

Naidu to unveil vision Vikasitha Andhra Pradesh 2047 on lines of Viksit Bharat on October 2

Hyderabad: Andhra Pradesh chief minister, N Chandrababu Naidu, said that the NDA government in the state has been striving to revive 'Brand AP' and that on the lines of prime minister Narendra Modi's Vision of Viksit Bharat, Vision-2047, to build Vikasitha Andhra Pradesh by 2047, will be taken up. In his independence day speech on Thursday in Vijayawada, Naidu said that Andhra Pradesh, which was in the grip of lawlessness, destruction of institutions, corruption, and land grabbing in the past five years, has regained its freedom with the NDA coming to power in the recent election. While the central government is moving forward with its Viksit Bharat-2047 plan, the state is preparing its Vision-2047 to build Vikasitha Andhra Pradesh by 2047, the Chief Minister observed. The details of Vision 2047 will be brought before the people on October 2, he added. Making it clear that there is no room for political vendetta in the TDP-led National Democratic Alliance (NDA) Government in the state, Naidu, said that his government will make all possible efforts to bring the past glory to the state. World Bank delegation meets Chandrababu Naidu, likely to support Amaravati project. Stating that the state has suffered heavily due to the reverse rule adopted by the previous government rather than the bifurcation of the state, he said the people are now enjoying the fruits of freedom. Naidu asserted that, as promised during the electioneering, his government will certainly meet all the expectations of the people who are feeling vexed by the dark rule of the previous government. The Chief Minister said that the state has gone back by 30 years with the inefficient administration and corrupt regime of the previous government. Land, sand, wine, mine, and the drug mafia ruled the roost during the previous regime, he regretted. "I am confident that the state will get back to its past glory, and we are taking all possible measures to build the brand AP," he stated. Simple government and effective governance are the main mottos of this government, he added. Regretting that the residual Andhra Pradesh did not have even the capital after the state was bifurcated, the Chief Minister said that the Centre has announced a special assistance of Rs 15,000 crore for building Amaravati. The centre has also promised to complete the Pola varam project and special package for north-coastal Andhra and Prakasam, he stated. Declaring that the state government will soon discuss the bifurcation issues with Telangana, Naidu said that all the promises made to the people during electioneering will be implemented in letter and spirit. Maintaining that the inefficient administration of the previous government pushed the state into deep financial distress, Naidu said that per

capita income has fallen to 9.5 per cent from 13.2 percent. Inflation rose beyond imagination. "We are taking all possible measures to achieve a growth rate of 15 per cent in the years to come," he added. Naidu made it clear that the state government is very keen on achieving zero poverty and felt that

poverty could easily be reduced with the cooperation of the people. The Chief Minister appealed to the public to collaborate with the government in achieving a state free of poverty, stating that they are striving to attract investors who previously avoided the state due to the terrorist policies of the previ-



ous government.

Modern judiciary requires an accessible, inclusive infrastructure: CJI Chandrachud



New Delhi [India] : Chief Justice of India (CJI) DY Chandrachud on Thursday said that a modern judiciary requires an accessible and inclusive infrastructure. Speaking at the event organized by the Supreme Court Bar Association (SCBA) to mark India's 78th Independence Day celebration, CJI Chandrachud emphasized that such infrastructure not only facilitates the ease with which lawyers navigate the Court but also fosters their sense of responsibility towards the judiciary. CJI Chandrachud, who hoisted the national flag on the Supreme Court lawns, was the Chief Guest at the event. Union Minister of State (I/C) for Law and Justice Arjun Ram Meghwal attended as the Guest of Honour, alongside SCBA President and Senior Advocate Kapil Sibal. "When I emphasize the need for such changes, I keep two constituents at the forefront – the citizens and the Bar. A modern judiciary requires an accessible and inclusive infrastructure. The ease of lawyers to navigate the Court not only allows them to assist the Court with ease and efficiency but also for them to feel a sense of responsibility towards the institution of the judiciary as its custodian," CJI said. Speaking about the infrastructural initiative taken in the last six months in the Supreme Court Chandrachud said,

