Development Loan. As against the Budget estimate of Rs 33,191.26 crore borrowings this year, the State has already raised Rs 25,989.43 crore till September, which was 78.30 per cent of the Budget estimates in six months. However, the maturity profile of SDL indicated that the period from 2023-24 to 2027-28 are critical, as the State has to repay large amounts during this period.

State revenue was badly affected by the lockdown, and Telangana is mostly depending on the borrowings this year. However, the Reserve Bank of India in its report on State Finances indicated that the maturity profile would be high from 2023-24.

The total outstanding loans of the State as on March 31, 2020 was Rs 1,73,339.7 crore. Of which, the highest amount of Rs 19,228.3 crore would mature in 2027-28. According to RBI, the State would raise Rs 750 crore fresh loan and another Rs 250 crore additional borrowings under greenshoe option. The loan tenure would be for 30 years.

Krishna Prasad Chigurupati, CMD of Granules India met IT & Industries Minister KT Rama Rao at Pragathi Bhavan to formally make this announcement.

Similarly, Laurus Labs, a research-driven pharmaceutical manufacturing company will be setting up a formulation facility with a capacity of 5 billion units. The company plans to invest Rs 300 crores in two phases of Rs 150



crores each. Phase 1 of the plant is expected to provide employment to about 150 People.

Satyanarayana Chava, CEO, Laurus Labs, met the Industries Minister along with his team before making this announcement. Industries Department principal secretary Jayesh Ranjan was also present in the meeting.

Laurus Labs has its R&D facility in IKP Knowledge Park, Hyderabad and also operates six manufacturing units in Visakhapatnam. All these facilities have been certified and approved by WHO, USFDA, NIP Hungary, and other renowned agencies. Laurus manufactures bulk drugs for anti-retroviral (ARV), oncology, cardio-vascular, anti-diabetics, anti-asthma and gastroenterology.

KTR thanked the leadership of both Granules India and Laurus Labs for choosing to invest in Telangana. He stated that the Telangana government will provide all possible support to both these companies and the proactive policies of the State government, under the leadership of CM K Chandrashekar Rao are attracting global leaders in IT, Pharma, Textiles, Aerospace and Defence and other sectors to Hyderabad and other parts of Telangana. The Minister expressed confidence that these investments into the manufacturing sector will provide the needed employment to local youth from Telangana.

Telangana pillar of strength for India: KTR

Hyderabad : 1st Nov 2020

Telangana State's continuing importance in the national economy was underlined by IT and Industries Minister K T Rama Rao who pointed out that the State's contribution to the Central kitty was a whopping Rs 2,72,926 crore since 2014, when the State came into existence.

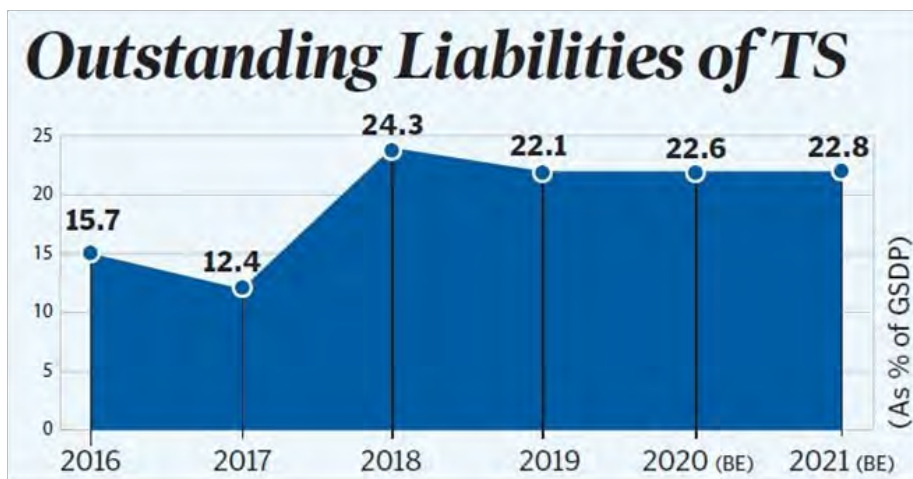
"The people of Telangana should know that since 2014, our State's contribution to the Centre in the form of taxes is a whopping Rs 2,72,926

crore whereas what the Centre has released to Telangana is Rs 1,40,329 crore!" the Minister said in a series of tweets highlighting Telangana's rapid progress and its emergence in the national arena as a State to reckon with.

Stating that Telangana continues to be a pillar of strength for the country, Rama Rao pointed out that the State's Gross Domestic Product (GSDP) and Per Capita Income had shot up because of the huge capital investment that the State had undertaken. "The growth in GSDP and Per Capita Income were achieved with investments in key infra sectors and increased capital expenditure. At the same time, fiscal prudence was balanced," he said, and observed that Telangana, with 22.8 on the debt-GSDP ratio, was among the top five States with low debt-GSDP ratio.

Attributing Telangana's phenomenal progress to able leadership, progressive policies and an ear to the ground that facilitated the State to thrive, the Minister said: "Telangana has been consistently achieving much higher GDP growth rate than the country's average growth rate since the past six years."

Telangana's growth, he said, has been inclusive and focused on agriculture, industry and services sectors that improved per capita income. "While the growth of Per Capita Income of our country during 2014-2020 was at 54.9 per cent, Telangana grew at a whopping 83.9 per cent," he said.



Manufacturers, experts laud Telangana's 'futuristic' EV policy

Hyderabad : 31st October 2020

Electric vehicle manufacturers, lauded Telangana's EV Policy calling it one of India's most "comprehensive and forward-looking" robust policies. Experts and EV manufacturers say that the policy includes strong incentives for consumers, manufacturers, charging providers and the EV eco-system.

Stating that Telangana is setting an example for many others, Anjali Jaiswal, Senior Director of International Programme, Natural Resources Defence Council (NRDC) says, "Telangana is demonstrating the kind of leadership the world needs right now - putting the well-being of people and the economy first. Investing in electric mobility as part of economic recovery will help achieve India's goals of creating jobs, reducing air pollution, and curbing climate change."

Experts say the policy addressed different facets of the EV ecosystem. Charu Lata, lead consultant on Electric Mobility, NRDC says, "The future is electric. The Telangana electric mobility policy works to deploy an adequate charging infrastructure, a stumbling block for the success of electric mobility. Smart implementation of charging infrastructure, along with policy initiatives and attractive incentives, will accelerate the eco-system for faster adoption of e-vehicles."

Professor Rajkiran Bilolikar, Associate Professor, Administrative Staff College of India (ASCI) says e-mobility will help Indians reach the destination of sustainability. "The TS electric mobility policy is a big step in that direction."

Manufacturers of electric vehicles urged the State government to introduce more direct-subsidy schemes to encourage consumers. Sohinder Gill, Director General, Society of Manufacturers of Electric Vehicles, "While the policy offers non-fiscal incentives such as encouraging ride-hailing services, institutional adoption and government buying, it misses offering direct incentives to customers. This is required to motivate citizens to adopt environmentally-friendly vehicles. We hope the government will look into this."

Telangana govt signs MoUs with EV manufacturers

Hyderabad : 30th Oct 2020

Telangana government has signed MoUs with electric bus manufacturers Olectra and Mytrah Energy, and three-wheeler EV manufacturer ETO Motors to support their plans of setting up manufacturing units in the State. The government has signed a MoU with Automotive Research Association of India (ARAI) for collaborative efforts in the research and development to aid in the manufacture of EVs.

Vikram Kailas, vice chairman and MD, Mytrah Energy signed a MoU and committed to invest Rs 2,000 crore and generating employment of 6,750 people. Venkateswara Pradeep, director of Olectra signed a MoU committing to an investment of Rs 300 crore and generating employment of 3,500 people.

ETO Motors signed the MoU and committed to invest Rs 150 crore with employment generation of 1,500 while Gayam Auto Works has announced their plans to invest Rs 250 crore in the State generating 1,400 jobs.

Rohit Vadera, co-founder and CEO of PUR Energy, the IIT-Hyderabad incubated startup announced plans to invest Rs 500 crore in the State generating 1,500 jobs. Taxi aggregator Uber also launched its Green EV initiative and its commitment to introduce electric cars and rickshaws in the shared mobility space.

Telangana unveils EV policy to attract \$4bn investment by 2030

Hyderabad : 30th Oct 2020

The government of Telangana unveiled Electric Vehicle & Energy Storage Policy 2020, offering a slew of incentives for manufacture, purchase and use of Electric Vehicles (EVs). The policy, launched by state industries minister KT Rama Rao at Telangana Electric Vehicle Summit, aims to attract \$4 billion in investments and creating 1.2 lakh jobs in EV space by 2030.

The comprehensive policy is designed to woo domestic and global players in the EV and energy

storage segments to make Telangana, especially Hyderabad, a manufacturing and innovation hub. The policy's objective is to make Telangana the preferred destination for Electric Vehicle, Energy Storage Systems (ESS) and component manufacturing and to proactively support the creation of EV charging infrastructure.

To incentivize usage of EVs, the policy offers exemption from road tax and registration fee to the first set of two lakh two-wheelers, 20,000 three wheelers, 5,000 commercial four-wheeler passenger vehicles, 5,000 four-wheeler private vehicles, and 500 electric buses, all purchased and registered in Telangana.

The exemption will also be extended to 10,000 three-wheelers (goods), e-carriers as well as electric light goods carriers light commercial vehicles. The exemption will also be available for electric tractors purchased and registered in Telangana as per the existing rules/guidelines applicable for tractors by Transport Department. Retro-fitment incentive will be given at 15 per cent of the retro-fitment cost capped at Rs 15,000 per vehicle for first 5,000 retrofits 3-seater auto-rickshaws.

Telangana State Electricity Regulatory Commission will provide special power tariff category for electric vehicle charging stations. TSREDCO, state nodal Agency, will establish public charging stations directly or under the licensee/franchise/PPP model at airports, railway/ metro stations, parking lots, bus depots, markets, petrol stations, malls & electric poles. Existing residential townships with over 1000 families will be encouraged to develop charging stations lots. For the manufacturers of EVs, the policy offers capital subsidies, state GST reimbursements and power tariff subsidies.

The government will extend tailor-made benefits to mega and strategic projects on case-to-case basis. Investment of more than Rs 200 crore in plant and machinery or employing more than 1,000 persons will be categorised as a mega project.

The industry minister said that efforts will be made to promote last and first mile connectivity for public transport. Steps will also be taken for gradual shift

of public transport buses from internal combustion engines to EVs and to encourage general use of electric mobility.

The event saw at least six EV firm signing MoUs with the state government to set up their manufacturing units in the state with an investment of about Rs 3,000 crore. "We invite the Industry to come and make Telangana their manufacturing base as we believe local production is the key to achieve price/performance parity and enable faster adoption of Electric Vehicles," the minister said. KTR, as the minister is popularly known, announced that the government establishing 178 charging stations in the state. He said public road transport arm TSRTC has already pressed into service a fleet of 40 electric buses. He said along with the existing electronic manufacturing and innovation clusters, the upcoming mobility and ESS clusters will position Telangana as the leader in the sustainable and renewable energy sector.

Referring to the M&M manufacturing facility near Zaheerabad, the minister said that the area will be transformed into a manufacturing hub for EVs, encouraging both OEMs and their supply chain vendors.

Telangana setting new standards: KTR

Hyderabad: 29th Oct 2020

Municipal Administration and Urban Development Minister KT Rama Rao said Telangana, with the launch of the Dharani portal, was setting new standards



for the rest of the country. "A landmark integrated and record management system will be unveiled by hon'ble CM KCR Garu in the form of the Dharani portal. Aims to bring in utmost transparency, zero down graft, promises simultaneous registration and mutation," the Minister

said in a tweet before the launch of the portal by Chief Minister K Chandrashekhar Rao.

Chief Secretary Somesh Kumar described the launch as “a momentous occasion for all of us.” “Dharani is a vision of the Chief Minister translated into a portal. It is simple, intuitive and provides no scope for discretion at any level. It is a trendsetter, he said.

Congratulating Collectors, Revenue Department and other officials who made it possible, Somesh Kumar said slot booking by citizens would start after the portal launch while registrations would begin from November 2.

Telangana govt to give out free software licenses to 20,000 MSMEs

Hyderabad : 4th Nov 2020

In an effort to help digitise the micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) in Telangana, the State government is launching an initiative to give out free licenses of a cloud-based business automation software to 20,000 companies. The total market value of the licenses being distributed by the State free of cost to the business community is Rs 72 crores.

The business automation software, called Accloud, has accounting, sales, purchase and inventory management modules, available on both web and mobile, in English, Hindi as well as Telugu, offering options in vernacular languages. Sapio Analytics, a government advisory firm, is bringing the software to the companies while the platform of distribution will be that of Telangana State GlobalLinker, a platform and community for the MSMEs of the State. The Telangana government has already signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) towards this initiative.

The formal distribution of licenses will be made on November 9 by Jayesh Ranjan, principal secretary, Industries and Commerce, Government of Telangana. The launch event will have representatives from Sapio Analytics, GlobalLinker and Mumbai-headquartered Accloud.

Commenting on the initiative, Jayesh Ranjan said, “The Government of Telangana is excited to partner with Sapio Analytics to provide free Accloud automation

and accounting software which will help local MSMEs in increasing their efficiency and emerge as more competitive among their peers.”

Hardik Somani, COO, Sapio Analytica told, “We believe that this will help many more businesses to digitise their operations and find easy and simple ways to be compliant with GST, while not giving too much time away from the core business. This will help the economic revival of the businesses in the State which had been impacted due to Covid and will also help these businesses get better access to government policies in the process.”

This is a step by the Government of Telangana to support the businesses that form the backbone of the economy and hence the economic revival and growth, added Somani.

Amit Pau, COO of Accloud adds, “We are a technology platform which is empowering SMEs in high-growth markets with mobile first business management tools. Our aim is to build a platform for economic growth and financial inclusion, enabling SMEs to enter the formal economy, creating jobs, driving social wellbeing and promoting global prosperity.”

Telangana making efforts to support MSMEs

Hyderabad : 31st Oct 2020

Telangana State has an estimated 26.05 lakh MSMEs with micro-enterprises alone accounting for more than 25 lakh units and the remaining units are small and medium enterprises. “MSMEs require small investments with scope to create more jobs. In fact, they are the largest employers in the State after the agriculture and construction sectors. Hence, the State government is making all efforts to support the MSMEs to regain their strength and continue with

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their operations without any hitch,” said an Industries department official.

Last week, the State government along with networking portal for small businesses, GlobalLinker, partnered with BSE in a bid to encourage MSMEs to go public to meet capital requirements. Apart from helping to address finance-related issues and enhancing the credibility of MSMEs, BSE will also offer ‘intellectual and manpower support’ to create awareness about the importance and benefits of listing.

Further, the State government constituted an advisory committee on ‘Telangana IT MSME on Promotion’ in September this year to provide timely support to IT MSMEs in various ways such as giving opportunities in government IT projects. The committee headed by Principal Secretary for IT and Industries Jayesh Ranjan, comprises members from Telangana State Technology Services, HYSEA, NASSCOM, and other organisations. The committee will be responsible for chalking out guidelines to ensure that all IT projects awarded by the government go to companies registered in TS.

