

For Immediate Release

CONSTRUCTION OF START-UP AREA IN AMAVARATI CAPITAL CITY TO BEGIN WITH SIGNING OF CONCESSION AND DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT AND SHAREDHOLDERS AGREEMENT

1 Construction of the Start-Up Area in Amavarati Capital City – starting with the development of the visitor and exhibition gallery known as “Phase Z.ro”- can now begin, with the signing of the Shareholders Agreement and Concession And Development Agreement (CADA) today. Minister-in-charge of Trade Relations Mr S Iswaran who is in Andhra Pradesh, for the 3rd Joint Implementation Steering Committee (JISC)¹ Meeting, witnessed an exchange of the signed Agreements between the signatories today.

2 Mr Iswaran said “I am happy that with the signing of the Agreements, construction of the Start-Up Area, starting with the development of Phase Z.ro, can now begin. Phase Z.ro will serve as a catalyst to kick start activities in the Start-Up Area, and be a key touchpoint for visitors and citizens to get a glimpse of Amavarati City and the state of Andhra Pradesh as it develops. Our collaboration with Andhra Pradesh exemplifies the broad and wide ranging relationship Singapore shares with India. We will build on this strong relationship to create more opportunities for Singapore and India businesses.”

3 Mr S Iswaran co-chaired the JISC meeting with Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh (AP) N Chandrababu Naidu earlier today. During the meeting, Mr Iswaran and Mr Naidu discussed the good progress achieved since the second JISC meeting held in November 2017. The Singapore Consortium (SC) comprising Ascendas-Singbridge Pte Ltd and Sembcorp Development Ltd, together with the Amaravati Development Corporation, an agency of the Government of Andhra Pradesh, have incorporated a Joint Venture company known as the Amaravati Development Partners (ADP) Pte Ltd. The ADP also shared their development plans for Phase Z.ro.

4 Both leaders also reviewed the progress and work in three other areas of collaboration- namely urban, economic and institutional development. In the area of urban development, they noted that Singapore’s Centre of Liveable Cities (CLC) has been providing technical assistance and sharing expertise on urban development with Andhra Pradesh’s Capital Region Development Authorities and ADP, through deep-dive workshops and regular conversations. These sessions aim to share insights on how the Andhra Pradesh officials can develop and govern Amaravati.

5 As for economic development, both leaders noted that the Amavarati Project Office and the Andhra Pradesh Economic Development Board have

¹ The JISC was formed to implement the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), signed by Mr Iswaran and Mr Naidu in May 2017 to bring about greater collaboration between Singapore and Andhra Pradesh.

identified four economic areas to jointly develop namely Construction & Urban Solutions, Logistics & Connectivity, Agro Food Processing and Tourism. The collaboration would include capacity building for Andhra Pradesh officials, sharing of best industry practices and the identification of good project opportunities. The Singapore Business Federation and the Confederation of Indian Industries will also be jointly establishing an Andhra Pradesh -Singapore Business Council to promote exchanges between the two business communities.

6 Mr Iswaran and Mr Naidu also discussed plans to start a direct charter flight by SilkAir between Singapore's Changi Airport and Andhra Pradesh's Gannavaram Airport - the airport closest to Amaravati, situated just 30 minutes away. The direct charter flight will reduce travelling time and enhance collaboration between Singapore and Amaravati. The first direct charter flight is expected to be launched in the next few months.

7 Both leaders also noted the good progress made on a Skills Development project that will prepare the people of Andhra Pradesh for work opportunities in the capital city as well as efforts to enhance People-to-People relations – namely through the Andhra Pradesh Landowners' Visit to Singapore from October to December 2017 and the 'We Draw Amaravati' Project by the Urban Sketchers from November to December 2017. This visit allowed more than 120 landowners to gain insights into the development of how resident and commercial property in Singapore and helped them understand how Singapore integrates its services such as transport, recreation, markets, clinics and other essential services. The "We Draw Amaravati" Project saw Singapore artists from the Urban Sketchers capturing the softer side of Amaravati through sketches of the everyday lives of the AP people. In November 2018, Millennia Institute will be organising a Student Immersion Programme to expose students to Singapore's involvement in Andhra Pradesh, which will further enhance people-to-people ties.

8 Mr Iswaran is accompanied by officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Trade and Industry, Enterprise Singapore, Centre for Liveable Cities and the Building and Construction Authority.

Ministry of Trade and Industry

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Annex A: Photos & Captions

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ANNEX A: Photos and Captions



Caption: Minister Iswaran and Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu at the 3rd Joint Implementation Steering Committee (JISC) Meeting in Andhra Pradesh, India.



Caption: Minister Iswaran witnessing the exchange of the signed Shareholders Agreement and the Concession and Development Agreement (CADA).