"In the last six months, we have taken many infrastructural initiatives. The Supreme Court has extended fibre optics internet to lawyers' block, created consultation rooms in the east wing of the main building, constructed cubicles for lawyers who are wait-listed for chamber allotments, set up a multi-facilitation centre and renovated the office of the SCBA." "We have also created a new lounge for women members of the Bar. The establishment of a women-only space inside the Court premises will enhance the ability of woman lawyers to assist the Court and seek guidance from their seniors," CJI added. CJI said that a new accessibility help desk has been set up at the Supreme Court to make court truly a 'Court for All'. "A new accessibility help desk has also been set up to make our court truly a 'Court for All'. The help desk would enhance the accessibility of persons with disability, women and senior citizens when approaching the Supreme Court," CJI said. CJI also explained the upcoming initiatives taken by the top court which includes building bigger creches for childcare in block E of the additional building and said that this facility will alleviate the problems that many parents, especially women, have to incur while navigating their professional life with parenthood. "The Court will also see the construction of the advocates' wellness centre, upgradation of existing facilities and the air conditioning of the corridors lining Court Rooms 1 to 5 as well as block D of the Administrative building complex," CJI pointed out. CJI acknowledged the involvement and participation of all stakeholders and said that no task is ac-

complished without their involvement. He also said that the Supreme Court registry works tirelessly to bring the cases of the litigants before the Court. He also highlighted the second edition of the Hackathon, which seeks suggestions to improve the registry's functioning. "We have recently announced the second edition of the Hackathon which invites suggestions to improve the working of the registry. After a successful hackathon last year, in which we received valuable suggestions from members of the Bar, we are now looking for suggestions to explore solutions in Artificial Intelligence-based technology for improving and streamlining the functioning of the registry. I encourage all of you to participate in this and help us make work better for you and the litigants," CJI said. The CJI praised the Bar's role in shaping significant constitutional and legal developments in India, saying, "The Bar has been responsible for the direction of many important constitutional and legal developments in our country which have furthered the aspirations of our freedom fighters. The legal community has been instrumental in rooting the Constitution on a firm basic structure, ushering in substantive due process, protecting the dignity of women, gender minorities, LGBTQ+ people and other marginalized communities. This festive journey of democracy and independence required your active and moral participation," CJI said. CJI stated that on Independence Day, we honour our commitment to realising the dreams of those who sacrificed their lives for the country and those who worked to make it even better.

Mumbai-Ahmedabad Bullet Train: 21 km long tunnel in Arabian Sea

After proving its engineering prowess in the world by building the largest railway arch bridge on Chenab river, India is now ready to build a tunnel for high speed trains under the Arabian Sea. For this, the work of digging the tunnel with a boring machine will start soon. The most important task for the bullet train corridor being built between Mumbai and Ahmedabad is to build a tunnel under the Arabian Sea in Mumbai. This 21 km long tunnel is being built from Maharashtra Bandra-Kurla Complex to Shilphata. A 7 km long tunnel will be built under the sea in Thane Creek (intertidal zone). The depth of the tunnel will be 25 to 65 meters from the ground. Challenges like complex geographical layers and digging under ecologically sensitive water have come up in the construction of this tunnel. This tunnel being built under the sea is different from the tunnel of metro trains. For metro trains, TBMs with cutter heads of 5-6 meters diameter are used for tunnel construc-



tion, whereas here, TBMs with cutter heads of 13.1 meters diameter will be used. Three TBMs will be used for digging in 16 kilometers. The remaining 5 kilometers will be excavated using New Austrian Tunneling Method (NATM). After the construction of this tunnel, the bullet train will run at its full capacity i.e. at a speed of 320 kilometers per hour. This tunnel being built under the sea will be a single tube tunnel. Two tracks will be laid in it for the bullet train to come and go.

Excavation at three places

Excavation is being done in

Ghansoli, Shilphata and Vikhroli for building the tunnel. The first TBM in Ghansoli will start digging towards Thane Creek at a depth of 39 meters in the next few months.

Tunnel under water near Kolkata and Mumbai Metro

Till now, Kolkata Metro has an underwater train tunnel in the Hooghly River. Then there is Mumbai Metro Rail Corporation's Line 3, which goes under the Mithi River, connecting Bandra Kurla Complex and Dharavi stations.