Telangana govt planning to set up eight new MSME parks

Hyderabad: 31st Oct 2020

In a bid to give the much-needed support to Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in the aftermath of Covid-19 lockdown, the State government is considering proposals to establish eight new MSME parks across the State, besides seeking upgradation of 12 existing MSME industrial parks. The Telangana State Industrial Infrastructure Corporation (TSIIC) has submitted these proposals to the Industries Department.

The new MSME industrial parks are proposed at Kundanpalli (Peddapalli district), Buggapadu (Khammam), Kallem (Jangaon), Sultanpur (Sangareddy), Warangal (Warangal Urban), Mandapalli (Siddipet), Shayampet (Warangal Rural) and Narmala (Rajanna Sircilla). Similarly, the upgradation of the existing MSME parks at Hayathnagar (Ranga Reddy), Bhongir and Chityala (Yadadri Bhongir), Jeedimetla (Medchal Malkajgiri), Gadwal (Jogulamba Gadwal), Jadcherla (Mahabubnagar), Mancherial (Mancherial), Paloncha (Bhadradi Kothagudem), Palem (Nagarkurnool), Nalgonda (Nalgonda), Bodhan (Nizamabad) and Kodad (Suryapet), are proposed to be upgraded, said an Industries Department official.

With the MSME parks to be established in about 50-60 acres each, the TSIIC is planning to develop all the necessary infrastructure including roads, power supply, drainage and drinking water among others. Necessary lands have been identified by the authorities and some extent of lands have also been acquired, wherever necessary. The authorities are confident that all the new parks will be operational by December next year.

In the case of upgradation of the 12 existing MSME parks, proposals have been submitted to develop additional infrastructure.

Following the severe financial impact of Covid-19 pandemic on the MSME sector, the State government has initiated several measures to support the MSME sector which was hit badly by the economic crisis caused by Covid-19 pandemic. Despite their best efforts, several MSME companies are on the verge of shutting down their units.



Logistics roadblocks amid festive rush

Hyderabad: October 28, 2020

Logistics for MSMEs: Augmenting warehouse capacity such as renting temporary warehouses to store the seasonal inventory and hiring temporary but dedicated delivery vans will improve logistical capability as well as operational efficiency.

Logistics for MSMEs: The impact left by the unprecedented Covid-19 pandemic has been felt profoundly across the world by individuals and businesses alike. Supply chains have been brutally hit due to heavy restrictions on mobility and small and medium businesses nationwide have borne the brunt of it. Further adding to their woes is their low financial resilience and business size which makes them highly vulnerable during a crisis. As the economy gradually



reopens after a series of country-wide lockdowns, SMEs are also beginning to get back on their feet. With the country's grandest festive season approaching, small and medium enterprises are gearing up to compensate for the lack of business over the past six months by boosting sales and revenues. The festivities are in full swing and SMEs are opting to take their business online to expand their reach and increase business growth.

However, SMEs who opt for online platforms often hit certain roadblocks, especially in terms of logistical services that prevent them from scaling their business. Being one of the fundamental aspects that help a business run smoothly, efficient logistical operations is vital during the festive season when demand surges drastically. Here is a brief guide on how to tackle the challenges SMEs face and logistics strategies they can adopt for seamless operations.

Inventory management: Foundation of Efficient Operations

First and foremost, inventory management sets the course of your business during the festive season when demand soars. Efficient inventory management lays the foundation for seamless operations, and for this, liquidated inventory is necessary. Liquidating inventory offers the flexibility required to scale the business while catering to the growing demand. Since the festive season brings heightened demand, brands often stock up on goods that are projected to be in-demand. It is best to split the inventory and store it in two-three warehouses to avoid any last-minute chaos and delayed deliveries.

Another reason to split the inventory is that despite lockdown restrictions being eased, a sudden spike in the number of cases in a particular area could result in the locality being cordoned off as a red zone. This would make it nearly impossible to ship the goods to customers, ultimately creating a subpar delivery experience. There may also be instances where certain marketplaces enforce restrictions on warehouse movements which means that the inventory might need to be moved before the restrictions are announced. So, ensure that there are no stockouts or bulk storage of inventory to boost customer acquisition, retention, and satisfaction.

Warehouse Management is Key

The sudden surge in demand means that brands need to ramp up agility to scale their operations. Augmenting warehouse capacity such as renting temporary warehouses to store the seasonal inventory and hiring temporary but dedicated delivery vans will improve logistical capability as well as operational efficiency. Additionally,

introducing fleet management with real-time updates when dispatching orders through multiple vendors will make it easier to track the movement of the goods. For this, tech-based solutions are ideal. Businesses can keep track of the parcels through every step of the way until they are safely handed over to the customer either through tech-enabled solutions developed in-house or with the help of third-party apps.

Another critical aspect is the packaging. Along with inventory and warehouse management, packaging of goods should also be on top of the priority list for brands as the festive season rush leaves room for rough handling of parcels that can damage the goods.

Safety is Priority

One of the most common, unfortunate mistakes SMEs make is being negligent of security and cutting costs on it. With huge amounts of inventory being stored, the chances of theft and pilferage of goods are high in case of a lack of robust security. Installing CCTV cameras, appointing guards, and other such simple measures will prove to be an investment and go a long way in diminishing the risk of theft or damage to the goods. Smart, automated warehouses are the perfect solution to secure your inventory and avoid last-minute chaos during the festive season. It would also prove useful to avail insurance for the inventory so that there is no monetary loss in case of theft or damage.

We live in challenging times where we cannot afford to let safety and hygiene take a backseat. In addition to securing inventory, it is the need of the hour to ensure that the health of staff is secured too. Staff, particularly those on the frontlines play a crucial role in ensuring the delivery of goods happens in a seamless and timely manner. Providing them with certified training on the best practices of hygiene and safety will protect them as well as the customers. Businesses can also obtain Covid insurance for employees to safeguard their wellbeing. Besides this, regular workplace sanitation, inventory sanitation, and making it mandatory to wear masks and gloves on the premises are some simple measures that can make the area Covid-safe. The festive season presents SMEs with the perfect opportunity to revive their business and turn it into a lucrative one. Adopting simple yet effective strategies in logistics management will increase operational efficiency and script the brand's success in the long run.

More benefits for IT firms: KTR

Hyderabad : 5th Nov 2020

IT companies setting up offices towards Uppal, Pocharam in the eastern, Kompally in the north and Shamshabad in the southern part of the city will get a slew of benefits including 30 per cent rental rebate for the SMEs. The companies with more than 500 employees in the Growth in Dispersion (GRID) regions will get a custom incentive package under the GRID policy, said IT and Industries Minister KT Rama Rao.

"We are doing the ground breaking for the Kompally tower next week. And we already have more than 200 SMEs interested in taking space here. We will also be opening a new cluster in Kollur in the north west part of the city. This is to disperse the IT around the city," he said. Speaking at an awards function organised by industry body Hysea, he said the State has opened IT towers in Karimnagar and are running to full capacity. There is already demand for phase II.

"We are opening towers in Khammam, Nizamabad, and Mahabubnagar later this year. Our IT tower in Warangal is running to full capacity. Cyient has a modern facility there. Tech Mahindra is utilising Government incubation space and will soon expand to their own facility," he said. "Even though the work from home is in vogue now, we believe that campuses and workplaces are there to stay in the long-run," he said while talking about the impact due to Covid.

"Too many things have happened this year and as we speak we do not know who the American President is.



The Covid has affected all of us directly and indirectly. Government, individuals, institutions and everybody has been impacted. There are people who have lost their lives, there are people who have lost their livelihoods and there are many instances where the misfortune of millions of people has been highlighted. We all remember the millions of migrant labour walking on the national highways during this year. I can say this has been an emotional year. The State finances have gone dry. There was tremendous pressure on the healthcare systems in the State to tackle the situation,” he said.

Resilient IT

In the midst of all this gloom and pandemic, one industry that is offering hope and the one industry that is doing very well is the IT sector, inspite of the fact that it has to switch gears and adapt to changes, the Minister said.

About Rs 100 crore donations have been raised by the IT industry bodies and that was used to procure the Covid testing equipment for the Government hospitals in Telangana. These machines will come to use for the poor people who visit the Government hospitals, he said adding that several companies also collaborated with the NGOs on the ground for distributing ration and cooked food. The Software industry of Hyderabad had shown its resilience during the Covid time. There were no major layoffs due to Covid. The Government’s Layoff Redressal Committee counselled many companies and employees and ensured that their concerns were addressed during the Covid times, he said. The State Government has created an SME Advisory committee to ensure that

a good portion of the Government software work goes to the SMEs. “Several SMEs have been empaneled and they are supporting the Government with the software for the Ease Of Doing Business Application,” he said.

Exports

On State’s IT exports, he said they grew at 18%

for the last financial year. This is more than double the national average of 8%. “This is an incredible story for us to tell the rest of the world that Hyderabad is the place to come and invest,” he said.

Real estate consultancy Knight Frank has used the acronym WFH – Work From Hyderabad to demonstrate that Hyderabad is clearly on the growth path. “We have moved from 6th place to 2nd place over the last 6 years in office space consumption. We are happy but not satisfied. We have set our targets at much higher plane,” the Minister said.

Floods

“When we thought the Covid situation is coming to an end, we had the flooding. Hyderabad had seen its highest rainfall in about 120 years. We were not exactly prepared for such a situation. A lot needs to be done holistically, we are on the drawing table on that,” he said.

Several IT companies have come forward and donated for the flood relief as well. Among others, Infosys has come forward and is taking up several works in Peerzadiguda, near its Pocharam campus. The Government is also working with developers to ensure that the second largest employer, the real estate industry, continues to thrive.

The Minister asked HYSEA to partner with the State’s innovation platform T Hub. A lot of companies are engaged with T Hub with the corporate innovation programme but there is a lot HYSEA can do here. It can also partner with TASK and create the necessary skill set required for the industry here.

VEM Technologies sets up advanced Seeker facility in Hyderabad

Hyderabad:

Hyderabad-based aerospace and defence company VEM Technologies has set up an advanced Seeker manufacturing facility in the city, which is touted as the first such facility in India in the private sector, with indigenous technology.

The new facility set up at Hardware Park in Tukuguda near Srisailem Road with an investment of over Rs 100 crore is spread across 1,25,000 sq ft, with amenities required to carry out the assembly, integration and testing of sub-systems required for radio frequency (RF) and imaging infrared radar (IIR) Seekers under one roof, says GP Sarma, senior vice-president, Marketing, VEM Technologies.

VEM Technologies, had been founded by V Venkata Raju, who is also the chairman and managing director of VEM, with an aim to make the company as a systems engineering company offering solutions to the Armed services making the country self-reliant.

The company has been working on building Seeker manufacturing capabilities since 2013. Seekers help missiles track and strike the targets with accuracy. Sarma said, "We are looking to cater to domestic needs for RF Seekers. Very few countries in the world have Seeker manufacturing capabilities. Countries such as the US, Russia, France, Israel and India have the capability to make them. There is however a good scope for exporting IIR Seekers."

VEM's Advanced Systems Division, which was recently inaugurated by Dr G Satheesh Reddy, secretary, Department of Defence R&D & chairman-DRDO, has the capacity to manufacture about 60 RF Seekers per month and about 300 IIR Seekers per month.

"The facility will cater to IIR Seekers for various missile programmes. The company can augment the capacities based on the orders," Sarma added. The company has received a soft financial assistance from Technology Development Board, Department of Science & Technology, Government of India, to a tune of Rs 25 crore for the 'Development & Commercialisation of RF Seekers'.

Praveen P A, director, Aerospace & Defence, Government of Telangana said, "Despite Covid, Hyderabad defence and aerospace ecosystem is attracting fresh investments and most players are expanding capacities to meet the opportunities presented by indigenisation goals and Aatma Nirbhar Bharat drive in defence production."

OnePlus opens its biggest Experience store in Hyderabad

Hyderabad : November 4, 2020

OnePlus has unveiled a new experience store in Hyderabad. This store also happens to be its largest in the world. Spread across 16,000 sqft, this new experience store is called the "OnePlus Nizam Palace" and also includes a large customer service center with dedicated glass cubicles for customers to meet and consult service executives.

The company claims that this experience store is "aligned with OnePlus' philosophy of burdenless design, and as such the OnePlus Nizam Palace flaunts a distinctive architectural design. The store features an outer aluminum facade with a red brick wall beneath that represents the brand's loyal, rooted community.

OnePlus claims this Super Experience Store features tech-leading aspects such as "interactive desks for product catalogues and horizontal LED walls showcasing the latest #ShotOnOnePlus content by the community across India using OnePlus devices."

Addressing the launch of the new OnePlus Nizam



Palace, Vikas Agarwal, General Manager, OnePlus India, said, "OnePlus remains committed to achieving long-term growth in India. We chose Hyderabad to open our first R&D centre in the country and today we are proud to be back in the city with our largest

experience store. The new OnePlus Nizam Palace sets a new benchmark in the retail segment redefining how consumers experience the premium OnePlus offerings. And it brings us even closer to our community members. Retail store launches in India usually entail the presence of celebrities to unveil the new stores. At OnePlus, our community served as our most valuable celebrities and brand ambassadors who unveiled this special Experience store for us... We look forward to successfully serving the needs of our community with the new store while placing the safety of our community and team at utmost priority.”

The new experience store is a part of the brand’s attempts to enhance its offline presence using an omni-channel strategy. OnePlus is currently present in over 5000 offline stores including partnered stores across India. In line with its ongoing offline expansion in the country, OnePlus will invest another Rs 100 crores towards "deeper market penetration across omni-channel retail business." This also includes extending the brand’s premium offline experience beyond metro cities and expanding to the interior regions through new retail partnerships.

Mahindra Logistics expanding base in Telangana

Hyderabad : 6th Nov 2020

Mahindra Logistics Ltd (MLL), a third-party logistics (3PL) solution provider, added 4 lakh sq ft multi-user warehouse capacity at Patancheru catering to consumer, e-commerce, pharma and other core sectors, to its existing ‘Built-To-Suit’ capacity in Hyderabad. The facility will employ around 400 people.

The company sees further growth opportunities in Telangana. As part of its growth plans, the company is developing additional Grade A warehousing infrastructure in Zaheerabad to cater to captive and contract manufacturing sector needs, which will begin operations by the end of FY21. In the first phase, it will add about 1 lakh sq ft followed by further capacity expansion in the next two phases. MLL has created an overall capacity of 1 million sq ft in Telangana so far catering to a variety of sectors. Mahindra Group has a tractor factory in Zaheerabad and has also been involved in automotive components in the State.

The company which has also added over 3.5 lakh sq ft capacity in Chennai, did not disclose the investments in both the cities. In addition to this, MLL has set up nearly 10 lakh sq ft of flex warehousing solutions for supporting customers. The company has set a goal to become a Rs 10,000 crore company by FY26 through its pan-India operations, and is going to add 1.5-2 million sq ft per year of warehousing space, in line with its growth operations.

Telangana potential

Rampraveen Swaminathan, MD and CEO, Mahindra Logistics Limited, said, the State is an important market and has large road network (28,000km), connectivity to all major



national highways and good international air connectivity. Telangana has become a key hub for southern markets and has over the years emerged as an electronics cluster with 250 companies operating across the State. The State has long-term prospects in the logistics sector and currently contributes about 5-10 per cent of the national business.

Pharma sector

A considerable size of the new spaces created in the State and India is also catering to large pharma companies during the pandemic. MLL is also gearing up with a last-mile delivery roadmap to cater to the highly anticipated Covid vaccine for its pharma clients across India.

Swaminathan said, "We have strategically created warehouses across the major pharmaceutical clusters across India including Hyderabad, and pockets of Maharashtra, Gujarat and Himachal Pradesh. We today operate at least 8-10 pharma-dedicated warehouses. We have created temperature-controlled facilities. Telangana has developed an ecosystem for integrated development and this will open up new opportunities, including the upcoming Hyderabad Pharma City."

Pharma remains one of the top sectors for Mahindra Logistics, more so in the Covid scenario, along with food, groceries, electronics and e-commerce. Farm sector is also showing promise in the warehousing space.

Telangana: AGI Glaspac inaugurates new plant, to generate 4,600 jobs

Hyderabad : 09th November 2020

With an aim to generate around 600 of direct employment and around 4,000 of indirect employment for its new plant in Telangana, container glass manufacturing company AGI Glaspac inaugurated the work on its new plant. The company last week raised an investment of Rs 220 crores to manufacture special

glass for premium segments, such as cosmetics, perfumery, personal care, carbonated water, and high-end spirits. The first phase of investment of Rs crores will go towards four levels of expenses – civil construction of the plant, machinery and a new furnace, utilities, and finally new team for the development of the newly launched 'AGI Speciality-Glas Division.' The company will engage more than 4,600 people, including direct and indirect employees. The total strength of the team is 14,700, and it will be 19,300 by the end of 2022. The company foresees topline growth in its revenue by not less than 15-18 per cent by 2022-23. For the printing design and decoration of the speciality glass, AGI Glaspac will evaluate engaging with Indian start-ups that can meet the international standards of printing and decoration.

Minister for IT and Industries KT Rama Rao earlier, tweeted, "Happy to welcome new investments from the HSIL Group into its glass business AGI Glaspac, along with plastic pipes business. Many thanks to a good friend and Managing Director of HSIL Limited Sandeep Somany for his continued support towards the Telangana state." Rajesh Khosla, President & CEO of AGI Glaspac, said, "The pandemic has resulted in geopolitical disengagement with certain countries. It will leave the glass industry with a huge void and a shortfall of suppliers or importers in the future. We believe that it is a huge opportunity for Indian manufacturers and start-ups for various industries to increase exports and reduce imports.

It is a golden opportunity to raise the bar in the international markets for the 'Made-in-India' products. AGI Glaspac's entry in the new segment of manufacturing speciality glass is a strategic decision. It will allow us to cater to the much-expected rise in the global demand after the pandemic subsides." Earlier this year, the company had announced a geographical expansion with an estimated investment of Rs 700 crores in the eastern part of India. However, due to the pandemic, the company envisaged investment opportunities to expand its existing plant at Bhongir, Telangana.

KTR inaugurates WTE plant, proposes two more dumpyards

Hyderabad: 11th November 2020

To deal with the ever increasing garbage problem, the State government has proposed two more dumpyards in the city outskirts at Lakdaram and Pyarenagar, said Municipal Administration and Urban Development Minister K Taraka Rama Rao. He inaugurated a 19.8 MW Waste-to-Energy (WTE) plant at Jawaharnagar. It is the first WTE plant to be commissioned in Southern India.

It will use the environment friendly technology of thermal combustion to dispose the Refuse Derived Fuel (RDF) while generating green power and has been constructed by the Ramky Enviro Engineers Limited. The long term plan is to decentralise waste management in a scientific way in Hyderabad, said the Minister and added that the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) had identified the sites for the dumpyards, which would be far away from human habitations.

The Minister also laid the foundation for another 28 MW plant under Phase-II at Jawaharnagar. The plant is expected to start generating power in 18 months. A total of 1,200 tonnes of garbage would be required for generating 19.8 MW power, while for 28 MW, 2,000 tonnes would be required, total 3,200 tonnes of garbage. At present, city is generating 5,000 to 6,000 tonnes of garbage daily.

Further, the Minister announced plans to establish another 15 MW WTE plant at TSDF land of TSIC at Dundigal. These plants would be sufficient to dispose the garbage for next 10 years. The plants will reduce the burden on land associated with management of waste generated in Hyderabad and also act as a sustainable source of green power. The Minister said that the State government is committed to issuing ownership rights to all eligible low and middle-class income groups across the State. For this, the government has already launched Dharani portal, all ownership of land and revenue issues will be resolved. Citing the example of 15 to 20 colonies in Uppal, the Minister said the residents in these colonies were issued ownership rights. With the ownership rights, the residents can avail loans for business and education purposes etc. The State of Telangana has a

total of 2.77 crore acres, of which 1.55 crore acres is agricultural land, 66 lakh acres has forest, water bodies, while the remaining land area has residential land of villages, towns and municipalities. The Minister assured the 40,000 residents of Jawaharnagar and neighbouring areas that they would get pattas. A special programme will be organised where Chief Minister K Chandrasekhar Rao would issue the pattas. He also assured to provide tap connections to the households at a cost of Rs 1

Telangana to release Waste Management Policy soon

Hyderabad: 08th November 2020

The State government is going to release a comprehensive Waste Management Policy soon, said Municipal Administration and Urban Development Minister K Taraka Rama Rao. Inaugurating a Construction and Demolition (C&D) Waste Recycling plant at Jeedimetla built under Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode, the Minister said the plant had highest capacity in South India and fifth in the country. He said that 2,000 tonnes of C&D waste was generated every day in the city. The plant has a capacity of 500 tonnes and would recycle waste material daily.

Apart from the Jeedimetla plant, one more C&D plant will be inaugurated at Fathullaguda in January, 2021. In addition to these, two more plants will be set up in East and West zones of the city shortly. To deal with the faecal sludge, Minister said that State government was setting up Faecal Sludge Treatment Plants (FSTPs) in every municipality across the State.

Five types of wastes such as municipal solid waste (garbage), liquid waste (sewage), biological waste (animal waste), biomedical waste (generated in hospitals and nursing homes), and faecal sludge (human waste), are generated and government wants to ensure that they are disposed in a scientific manner, without impacting the health of human beings or the environment, he said.

Several Ministers call on IT Minister KT Rama Rao. State government will come out with comprehensive policy called clean technology and Telangana should top in the clean technology in the country, the MAUD

Minister said. Also the Waste to Energy Plant at Jawaharnagar will be inaugurated in the next few days, Minister added. Mayor Bonthu Rammohan said GHMC was taking steps to recycle the waste material from all parts of the city and plans to setup the C&D plants in all four sides of the city.

MINISTERS THANK KTR FOR AMAZON DEAL

Several Ministers and TRS leaders from Rangareddy district thanked Industries Minister KT Rama Rao for attracting a huge investment to the district. The investment of `20,671 crore by Amazon Web Services would help the district as it would generate employment. Apart from Amazon, several electronic industries too are investing in the district and the face of the district would change in two years, they said. Ministers P Sabitha Indra Reddy, Puvvada Ajay Kumar, Koppula Eshwar, and others met Rama Rao

WASTE DISPOSAL NOW A PHONE CALL AWAY

People can call on the toll free number 18001-200-72659 for collection of construction and demolition debris at their doorstep. The waste will be collected Ramky Enviro Engineers Limited (REEL) on payment of nominal tipping charges.

Virtual Open House Meet organized by FTCCI

Virtual Open House Meet with Mr. E V Narsimha Reddy, Vice Chairman and Managing Director, Telangana State Industrial Infrastructure Corporation (TSIIC) held on 8th October, 2020

The Federation of Telangana Chambers of Commerce and Industry has organized an Virtual Open House Meet with Mr. E V Narsimha Reddy, Vice Chairman and Managing Director, Telangana State Industrial Infrastructure Corporation (TSIIC) along with Mr. Ramakanth Inani, President, Mr. K Bhasker Reddy Senior Vice President, Mr. Anil Agarwal, Vice President & Ms. Khyati Naravane, CEO, FTCCI.

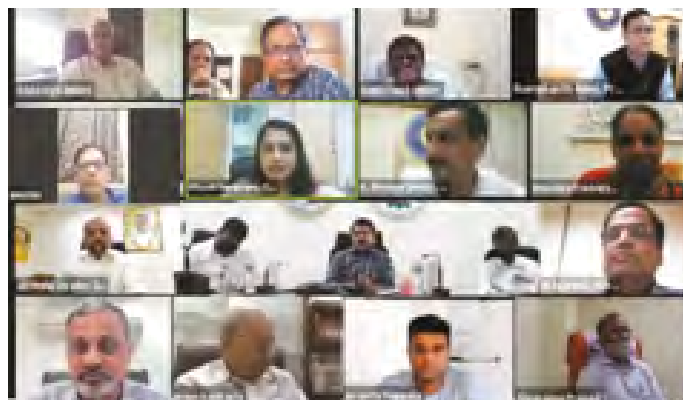
Mr. E V Narsimha Reddy, Vice Chairman and Managing Director, Telangana State Industrial Infrastructure Corporation (TSIIC) appreciated FTCCI for its role industrial growth and development

to the state. He mentioned few major industrial parks Jeedimetla, Cherlapally etc. TSIIC has developed 27000 acres for industrial areas in last four years and about 15000 acres are in the process of development.

Electronic manufacturing culture is the largest cluster in the country. Hyderabad is the leading in IT exports creating about 5 lakh employment opportunities in IT sector. 25 new units have come up and generating employment to 5000 persons. Skill development important aspect for rural development and TASK has trained about 1.5 lakh people making suitable the industries. He mentioned about the sanction of 12 industrial parks by Government of India. TSIIC initiated in creating industrial infrastructure in 14 flatted factories. New allotments of 1750 units in 2000 acres with investment of 13 Lakh Cr in Telangana. Since the formation of the Telangana state, it has developed 20,000 acres land into development. He stated that in coming 2-3 years there will be a sea change, where more new industrial areas will be opened up. He explained about Local employment incentive, if industry provides 70% of the employment to the local people, they are eligible for more incentive under T-IDEA Scheme.

Government of India has sanctioned three industrial corridors in collaboration with state governments (Delhi – Mumbai Industrial Corridor, Chennai-Bengaluru Industrial Corridor, Hyderabad - Bengaluru Industrial Corridor).

Mr. Ramakanth Inani, President, FTCCI said Industrial progress of the state mainly depends on the infrastructure availability and TSIIC is playing a major role in providing Industrial Infrastructure,



thereby contributing to the development of the State. He congratulated TSIIC for developing 104 Industrial Area Local Authority (IALAs) and 154 Industrial parks and we take this opportunity to suggest TSIIC to establish one industrial park in every district for regional development.

Mr. Srinivas Garimella, Chair- Industrial Development Committee, FTCCI opined that infrastructure plays a vital role. TSIIC stands as a foremost nodal agency in the development of industrial and related infrastructure. An extent of 1,50,000 acres in the state identified as fit for industrial use has been transferred to TSIIC. With this huge land base, we are confident that Telangana State has the potential to become industrially most developed state in the country.

WE-Hub sets up revolving fund for women entrepreneurs

Hyderabad : 6th Nov 2020

Telangana's startup incubator for women entrepreneurs, WE-Hub announced the setting up of a revolving fund for women-led businesses incubated at WE-Hub. The vision behind creating this fund was to financially enable women across the spectrum, in view of the repercussions of the pandemic. A Murali Krishna Reddy, chairman, MAK Group of Companies, supported the mission of WE-Hub with a revolving fund to reach the most deserving small business entrepreneurs in India.

WE-Hub CEO Deepthi Ravula said that the incubator is also looking at other corporates and enterprises to come forward to offer support to women entrepreneurs through their CSR activities. "Amid pandemic, WE-Hub has been adapting to these crucial times and exploring new ways to support and sustain the businesses of the startups. We are looking forward to connecting with corporates and CSR, who would like to support startups" she said.

The first tranche of the fund was disbursed to five entrepreneurs incubated at WE-Hub from nutraceuticals, manufacturing, and food processing sectors. These entrepreneurs were shortlisted out of 30 women entrepreneurs, based on the scale of impact of the pandemic on their business, their current financial standing and projected financial growth of their enterprises. WE-Hub has worked with the beneficiaries to set milestones for their business enterprises and their progress along with their financial standing will be mapped and shared with all stakeholders involved, every quarter.



After Mumbai, Hyderabad gets MEA's 2nd integrated regional passport office

Hyderabad : 30 Oct 2020

All MEA related services, whether it is passport or immigration services, will be available under a single roof within the premises of RPO Hyderabad. Union Minister V Muraleedharan said passport application process has become much more user friendly due to efforts made by the ministry, and expressed hope that work would resume in full swing and reach pre-COVID-19 level in due course as the economy reopens. The Minister of State for External Affairs was speaking after virtually inaugurating the renovated premises of Regional Passport Office, Hyderabad, which will house MEA's second integrated complex, after Mumbai.

The renovated RPO Hyderabad premises will be an integrated facility. He said even during the (COVID-19 induced) lockdown period, the passport offices were working to bring down the passport pendency. "Now international travel is gradually picking up despite the ongoing restrictions. MEA has taken a decision to

resume passport operations throughout the country. We are closely working with the Department of Posts to reopen all post office passport seva kendras,"Muraleedharan said.

On the integrated complex, he said MEA offices located in Hyderabad including the MEA's Branch Secretariat, the Protector of Emigrants office and the Indian Council for Cultural Relations Regional Office will be shifted to this facility. As a result all MEA related services, whether it is passport or immigration services, will be available under a single roof within the premises of RPO Hyderabad,he said. "This makes Hyderabad the only second city in India after Mumbai to have an integrated MEA complex. Today's inauguration of the renovated premises of the Regional Passport Office Hyderabad is a milestone in the operation of RPO Hyderabad," Muraleedharan said. The renovated building will have state-of- the-art infrastructure and will provide top class facilities to all citizens, he said.

HYD Airport Leads Post-Lockdown Revival of Aviation

Hyderabad: October 29, 2020

Witnessing a steady increase in the number of passengers and air traffic, Hyderabad's Rajiv Gandhi International Airport (RGIA) is leading the revival of the aviation sector in India post the Covid-induced lockdown. The daily passenger footfall at RGIA has gone up by over six times and the Air traffic Movement (ATM) by over five times since the recommencement of domestic operations from May 15. With the central and state governments relaxing the quarantine norms under Unlock 4.0 and Unlock 5.0, there has been a significant jump in the passenger footfall, sources at the airport said.

The RGIA has handled over 1.2 million domestic passengers from the day of recommencement till September 30. Over 13,500 domestic flights were handled during the same period. Sources say the growth rate of Hyderabad Airport post recommencement has been impressive compared to other airports in the country.

Billed as the world's third fastest-growing airport in the category of 15 million passengers in the world, it is one of the busiest airports in the country and the best-connected in south and central India. In the first few weeks post recommencement of domestic operations after a gap of two months, the daily passenger footfall was 3,000 but the same surged to over 20,000 in September.