Saved Flamingo Sanctuary and Mangrove Forest

The main reason for taking the project underground is to save the protected Flamingo Sanctuary and Mangrove Forest in Thane Creek. It also helped avoid the challenge of land acquisition in a space-scarce city like Mumbai. NHARCL claims to have carried out multiple controlled blasting with adequate noise and air pollution prevention measures for the excavation.

Kolkata top cop faces heat for rape-murder probe, BJP's 'botched up' charge

Kolkata's Commissioner of Police Vineet Goyal is facing mounting criticism over the police's probe into the rape and murder of a 31-year-old trainee doctor at the city's RG Kar Medical College and Hospital. Even as the police claimed they did everything that was expected of them, the Calcutta High Court transferred the probe to the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), citing no significant progress in the police investigation. Now, the opposition BJP has also raised fingers at the Kolkata Police and Commissioner Goyal, calling the investigation "botched up" and pointing at his alleged involvement in the probe of a similar case in the past. Senior BJP leader Suvendu Adhikari said, "No Mr Commissioner, Vineet Goyal, you and your police force are not the target of any 'malicious media campaign'. You have drawn the ire of the people and criticism of the media because of your own deeds." "You lost the trust of public because of your attempts to botch up the investigation, not because of any media campaign," he added. Adhikari was responding to Vineet Goyal's statement after a mob vandalised the RG Kar hospital, where he blamed a "malicious campaign" on social media against the police. "What has happened here is because of the wrong media campaign, which has been malicious... What has the Kolkata Police not done? It has done everything in this case... We have tried to satisfy the family but the rumours are being floated... I am extremely angry. We have not done anything wrong," the Commissioner said. "Because of a malicious media campaign, Kolkata police have lost the trust of the people. We have never said that there is only one person (accused), we have said that we are waiting for scientific evidence and it takes time... Just based on rumours, I can't arrest a young PG student, it's against my conscience. There is so much pressure from the media, I have been very clear that we have done what is right. Now, the CBI is investigating it. They'll do a fair deal. We will give all support to the CBI," he added. BJP IT cell chief Amit Malviya also tried to corner the Commissioner by referring to his alleged involvement in the probe of a 2013 gangrape case. "Meet Vineet Kumar Goyal, Commissioner of Kolkata Police. He, as Inspector General of CID, was the investigating officer in the much publicised Kamduni rape and murder case, which he botched up completely. Similar modus-operandi, of inflicting scratch marks on the victim's body, as seen in the Kamduni case, were followed in RG Kar case too," Malviya said. Malviya was referring to the gangrape and murder of a 20-year-old woman in Barasat's Kamduni village in 2013. To back up his claim, Malviya shared a video from a hearing at Calcutta High Court over the petitions filed in the trainee doctor's rape and murder case. In the video, one of the counsels of the petitioners, who were demanding a CBI probe into the case, questions Vineet Goyal's role into the case, giving reference of his involvement in a similar case in the past. On August 12, Mamata Banerjee gave a stern warning to the Kolkata Police that the CBI



would be handed the case if the cops are unable to crack the matter by Sunday, August 18. However, on August 13, the Calcutta High Court transferred the probe to the CBI after the victim's parents pleaded for an inde-

pendent probe. In its order, the court criticised the police's investigation and the way the case was handled from the very beginning. "One more aspect, which is also quite disturbing, is that a case of unnatural death has been registered with the Tala Police Station? It is submitted that under normal circumstances, a case of unnatural death is registered when there is no complaint," the court noted.

WHO IS IPS VINEET GOYAL?

Vineet Goyal, a 1994-batch IPS officer, is the current Commissioner of the Kolkata Police. He was appointed as the Commissioner of Kolkata Police on January 1, 2022, replacing

Soumen Mitra who retired on December 31, 2021. He is an alumnus of IIT Kharagpur and has served in various key positions in both Kolkata Police and the state police. Before becoming the Commissioner, Goyal was the Additional Director-General (ADG) of the state police's Special Task Force (STF). He has also worked as a Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP), including DCP (Traffic), and rose to the post of Additional Commissioner of Police. Last month, the Union Home Ministry initiated disciplinary action against Goyal and Deputy Commissioner (DCP) Central Indira Mukherjee for allegedly maligning the office of the West Bengal Governor and violating protocol.