Hyderabad Airport has also seen an uptick in the ATMs from about 40 daily ATMs in the first few weeks of the restart, to over 230 domestic flights daily. The RGIA regained its 52 destinations out of 55 destinations before Covid, thus restoring about 95 per cent domestic connectivity till August. The airport was handling 550 air traffic movements and about 60,000 passengers daily before the Covid-induced lockdown came into effect in March. With a new domestic destination - Jagdalpur in Chhatisgarh from September 21, RGIA is now connected to 53 destinations in the domestic sector. Nagpur, Mangalore, Kozhichode/Calicut and Jabalpur are the latest destinations which recommenced in the last four weeks. Metro cities like Delhi, Kolkata, Chennai, Bengaluru and Mumbai remain the top five destinations.

The top three airlines who are serving the domestic traffic from Hyderabad International Airport are IndiGo, SpiceJet and Air India. Though all commercial operations were suspended in March with the imposition of lockdown, RGIA continued to handle evacuation flights operated by various countries for their citizens. It subsequently handled evacuation flights under the Vande Bharat Mission and the Air Transport Bubble agreements initiated among various countries.

Under the Air Transport Bubble arrangement, Hyderabad International Airport is now connected with the United Kingdom, United Arab Emirates (Dubai, Abu Dhabi and Sharjah), Qatar and Bahrain. Apart from these, many charters from various countries are also operating on a regular basis. The airport witnessed on an average over 11 international air traffic movements daily in September. The numbers are expected to increase further,

once the outreach of the Air Transport Bubble agreement gets further enhanced covering other countries as well. This week, the airport extended its indigenously developed digital solution of E-boarding services to international flights, becoming the first airport in India to do so. To meet the new challenges posed by the pandemic, airport operator GMR Hyderabad International Airport Limited (GHIAL) overhauled the entire passenger processing modes to follow the government directives.

The airport kept raising the bar to innovate across various operational processes using the technology which included the contact-less replication of keyboards at self-check in kiosks onto one's smart phones to help aid printing of boarding card and luggage tags in a contactless way. Recently, RGIA achieved Airports Council International's (ACI) Airport Health Accreditation' for its measures strengthening safe travel.

Link roads make travel smooth in Hyderabad

Hyderabad : 10th Nov 2020

The move to entrust Hyderabad Road Development Corporation Limited (HRDCL) with the development of missing link roads has started bearing fruits with more link roads being thrown open to traffic for free flow of traffic. The State government, with the intention of improving road infrastructure in Hyderabad, had launched several initiatives, including the Strategic Road Development Programme (SRDP), Network wide Traffic Management with the help of ITS (Traffic Police) and most crucially, the development of missing link roads by the HRDCL.



The concept of developing missing road links is the brainchild of Municipal Administration and Urban Development Minister KT Rama Rao. During the last six months, HRDCL has been executing works in full steam as a result of which three link roads were opened to traffic, said Mayor Bonthu Rammohan. Speaking about the efforts gone into the development of link roads, Rama Rao said the mapping of the core road network of the city was done and this was again synchronised with the Hyderabad Road master plan.

In the past, roads were laid but there used to be a missing link of half km or over a km between two arterial roads. As per the instructions of Chief Minister K Chandrashekhar Rao, measures were planned for traffic load distribution and easing traffic congestion by developing such missing link roads, he said. These projects are basically to improve mobility along the primary traffic corridors. After identifying certain links in the road network that can provide effective relief to traffic congestion on major corridors at a relatively low budget, HRDCL is developing the missing roads.

Accordingly, under Phase I, 135 links are being developed covering a total distance of about 126 km. Works pertaining to about 44.7 km with an estimated cost of Rs 313.65 crore are under progress in Phase I(a) and balance links will be taken up in continuous process of development.

Pointing to the new link road between Old Bombay highway and DPS via Engineering Staff College of India, the Minister said many did not even believe that a link road could be developed there given the hillocks and terrain conditions. "But HRDCL developed this link road in six months. This stretch will now be developed

on the lines of Necklace Road to facilitate children and elderly people spend quality time,” Rao said, adding the Khajaguda Lake would also be developed and beautification works would be taken up shortly.

Now, an underpass as well

Hyderabad: Apart from developing link roads and maintaining existing roads, HRDCL is now constructing a Vehicular Under Pass (VUP) on the Old Bombay Highway to Road. No 45 under HT line. It will be a four-lane steel structural VUP with 0.6

m central median and 0.75 m footpath on either sides. After development of missing link on the route, there has been a considerable rise in traffic on the route. However, due to the existing steep gradients, motorists are finding it difficult to commute.

To facilitate free flow of traffic, HRDCL is now constructing the VUP covering a distance of 130 m and with a cost of Rs 23.10 crore. “Efforts are on to complete the steel VUP by March end,” said an official from HRDCL.

KVK farming model suitable for TS: Niranjan Reddy

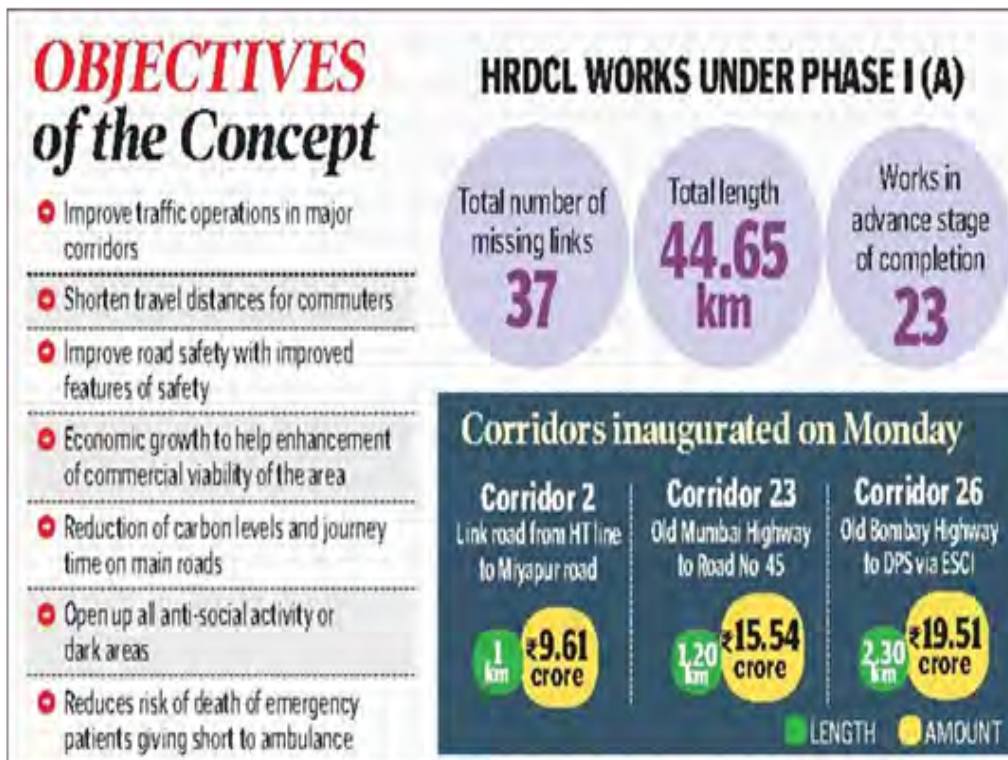
Hyderabad : 5th Nov 2020

Agriculture Minister Singireddy Niranjan Reddy said the cultivation methods adopted by farmers at the Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Baramati will be suitable for farmers in Telangana State too. The Minister, along with Principal Secretary of Agriculture B Janardhan Reddy, visited the KVK as part of their four-day tour of Maharashtra.

“The Baramati KVK is considered as a modern day temple for agriculture. The three-decade long efforts of former Union Minister and Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) founder Sharad Pawar and his brother Appa Saheb Pawar are commendable. We in Telangana under the leadership of K Chandrashekhara Rao are trying to make agriculture profitable by diverting farmers from conventional agriculture practices to modern farming,” he said.

Niranjan Reddy said the agro-climatic conditions of western Maharashtra and Telangana State are similar and hence, farmers can emulate new methods of cultivation practiced in KVK Baramati. He opined that farmers must be encouraged to take up crops that cost less to produce, occupy less land and yield more.

“Sharad Pawar said that he visited Hyderabad to study Telangana agitation in 1969. I was directed by the Chief Minister to meet him personally and convey his wishes. I will meet Sharad Pawarji,” Niranjan Reddy said. The Telangana team then met Rajendra Pawar, Chairman of KVK Baramati, and congratulated him and his entire team for the path-breaking work they have been doing.



Cotton production gains momentum in Telangana

Hyderabad: 6th Nov 2020

The productivity of cotton, a crop now suggested by the State government for farmers in the State as an alternative to maize, was impressive during Vaanakalam 2019. While Adilabad topped the State with highest productivity of 1,559 kg per acre, Rajanna Sircilla, Khammam, Nagarkurnool, Jayashankar Bhupalpally, Yadadri Bhuvanagiri, Siddipet, Nizamabad, Mancherial and Bhadradi Kothagudem, Nalgonda topped the State with highest production of 3,93,620 tons of kapas.

The data released by the State Planning Board clearly indicated that the farmers had begun testing new grounds by diversifying into growing vegetables and fruits as suggested by experts. The total production of onions during Yasangi of 2019 stood at 1,28,046 tonnes in the State with Sangareddy, Vikarabad, Nizamabad, Jogulamba Gadwal, Medak, Wanaparthi, Mahbubnagar and Ranga Reddy occupying the top five positions in yield as well as cultivated area.

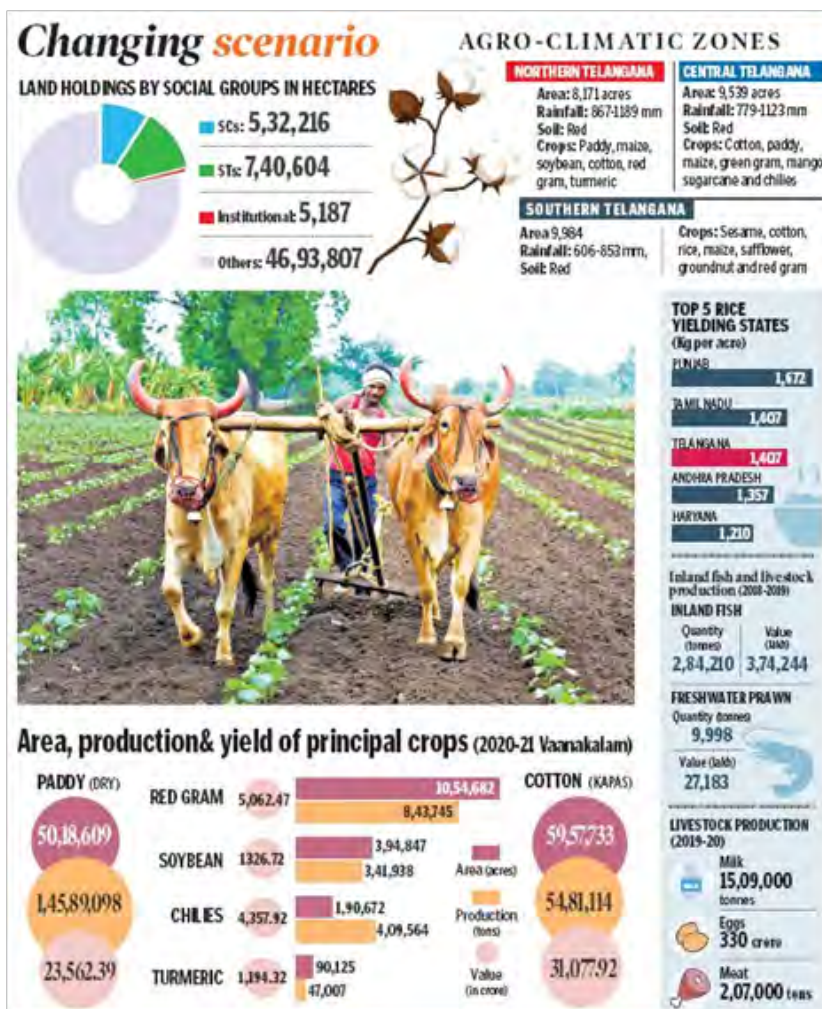
In the case of tomatoes, the farmers are expected to reap 5,32,692 tonnes of production from 41,768 acres of land. Ranga Reddy, Siddipet, Vikarabad, Sangareddy, Adilabad, Medchal Malkajgiri and Bhadradi Kothagudem were the highest producing districts. The total production of mangoes was 12, 70,364 tons cultivated in an area of 3, 17,591 acres of land. Jagtial, Khammam, Nagarkurnool, Ranga Reddy, Mancherial and Mahabubabad were among the 14 districts that registered considerable yield.

Second in rice yield

The State also fared well when compared with other predominantly agriculture States in the country in the production of traditional crops. According to 2018-19 data Telangana occupied top place in groundnut (Vaanakalm) production in the country followed by Tamilnadu and Rajasthan. In paddy production, Punjab stood on the top with 1,672 kilograms per acre, Telangana and Tamilnadu were at the second place with 1,407 kilograms per acre. AP, Haryana, Karnataka were the other few States that have achieved considerable yield per acre. During the same year Telangana occupied third place in soybean production with 641 kilograms per acre, followed by Gujarat.

Animal husbandry

The livestock sector supports about 25.82 lakh families and the value is approximately Rs 66,403 crore at current prices. Within the agriculture and allied sectors, livestock is a large contributor. It contributes 7.6 per cent of the State GDP. At the national level Telangana tops in sheep production, ranks 3rd in poultry production, and 8th in regards to livestock population as per the livestock census 2019.



Data Centre Policy, KTR's rapport with firm helped seal Amazon deal

Hyderabad: 07th November 2020

The fact that Telangana was the first State in the country to come up with a dedicated Data Centre Policy in 2016 played a major role in Amazon Web Services' multi billion dollar investment in the State. Digital Media director Konatham Dileep that the policy was part of a series of policies that were brought in by the government to counter claims of the State not being able to attract investments.

"After the formation of Telangana, the Chief Minister and the IT Minister convened a meeting of industries. They assured them that the State had political stability, and promised to bring in progressive policies," Dileep said.

"The IT Minister recommended the introduction of sectoral policies, of which the Data Centre Policy is a part," he added. Dileep said the policy was brought in based on reports that the Centre would direct all firms in India to store their data.

The policy provides a slew of incentives, which includes 50 per cent rebate on building fees, land at subsidised cost, power consumption incentive, and so on.

In addition, Dileep said Rama Rao was constantly in touch with Amazon officials over the year. "Amazon has constantly been investing in Telangana. We provide good service to firms who invest here," he added.

Telangana's startup innovator T-Hub celebrates fifth anniversary

Hyderabad : 06th November 2020

T-HUB, the State's business incubator headquartered in Hyderabad, celebrated its fifth anniversary. Since 2015, it has designed and delivered over 75 innovation programmes, enabling startups to get customers and raise funds and empowering corporations to build a culture of innovation.

IT and Industries Principal Secretary Jayesh Ranjan said, "A sizeable percentage of this generation is becoming entrepreneurs, and organisations like T-Hub are sowing the seeds early. They are proving to the ecosystem the potential of starting a business and providing guidance to make it a success. The State government appreciates T-Hub for creating a vibrant innovation ecosystem."

The startup innovation team, through its flagship program Lab32's corporate innovation program has impacted MNCs from across the world, like Raytheon Technologies, Boeing, and Oppo among others.

WE-Hub startup raises Rs 2 crore

IT Minister KT Rama Rao, congratulated WEHub-incubated startup, Smartpharma360 - a cloud-based SAAS startup streamlining the pharmaceutical supply chain - for raising a seed fund of Rs 2 crore.

Launched in 2020, Smartpharma provides subscription-based software solutions. It has raised funding from an undisclosed investor in the Pharmaceutical industry. Smartpharma enables customers to digitise their operations, including online billing, inventory management, product tracking, accounting and others.

In six years, Hyderabad has transformed into new tech hub of country: KT Rama Rao

Hyderabad 05th November 2020

Telangana has attracted several global investors in a short span and the trend of developing more homegrown, sustainable and disruptive technologies will get stronger, said IT and Industries Minister KT Rama Rao

Rama Rao, who inaugurated Knight Frank India's office at Dallas Centre in Knowledge City, said, "Telangana, with its immense investment potential, has attracted several global investors in a short period and will continue to do so. In the last six years, Hyderabad has transformed into the new tech hub of India." The Minister pointed out that the IT sector's functionality has transitioned from 'back-end operations' to 'primary production and product development services'. He also explained how the infrastructure development in the city has helped in furthering the IT sector's progress.

"The Mass Rapid Transit System provides robust connectivity in Hyderabad. The city's Metro rail project has a distinction of being the world's largest Metro project in the public-private partnership model," he said. Congratulating the property consultant firm's team for its new office, he said: "As we continue to move ahead with developments and a new business model, the State's principle and philosophy remain the same. I express my gratitude to Knight Frank India's team for putting out this insightful report, which will be informative for domestic and international investors."

Meanwhile, Shishir Baijal, chairman and managing director, Knight Frank India, said Hyderabad has emerged as an important business hub. "Our new office here will provide various real estate investments for investors looking to tap opportunities," he said.

CCI chief assures Agriculture Minister of buying all cotton produce, MSP for ryots

Hyderabad : 04th November 2020

Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) Chairman Pradeep Kumar Agarwal assured Agriculture Minister Singireddy Niranjan Reddy that the CCI would purchase the entire cotton produced in Telangana by paying Minimum Support Price (MSP) of `5,825 per quintal. The CCI Chairman gave the assurance when the Minister met him in Mumbai during his four-day visit to Maharashtra. During the meeting, Niranjan Reddy requested the CCI Chairman to relax the norms, especially regarding the moisture content, while purchasing the cotton.

Considering that recent heavy rains have resulted in increase in moisture content, the Minister requested the CCI to also purchase cotton with more than 12 per cent moisture content. "In 2019-20, out of 49.56 lakh bales of cotton stored in godowns across the State, the CCI lifted only 9.28 lakh bales. Cotton needs to be removed from these godowns to create enough space to store new cotton stocks purchased this year," the Minister said.

Cotton research centre

Stating that Telangana accounted for 40 per cent of total cotton purchased by the CCI last year, the Minister requested the CCI Chairman to set up a cotton research centre in Adilabad and also to bring all activities of the cotton crop under the Ministry of Textiles. Later, Niranjan Reddy called on National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development Chairman Govinda Rajulu Chintala and discussed various issues related to the State.

KT Rama Rao aspires to make State major Life Sciences cluster

Hyderabad : 04th November 2020

The State aims to become one of the top Life Sciences clusters in Asia and a leading one in the world by 2030, IT and Industries Minister KT Rama Rao said. A report 'Telangana Life Sciences: Vision 2030' was released by the State government-formed Life Sciences Advisory Committee which was established to brainstorm on ideas and identify opportunities for the State in this sector.

Rama Rao said, "Our vision is to become one of the top Life Sciences clusters in Asia and a leading cluster in the world by 2030. The report prepared by the Life Sciences Committee will give us strategic direction in achieving this vision."

Satish Reddy, the chairman of the Life Sciences Advisory Committee of the State government said that the committee will be working closely with the State government to achieve its vision. “The State of Telangana has the advantage of skilled manpower, strong technical capabilities and a high-quality infrastructure with a proactive government which will give it the thrust in realising the vision.”

The report said that the current growth rate of Telangana’s Life Sciences industry, was maintained till 2030, it can lead to a 3x increase in current size. However, to realize the vision of \$50 billion in cluster revenue, the sector would need to boost its current growth level of around 12 pc/annum to an average of 15 pc/annum.

The report also said that Telangana has to make its mark as a innovation hub besides being a life sciences manufacturing hub. It cited the example of China who released 19 Class 1.1 new drugs in the domestic market. “Likewise, Telangana could look at attracting not just manufacturing facilities, but also the R&D wings of leading pharmaceutical, bio-pharmaceutical and medical devices companies. The sector could also aim to realise the commercialisation of at least one billion-dollar molecule or drug internationally to showcase the State’s innovative prowess.”

Life Sciences contribute heavily to TS’ economy

Hyderabad: 04th November 2020

Telangana’s Life Sciences sector played a key role in increasing its Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) from \$88.2 bn in 2016 to \$136.28 bn in 2020, said the newly-released Telangana Life Sciences: Vision 2030 report. The sector contributed around \$13 billion dollars to the State’s GSDP in 2020. Its share in the \$126-bn GSDP in 2019 was \$11 bn. While in 2018, its contribution was \$9 bn of the total \$117 bn, in 2017, it was \$9 bn of the total \$98 bn.

Apart from that, exports in this sector constitutes 60 per cent of the State’s total merchandise exports, which is the highest. Exports in metal, electrical and allied sectors came second with 12 per cent, the report said. When the figures are looked at nationally, Telangana accounted for \$12.8 bn or nearly 30 per cent of the total revenue generated in the country in this particular sector in 2020. “Even under an export lens, Telangana is amongst the biggest contributors to pharma exports from India,” the report said.

Mammoth share

While the Life Sciences sector contributed around \$13 billion dollars to the State’s GSDP in 2020, its share in the \$126-bn GSDP in 2019 was \$11 bn

Centre praises Telangana for supplying potable water to 98.4% households

Hyderabad : 04th November 2020

Union Minister for Jal Shakti Gajendra Singh Shekhawat heaped praises on the State government for providing safe and piped drinking water to 98.4 per cent households. Telangana topped among all the big States in the country in providing safe drinking water, the Gajendra Singh said and appreciated the government for completing the project in a mission mode within four years. Gujarat stood in the second place by providing water to 80.59 per cent of the total households.

The Union Minister held a virtual conference with Ministers and officers of all the States to review the implementation of Jal Jeevan Mission in rural areas. The Centre’s aim is to provide safe drinking water to 19 crore households by 2024. Gajendra Singh said that Goa had already achieved the target of providing tap water connections to all rural households. He added that Telangana, Puducherry, Gujarat, Haryana and Himachal Pradesh were among the States that had shown a good pace in implementation of the mission.

Participating in the meeting along with chief engineers, the Mission Bhagiratha consultant M Narsing Rao participated in the meeting. However, Narsing Rao claimed that Telangana had achieved 100 per cent target and stood number one among all the States.

He said that all the 54.38 lakh rural households have tap connections. But, the data of beneficiaries and Aadhar cards have been uploaded for only 53.51 lakh households on the Central government's Integrated Management Information System (IMIS) portal. Thus, the Centre thought that TS had achieved 98.4 per cent target. He said that the total households in Goa were just 2.63 lakh. Gujarat was implementing the programme for the last 15 years, but the TS has completed the project within four years under Mission Bhagiratha, Narsing Rao added.

Telangana continues to be India's pillar of strength: KT Rama Rao

Hyderabad : 02nd November 2020

In an apparent reply to the BJP's claim that the Centre has been coming to the aid of the State in all aspects, TRS working president and IT and Industries Minister KT Rama Rao said that it has, in fact, been the other way round. In a tweet, the TRS leader said that since the formation of Telangana in 2014, its contribution to the nation's exchequer so far was a whopping `272,926 crore, whereas what it has received from the Centre was a mere `140,329 crore. "Telangana continues to be a pillar of strength for India," he said.

Rama Rao's statement assumes political significance in the wake of Chief Minister K Chandrasekhar Rao's assertion that he was ready to lay down office if the BJP leaders could prove that the Centre was bearing the lion's share of Aasara pensions doled out by the State government to 38.64 lakh people every month at the rate of `2,016 each. The Chief Minister made the comment ahead of the Dubbaka byelection slated for November 3.

The TRS working president claimed that the growth in GSDP and per capita income was achieved with investments in key infra sectors and increased capital expenditure. At the same time, fiscal prudence was balanced. He said that Telangana was among the top five States with low debt-GSDP ratio. The Minister added that Telangana's growth has been inclusive and has focused on agriculture, industry and service sectors to improve per capita income. "While the growth of per capita income of our country between 2014 and 2020 was at 54.9 per cent, that of Telangana is a whopping 83.9 per cent," he said. He maintained that Telangana has consistently been achieving much higher GDP growth rate than the country's average growth rate for the past six years. Able leadership, progressive policies and an ear to the ground policy had enabled the State to thrive, Rama Rao said.

TSRTC and APSRTC sign MoU

Hyderabad: 1st Nov 2020

In a move to resume bus operations between Telangana and Andhra Pradesh, the road transport corporations of the two States will sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). TSRTC Managing Director, Sunil Sharma, APSRTC Managing Director, Krishna Babu, and Executive Directors of both the corporations are to sign the MoU in the presence of Telangana Transport Minister, Puvvada Ajay Kumar.

The inter-state bus services between the two States have remained suspended since lockdown on March 22. Though TSRTC resumed inter-district services in May following relaxations, it hasn't commenced inter-state services following a dispute between two corporations on equal number of operations.

APSRTC used to operate buses in 2.5 lakh route km in Telangana while TSRTC used to run buses in 1.5 lakh route km in Andhra Pradesh. This prompted TSRTC to bring down APSRTC route km in Telangana as it dents the corporation revenue. In the past, meetings were conducted several times on the issue but no decision was taken to operate equal number of buses in both the States.

Minister Errabelli formally launches cotton procurement in Warangal

Warangal: 29th Oct 2020

Minister for Panchayat Raj and Rural Development Errabelli Dayakar Rao has formally launched the cotton purchasing at the Enumamula agriculture market yard. Speaking on the occasion, he said, "Cotton procurement centers were set up at 22 notified ginning mills in the combined Warangal and the Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) has begun the procurement today," and added that the cotton was grown in an area of 7,58,560 acres in the combined Warangal district and they were expecting 6,25,285 metric tonnes (MT) of cotton arrivals.



Stating that cotton is grown in an area of 82,842 acres in Warangal Urban district with a yield of 79,114 metric tons of cotton, the Minister said that the CCI had raised procurement centres in the Urban district from 18 to 28 this year. He said that there are a total of 30 ginning mills in Warangal. "Besides cotton, grain, turmeric, chilli and green gram will also be purchased at the Enumamula market that has a storage capacity of 19 lakh metric tonnes," he said and added that there were 24 cold storages with a storage capacity of 24,45,000 bags under Warangal market limits. He further said that the farmers had already stocked 22,37,765 bags of farm produce in the cold storages this year. He also urged the farmers to bring cotton adhering to the norms of the CCI standards, and added that the moisture content of the cotton should be below 12 percent.

Reiterating that the government is committed to buy the last bag from the farmers, the Minister directed the authorities to work in coordination to make the process hassle free. Wardhannapet MLA A Ramesh, Mayor Gunda Prakash Rao, Market Committee Chairman Chintha Sadanandam, District Collector Rajeev Gandhi Hanumanthu, representatives from the CCI, market officials and farmers participated

India's trade deficit in October narrows to \$8.78 bn, exports fall 5%

Hyderabad: 03 Nov 2020

India's exports in October fell 5.4% to \$24.82 billion, as compared to \$26.23 billion in October 2019, according to the government data. Exports during April-October 2020-21 were \$150.07 billion, exhibiting a decline of 19.05% over the same period last year, it added. Additionally, imports in October declined 11.56% to \$33.6 billion, as compared to \$37.99 billion in October 2019. Merchandise imports during April-October 2020-21 were \$182.29 billion, as compared to \$286.07 billion during the same period last year, exhibiting a negative growth of 36.28%, government stated.

Consequently, India's trade deficit for the month of October narrowed to \$8.78 billion, as compared to trade deficit of \$11.76 billion, an improvement by 25.34%. The value of non-petroleum exports was \$23.21 billion, registering a positive growth of 1.84% over October 2019. Non-petroleum and non-gems and jewellery exports stood \$20.28 billion, as compared to \$19.07 billion in the corresponding month, registering a positive growth of 6.34%.

The cumulative value of non-petroleum and non-gems and jewellery exports in April-October 2020-21 was

\$124.79 billion, as compared to \$137.72 billion for the corresponding period in 2019-20, exhibiting a decrease of 9.39%. Oil imports were \$5.98 billion, as compared to \$9.73 billion in October 2019, a decline by 38.52%. Oil imports in April-October 2020-21 were \$37.84 billion, as compared to \$74.93 billion, showing a decline of 49.5%.

Non-oil imports in October 2020 were estimated at \$27.62 billion, as compared to \$28.26 billion in October 2019, showing a decline of 2.26%. Non-oil imports in April-October 2020-21 were \$144.45 billion, as compared to \$211.14 billion, registering a decline of 31.59% during the same period of the last year.

Gold imports were \$22.83 billion, recording a negative growth of 8.31%, as compared to non-oil and non-gold imports of \$24.9 billion in October 2019. Non-oil and non-gold imports were \$126.97 billion in April-October 2020-21, recording a negative growth of 29.28%, as compared to non-oil and non-gold imports of \$179.55 billion in April-October 2019-20. Since March, the exports were recording negative growth due to COVID-19 pandemic and sluggish global demand. However, in September, exports rose for the first time in seven months with merchandise exports registering a 6% growth—higher than 5.3%, driven mostly by an increase in demand for engineering goods, petroleum products, pharmaceuticals and readymade garments. Exports rose to \$27.6 billion, while imports contracted 19.6% to \$30.3 billion, resulting in a trade deficit of \$2.7 billion, according to data released by the commerce ministry.

What India should do as China's economy shifts

New Delhi: 02 Nov 2020

Beijing's five-year plan outlines a big push for a hi-tech economy to go with an inward turn for value generation. India must grab all opportunities that arise and invest in the long haul. In February, electric carmaker Tesla's chief Elon Musk forecast that China's economy would eventually be two-three times America's. He also issued a clarion call for innovation to act as a hedge against its rise. Whizzy products and services in hot new spheres of technology, as it happens, is exactly what Beijing also wants acting as the propulsive force of its economic growth over the next half-decade.