Chandrababu Naidu relaunches Anna Canteens in Gudivada, commits to serving affordable meals across Andhra Pradesh

Relaunching the Anna Canteen at Gudivada on Thursday, Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu said that the main aim of the Anna Canteens is that the poor should not go hungry. The Chief Minister felt that the Rs 5 per each meal being supplied at the Anna Canteens is of great help for the poor, the daily-wage earners and the labourers. "What more satisfaction do you have than filling the empty stomachs of the poor," Chandrababu Naidu remarked. Chandrababu, and with his wife, Nara Bhuvaneshwari, had their meal along with common citizens after declaring the Anna Canteen opened at Gudivada. He said an action plan will be formulated to run these canteens on a permanent basis and without any hurdles. Declaring that 203 such canteens will be launched across the State, the Chief Minister said that the total expenditure for maintaining these canteens is Rs 53 lakh per day. "More and more persons are showing interest to liberally donate for the Anna Canteens, which are launched taking inspiration from the TDP founder, the Late NT Rama Rao, and the most popular Dokka Seethamma," he added. "I

have taken up various programmes but I really feel happy to inaugurate such a great scheme like Anna Canteen, particularly on the occasion of the Independence Day," Chandrababu stated. Recalling that he had launched the Anna Canteen in Gudivada itself when NT Rama Rao had become the chief minister for the first time, Chandrababu said that he had personally come here to relaunch the canteen as the TDP-led NDA Government has taken a decision that none should go hungry at a place where the Late NTR is born. Recalling the great services of Late Dokka Seethamma, who served food to whoever had come to her feeling hungry, he said that this is the reason as to why Dokka Seethamma remains in the hearts of the people permanently. Stating that 100 Anna Canteens are relaunched on Thursday, Chandrababu said that by end of September 203 such canteens will be re-opened across the State, including in tribal areas. About 350 persons will be served food in each canteen and the number will be increased depending on how the people receive it, he added. "We are going to spend Rs 200



per annum for the maintenance of these canteens," the Chief Minister said. Making it clear that he will not allow trees to be cut down along his way like the leader who headed the previous government, Chandrababu said that rachabanda is his platform. "Simple Government and effective governance is my policy. I move amidst all of you and will resolve all the problems that you are facing," Chandrababu Naidu stated. For those who come forward to donate for Anna Canteens an account has been opened with the Chandramouli Nagar branch of the SBI in Guntur with account number 37818165097 ISFCSBIN. Chandrababu said that his Government is available for everyone 24/7 to resolve any kind of issues

NHAI Delayed Land Acquisition, Says CM Mann In Reply To Nitin Gadkari

Chandigarh: Punjab chief minister Bhagwant Mann in his reply to Union road transport and highways minister Nitin Gadkari has blamed the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) for the delay in land acquisition and said that the two incidents of threats and violence stemmed from causes attributable to its concessionaire/contractor. Gadkari had written to Mann on August 9 raising concerns over threats and incidents of violence with the contractors and staff of national highway authority of India (NHAI) and demanding stern action against the perpetrators. He had also pointedly cautioned the Punjab government that NHAI will have no other option but to terminate eight more severely affected projects spanning 293 km and costing Rs 14,288 crore if the law and order situation does not improve. Replying to the Central minister, Mann in his letter sent on Tuesday, said that the state government



has been proactively supporting NHAI in land acquisition and other related matters and this is the reason, that barring a few exceptions, most of the NHAI projects in the state are on track. The chief minister said that in both the cases referred by Gadkari, the local police promptly registered FIRs under relevant provisions of law and arrests have been made. He held that during investigation it has been found that one incident was the outcome of over excavation of land by

NHAI concessionaire/contractor and the second incident was the outcome of non-payment of financial dues by the concessionaire/contractor to its sub-contractor. He said that as far as land acquisition related issues are concerned, the Union minister must appreciate that farmers of the state are deeply attached to their land, for it being their main source of livelihood so farmers are reluctant to part with their lands, if they feel that the compensation is not adequate. However, he bemoaned that NHAI chose to challenge the arbitrator's award or took inordinately long time in accepting the award due to which the acquisition process was delayed. Mann held that there are a number of cases in which possession of land was given to NHAI, but its contractors took a long time in mobilising their machinery and starting the work due to which the farmers started cultivating the land again.