This was laid down last week by a plenary session of the Chinese Communist Party's top leaders that okayed its 14th Five-Year Plan for development over 2021-25, complete with goals outlined till 2035. China, accordingly, aims to transform its economy by boosting domestic demand and reducing reliance on exports, while it seeks to ascend the value chain of tech sophistication and attain self-sufficiency in intellectual property for the same. To make this happen, it plans to re-gear its mechanisms for resource allocation in line with a strategy of "dual circulation", which would push internal cycles of production and consumption and ease off on global engagement. We must watch how it plays out.

Missing from the Plan's outline were specific growth targets. However, as the Chinese economy grew by an estimated 5% in the third quarter of 2020, even as most others reeled under covid-19, those will likely be set quite aggressively. Having expanded its output from \$2.3 trillion in 2005 to \$14.3 trillion last year, China hopes to become a "moderately" developed country by 2035, which would suggest a per capita income of over \$30,000, thrice its current level. At this rate, China could topple America as the world's top economy within a decade. Beijing's inward shift, which was first initiated in the wake of de-globalization after the Great Recession of 2009 and lent urgency by its trade run-ins with the US, could succeed on the back of its middle class, placed at 400 million now. The US has tried to choke its access to Western knowhow and tech inputs such as semiconductor chips, which are used in mobile phones, artificial intelligence, next-generation telecom, self-driven vehicles and much else. Though China's chip industry is just a fledgling, few doubt that it can reverse engineer what it needs, maybe even improve upon it. In some areas, such as 5G telecom equipment and big lithium batteries, it is already seen to have stolen ahead of the West. What analysts remain sceptical of, though, is its ability to invent stuff the world craves.

Given their commercial ties and entwined interests, China and the West are unlikely to decouple beyond a point, but the shifts underway will throw up opportunities that India must grab. Appropriate

reforms to attract global value chains are just one aspect of what we must do. As China's emergence pushes up wage bills and other costs that blunt its international edge, we could move into export markets it gets priced out of. But even as we engage the world to become its next factory, we must make a thrust to turn India globally competitive in businesses of the future. For a long-term advantage in novel fields, we must invest in broadening our base of education, keep our markets open, and encourage research. The state could play the role of an enabler. If we are to achieve the dream of an inventive economy, we must make the most of our democratic ideals, restrain statist impulses that could stifle diversity of thought, and foster a truly bustling market for ideas, per se. It's on this wondrous resource that eventual success might yet turn.

TRS is in the forefront in solving people's problems: KT Rama Rao

Hyderabad: 2nd Nov 2020

TRS Working President KT Rama Rao has said that development is the only agenda for TRS while BJP and Congress have 2800 agendas for 28 States of the country. Addressing a meeting at the party headquarters here on the occasion of several leaders led by BJP spokesperson Ravula Sridhar Reddy joining the party, he said that people of the States have been blessing TRS despite the misleading propaganda unleashed by BJP and Congress parties.

"In every election they campaign as if TRS is on the verge of losing elections. But each time the voters have elected TRS. The BJP in particular excel in campaigns but fail at the grassroots level. If you ask us what TRS has done for the State in the past six years, we are ready to give every detail of it," he said.

He pointed out that the State has contributed Rs 2.72 lakh crore to centre while it has received only Rs 1.29 lakh crore. "While we can keep on giving details like this, when you ask BJP what they have done for the State there is a big silence," he said. He said that the country's GDP has fallen below that of Sri Lanka and Bangladesh.

"BJP promised that it would deposit Rs 15 lakh in each poor man's account by bringing black money

stashed in Swiss banks. Instead they brought black laws that divide the country. All sections of people in the country are opposing BJP," he said adding that the saffron party is trying to create communal divide in the State. He reminded that secularism is in the soil of Telangana.

He said that there is no place whatsoever ever in Telangana for communal agenda. He said that efforts are being made to tarnish the image of Telangana only for the sake of political advantage.

150 mobile fish outlets coming up in Hyderabad

Hyderabad: 1st Nov 2020

Animal Husbandry Minister T Srinivas Yadav said the State government is planning to introduce 150 mobile fish outlets, one each in the 150 divisions of GHMC, soon. Each mobile outlet will cost about Rs 10 lakh, of which Rs 6 lakh will be offered as subsidy by the State government and the balance has to be borne by the beneficiary. The outlet will be operated by women self-help groups consisting three to five women from different families. In case there is more than one application from a particular division, the allotment would be made through a draw of lots, he said.

These outlets will help the operators offer live fish during the morning hours and use the same to offer different varieties of fish curries to fish lovers. The last date for submitting applications is November 10 and the draw of lots for identifying the beneficiaries will be conducted on November 16 or 17, the Minister said.

The State government is promoting fish production on a large scale and this year, 80 crore fish seedlings are to be released in all the water tanks and reservoirs across the State. With the release of 80 crore fish seedlings, the fisheries department is expecting the fish production to be about 3.40 lakh tonnes, Yadav added.

Focus on 3Ds must: KTR

Hyderabad : 30th Oct 2020

Unveiling the Electric Vehicles Policy on , Industries and IT Minister K T Rama Rao stressed the need to focus on decarbonisation, digitisation and decentralisation of Indian cities as they are the epicentre of economic

activity. Stating that Hyderabad contributes 50 per cent to the GSDP, he said, it is important to ensure that the economic vitality of our cities remains intact in order to become a \$5 trillion economy.

Telangana is one of the most urbanised States in India with 43-44 per cent of the population living in urban regions, he said and stressed on constant urbanisation, sustainable mobility and energy. "In 5-7 years, majority of people in Telangana would be living in urban areas. While one cannot completely contain the urbanisation, we can hope for the sub-urbanisation in a structured and planned way, create more counter magnets, integrated townships and ensure that people move further away and create more economic clusters," he said.

'Infrastructure major challenge in EV sector'

One of the biggest challenges facing the electric vehicle (EV) industry is the availability of right kind of infrastructure – either in terms of charging stations, battery swapping stations or even the availability of components. And these challenges, according to experts, can be overcome if the different stakeholders – both government and industry – work together and come up with a viable solution.

At a panel discussion held post the unveiling of Telangana Electric Vehicle and Energy Storage Policy, experts from the EV industry spoke about the need for a good infrastructure in order to grow the EV sector in the State and provided different solutions to improve this infrastructure. "Battery swapping, mandating electric three-wheelers for public transport and financing options for the e-rickshaw owners are some of the many issues that the State can look at to improve EV adoption. We would be happy to partner with the State to overcome the infrastructure challenges in any way possible," said Sulajja Firodia Motwani, founder and CEO, Kinetic Green Energy.

Agreeing to the issues faced in the EV sector in the State, Telangana Industries Department principal secretary Jayesh Ranjan said that the policy unveiled by the State is well-aligned with the needs of the industry.

Meanwhile, Uber India president Pradeep Parameswaran said that the company is committed to becoming a 100 per cent EV firm by 2040 and is looking to launch its Uber

Green initiative – which is live in many markets in the Europe—in India soon. "In order for ride-hailing companies like ours to survive it is important that infrastructure is available and we are in support of swapping technology and are hoping that the State will look at improving the parking issue at metro stations," he added.

PuREnergy CEO Rohit Vadera spoke about the growing interest and traction in the EV segment in the post-Covid world and anticipates substantial demand coming in for the sector in the next two to three years. Giving details on what is lacking in the EV sector, Maruti Suzuki India executive V-P (Corporate and Government Affairs), Rahul Bharti said that the industry must focus on manufacturing all three components – battery, motor and power electronics – locally. "This will benefit all EV manufacturers and decrease the hurdles," he said.

80 per cent investment proposals operationalised: KTR

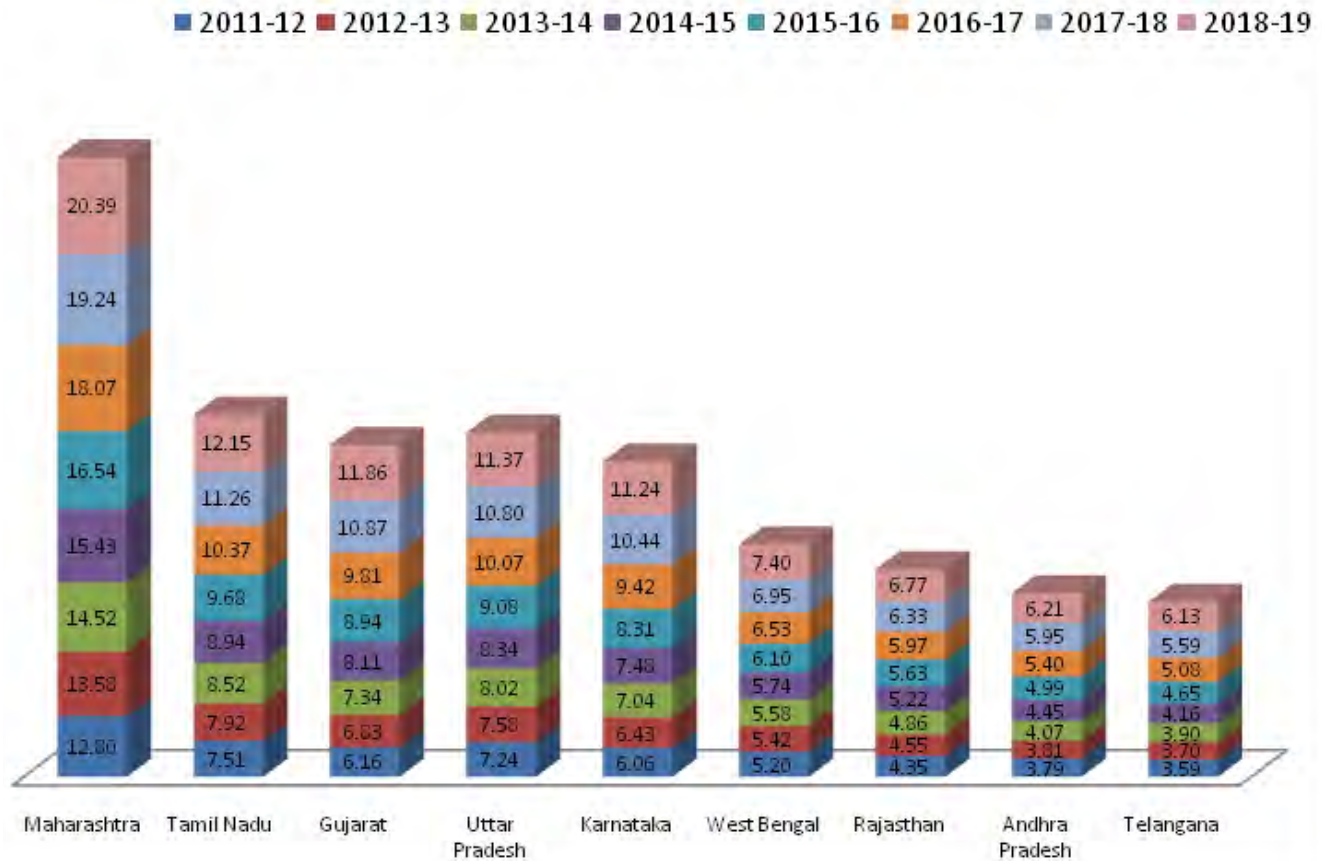
Hyderabad: 28th Oct 2020

IT and Industries Minister KT Rama Rao will make an announcement pertaining to a major investment flow into the State. He hinted that the investment would be bigger than those announced in the recent past. Hyderabad-based pharma company Granules India announced its plans to invest Rs 400 crore to set up a manufacturing facility for finished dosages and create about 1,600 jobs. Similarly, another pharma manufacturing company Laurus Labs also revealed its plans to invest Rs 300 crore to establish a formulation facility in the State.

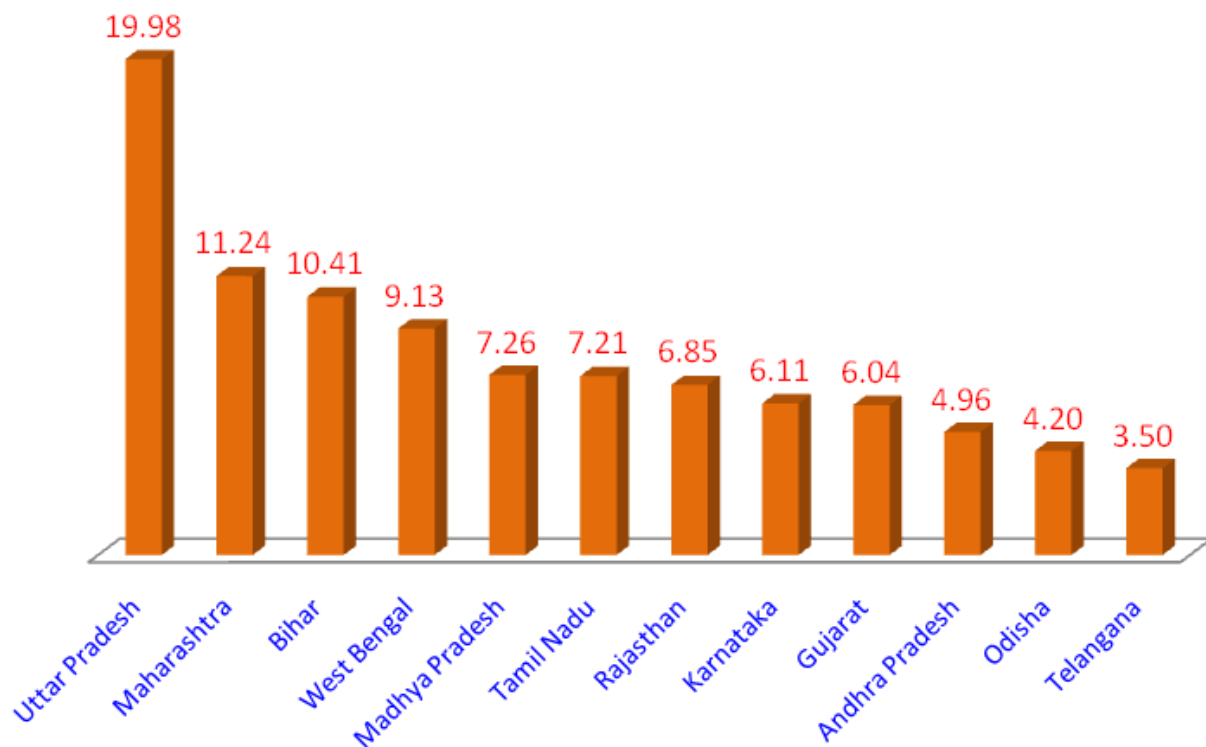
Speaking to media persons here, the Minister said the State government was attracting investments even during the Covid-19 pandemic due to its continuous efforts over a period of time. "Investments do not come overnight. It is a culmination of series of meetings due to collective effort of the entire government," he said.

Rama Rao said about 80 per cent of the investment proposals have been operationalised and the remaining 20 per cent are in various stages of implementation. About 23 per cent of the total investments are from existing units who are expanding their operations. In the past six years, about 13,000 companies came up with proposals to invest around Rs 2 lakh crore.

Indian States' Gross Domestic Product (in Rs lakh crores)

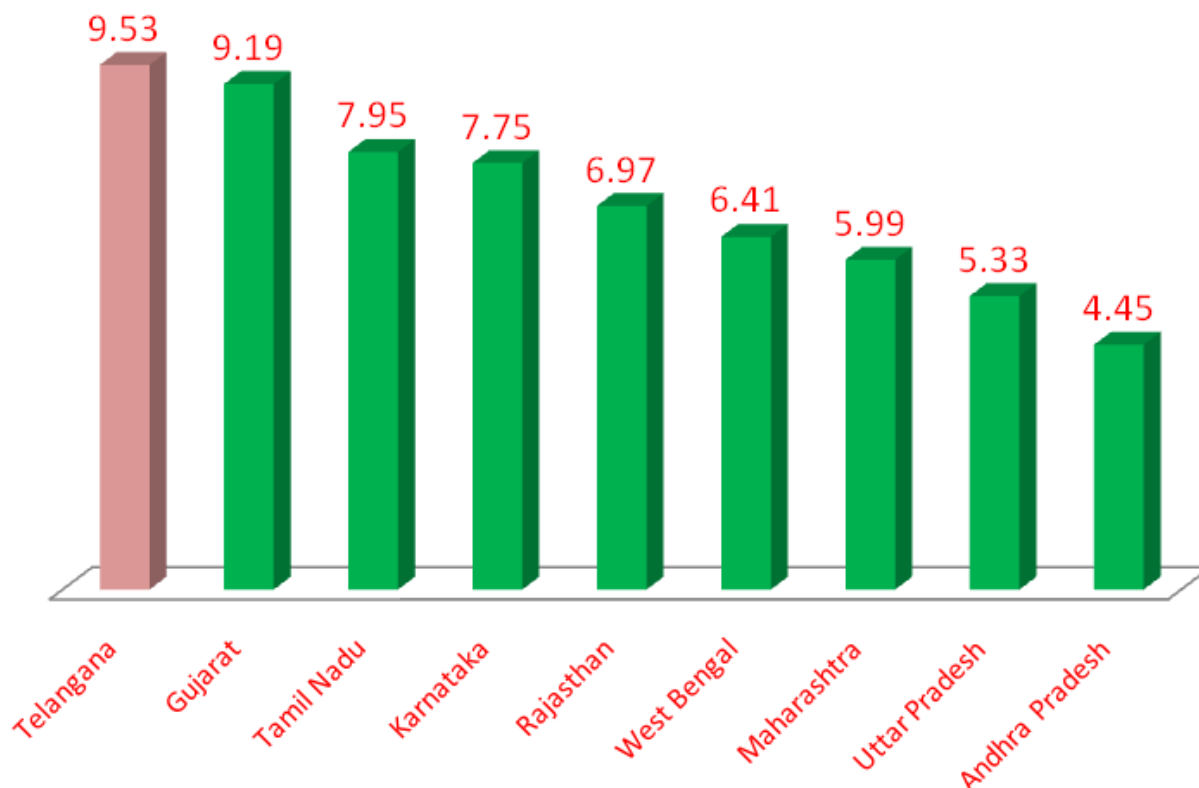


Top Indian States' Population as per 2011 census (crores)



Source: State Finances A Study of Budgets of 2020-21, RBI

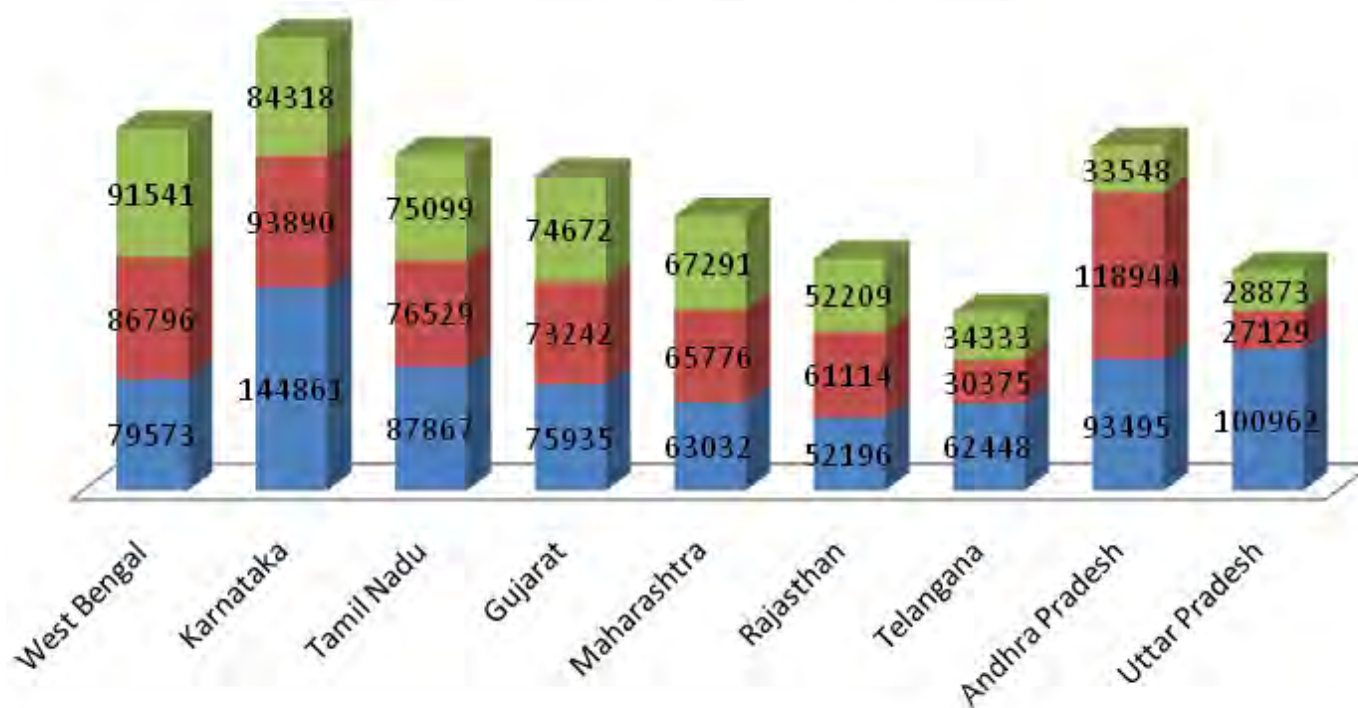
Top States - Economic Growth Rates during 2018-19 (%)



Top States - Per Capita Capital Expenditure

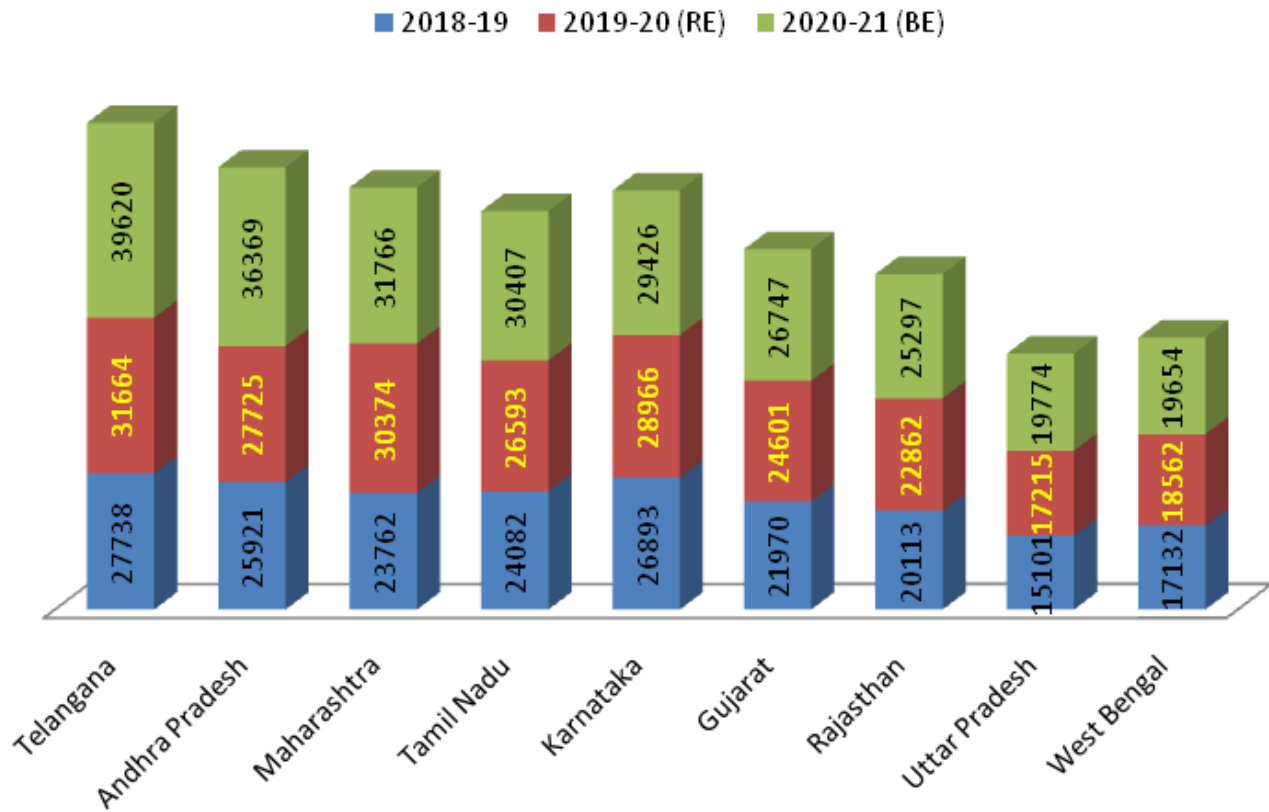
(Total Capital Expenditure / State Population)

■ 2018-19 ■ 2019-20 (RE) ■ 2020-21 (BE)

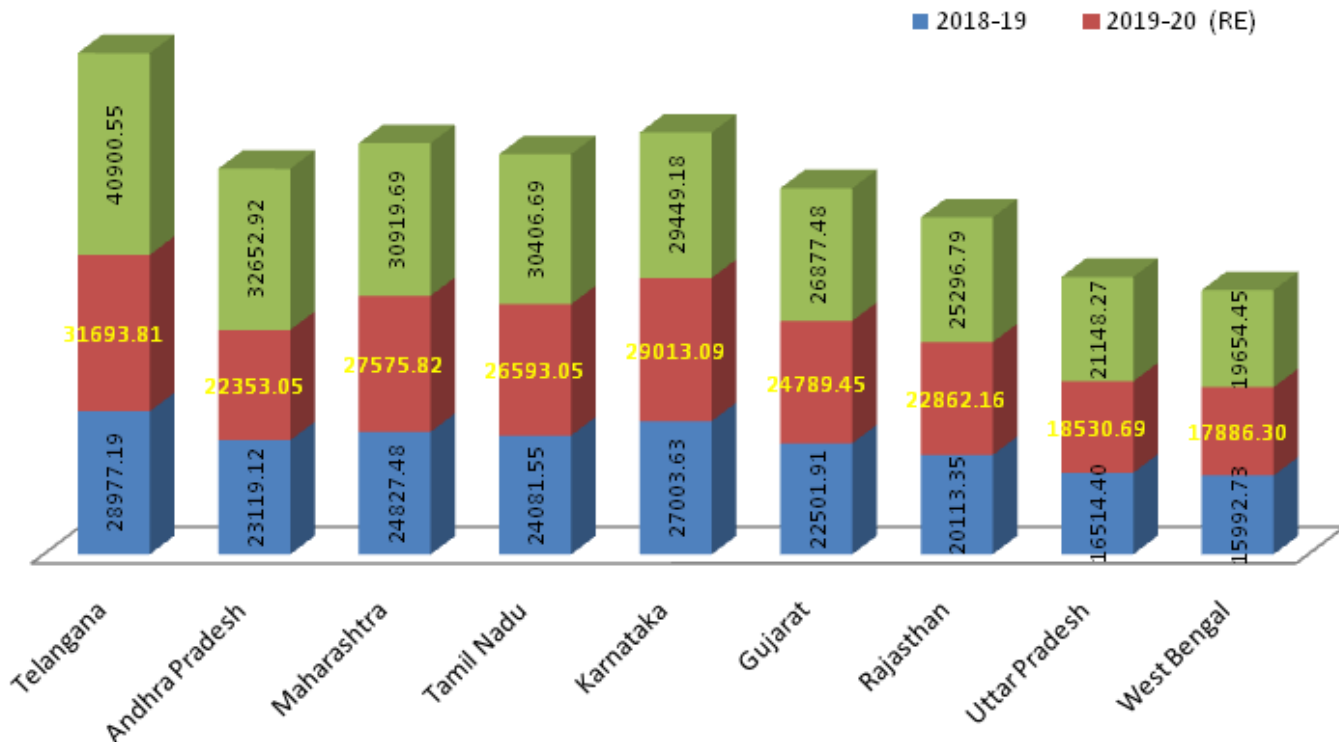


Source: State Finances A Study of Budgets of 2020-21, RBI

Indian top States - Per capita Revenue Expenditure (Rs) (Total Revenue expenditure / State Population)

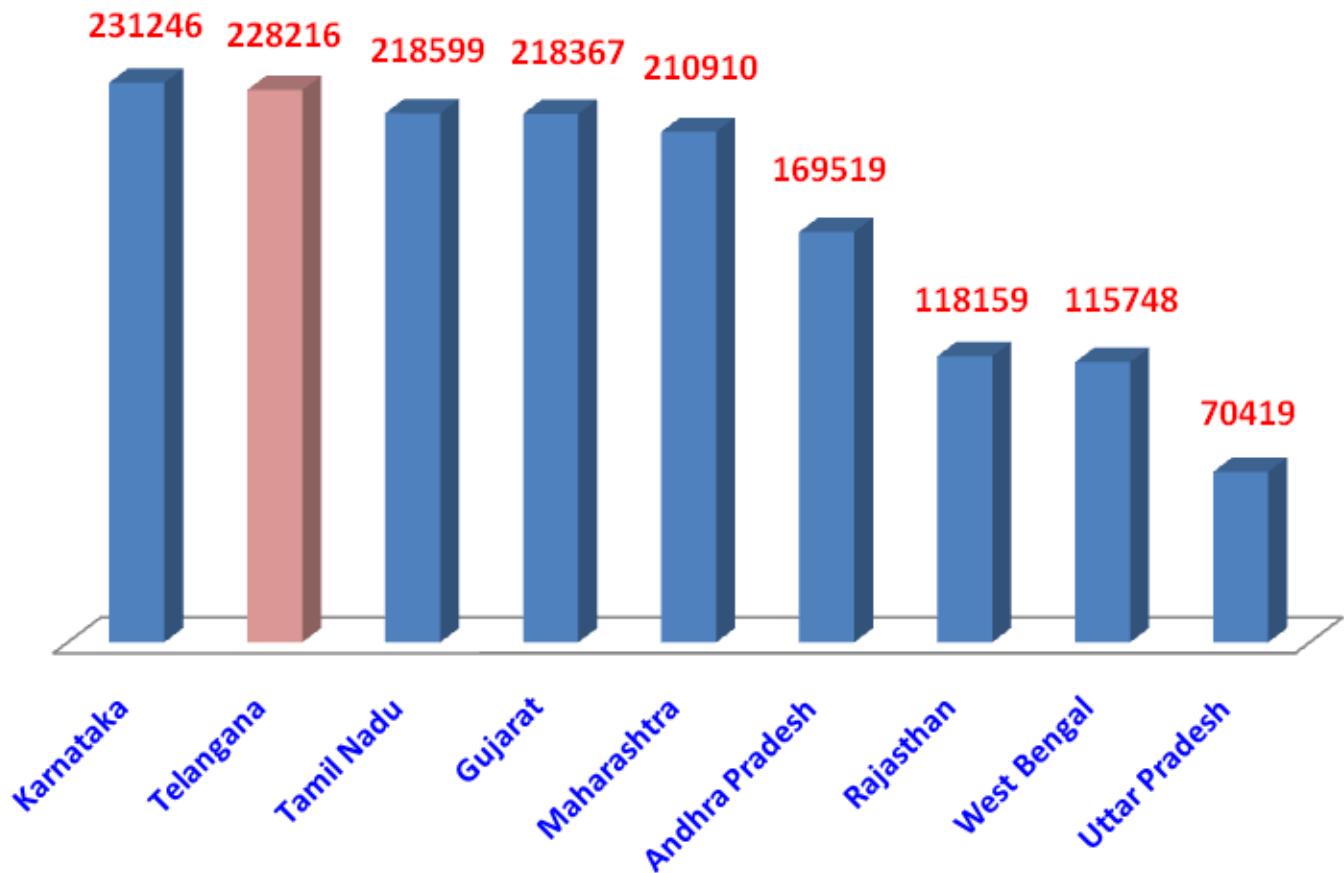


Indian States - Per Capita Revenue Tax in Rs (Total Revenue Tax of the State / State Population)

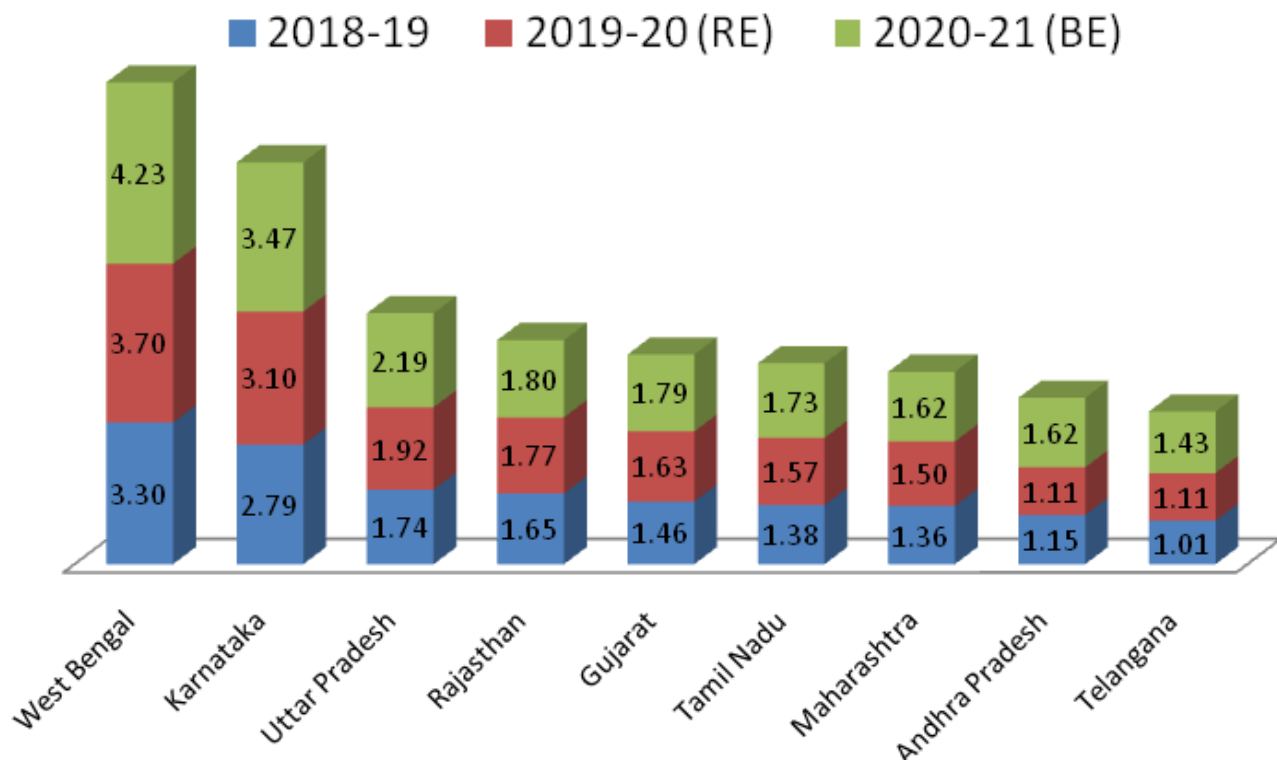


Source: State Finances A Study of Budgets of 2020-21, RBI

Per Capital Net State Domestic Product - 2019-20 (Rs)

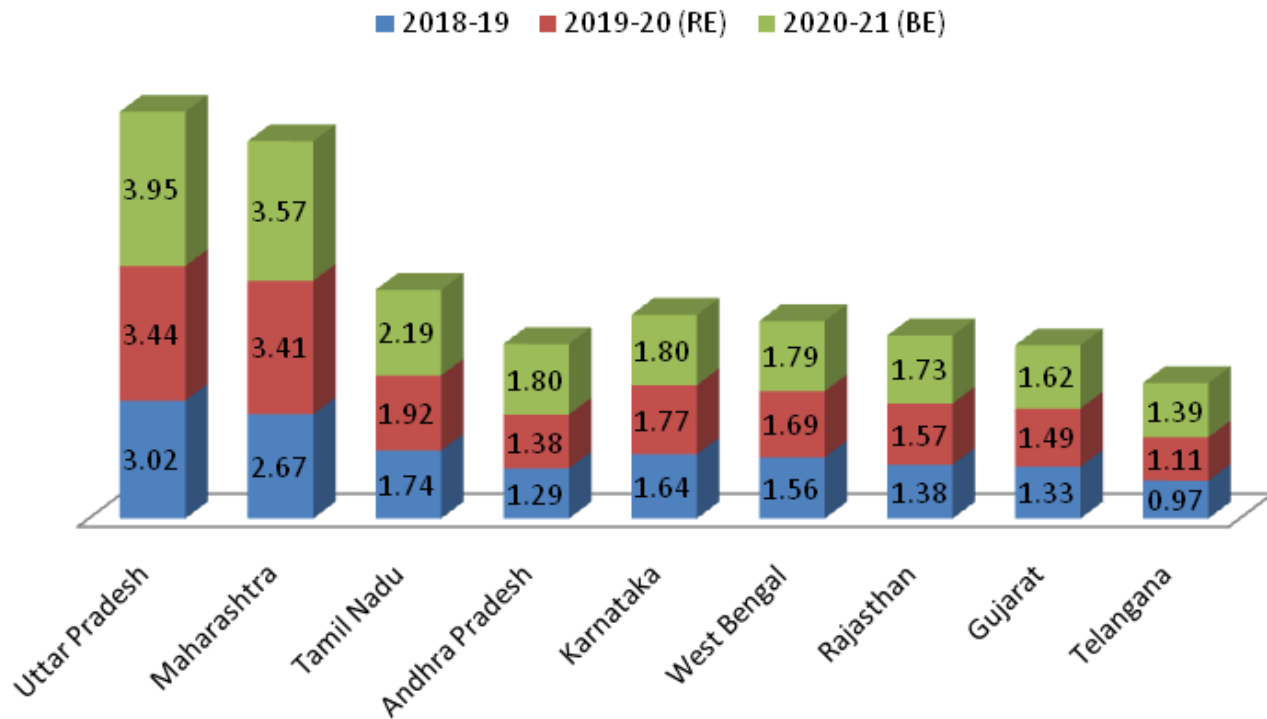


Indian States - Total Tax Revenue (Rs lakh crores)



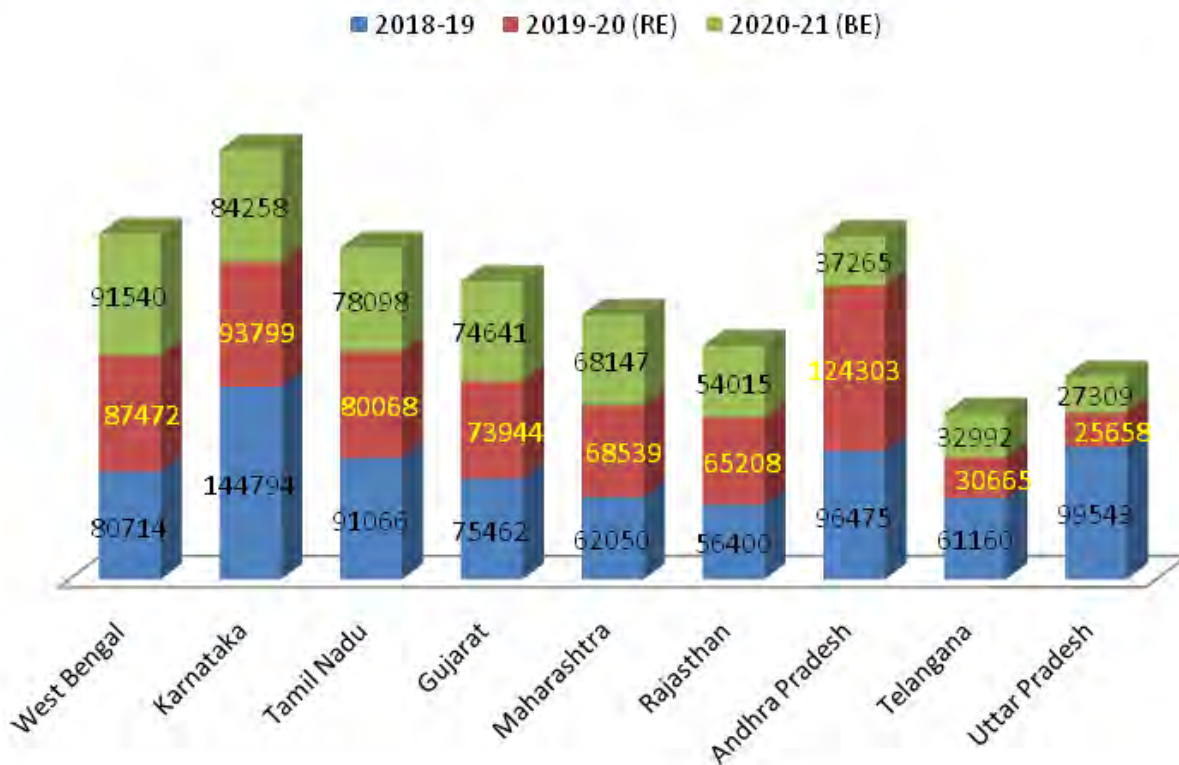
Source: State Finances A Study of Budgets of 2020-21, RBI

Top Indian States - Total Revenue Expenditure (Rs lakh crores)



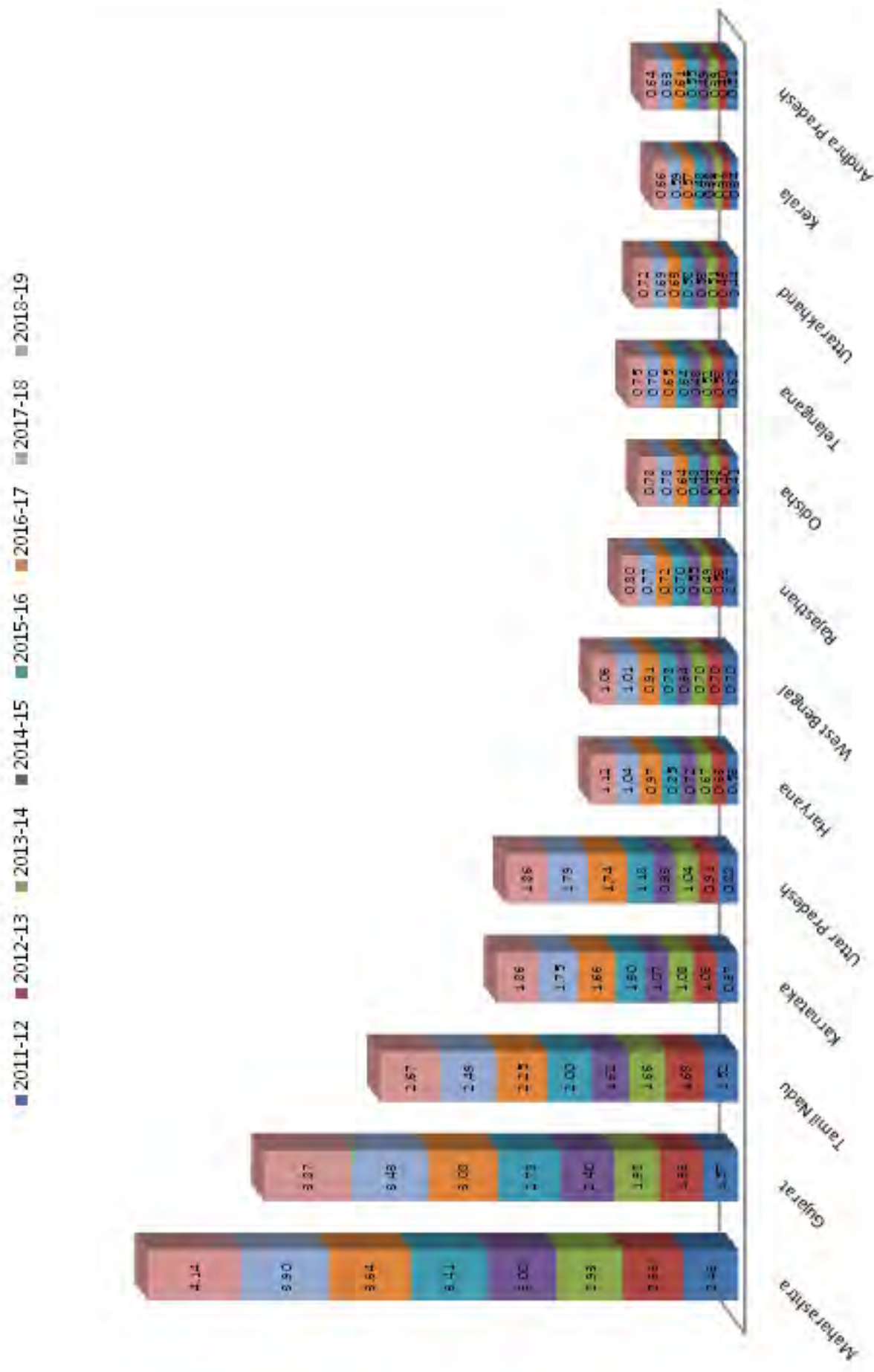
Source: State Finances A Study of Budgets of 2020-21, RBI

Per capita Capital Receipts Total Capital Receipts / State Population



Source: State Finances A Study of Budgets of 2020-21, RBI

Manufacturing GVA of Indian States (in Rs lakh crores)



Source: State Finances A Study of Budgets of 2020-21, RBI

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