

For Immediate Release

SUCCESSFUL 4th JOINT IMPLEMENTATION STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING AND GROUNDBREAKING OF WELCOME GALLERY FOR AMARAVATI CAPITAL CITY

1 Minister-in-charge of Trade Relations S Iswaran and Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh N Chandrababu Naidu successfully concluded the 4th Joint Implementation Steering Committee (JISC) Meeting in Andhra Pradesh (AP), India today. They affirmed the good progress of the Amaravati capital city project with the groundbreaking ceremony for its Welcome Gallery.

4th JISC Meeting

2 During the 4th JISC meeting, Mr Iswaran and Mr Naidu reviewed the progress on economic and institutional development between Singapore and AP.

3 On economic development, the Ministers noted plans by the AP-Singapore Business Council, anchored by Singapore Business Federation (SBF) and the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), to facilitate more business partnerships in AP between Indian and Singapore companies. SBF has launched “The Sunrise Programme”, a dedicated platform for Singapore companies to secure projects within Andhra Pradesh. The three-year programme which aims to reach out to 1,200 companies is supported by Enterprise Singapore through its Local Enterprise and Association Development (LEAD) Programme.

4 Both Ministers also witnessed the exchange of Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) between three Singapore companies¹, the AP Real Estate Regulatory Authority (APRERA) and the AP Economic Cities Promotion and Development Corporation (APEDCO) to bring Singapore technologies and solutions to “Amaravati Construction City”. This is a one-stop centre for construction technologies and building materials, and the leasing of construction equipment. (See **Annex B** for more details).

5 On institutional development, the Ministers commended the good progress in skills development, such as the establishment of Singapore SynchroSkills, a joint venture between two Singapore and Indian companies, which has graduated 300 students. Mr Iswaran also witnessed the presentation of Workforce International Skills Certification (WISC) certificates to graduates from the Phase 1 training courses by Singapore SynchroSkills (See **Annex C** for more details).

¹ The Singapore companies are: Erect Group, CKR Group and ByBiTech LLP.

6 Both Ministers noted the successful run of student immersion programmes by Singaporean schools to Amaravati and Vijayawada in 2018, which has expanded and deepened people-to-people ties between Singapore and AP. They also noted that the launch of Indigo's inaugural direct flight between Vijayawada and Singapore on 4 Dec 2018 will facilitate air connectivity between the two cities.

Groundbreaking Ceremony for Welcome Gallery

7 Mr Iswaran and Mr Naidu also graced the groundbreaking ceremony for the Welcome Gallery in the Start-Up Area of Amaravati today. At the ceremony, MOUs / Letters of Intent between Amaravati Development Partners (ADP) and 7 Singapore companies were signed to incorporate their technologies into the Welcome Gallery. The ADP also signed MOUs with 3 Japanese companies for the development of the Welcome Gallery. Mr Iswaran welcomed these collaborations and expressed confidence that more international companies would be attracted to invest in Amaravati and Andhra Pradesh. Mr Iswaran also congratulated Chief Minister Naidu on the rapid progress of the development of Amaravati as the People's Capital.

Urban Sketchers Exhibition

8 The inaugural "We Draw Amaravati Together" exhibition in India, organised by Urban Sketchers Singapore, features more than 90 artworks by Singaporean and Indian artists. The artworks capture the heritage and culture of the 29 villages in Amaravati, as well as places of interests in the area and will be displayed in the Cultural Centre of Vijayawada and Amaravati (CCVA) from 10 to 31 January 2019. (See **Annex C** for more details).

9 Mr Iswaran was accompanied by Singapore's High Commissioner to India Lim Thuan Kuan, Special Envoy to Andhra Pradesh Gopinath Pillai, Consulate-General Roy Kho, as well as officials from the Ministry of Trade and Industry, Enterprise Singapore, Centre for Liveable Cities, Building and Construction Authority, Singapore's High Commission in New Delhi and Consulate Office in Chennai.

Ministry of Trade and Industry

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Annex A: Factsheet on the participation of Singapore Companies in the building of Amaravati

Annex B: Factsheet on Skills Development projects

Annex C: Factsheet on Urban Sketchers Exhibition

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ANNEX A: Factsheet on the participation of Singapore Companies in the building of Amaravati

1 Singapore companies are making progress in the Indian state of Andhra Pradesh, including the new greenfield capital city, Amaravati. With facilitation from Enterprise Singapore, 10 companies secured opportunities in smart cities and building and construction.

2 Three SMEs in the construction technologies industry - Erect Group², CKR Group³ and ByBiTech LLP⁴ are investing in the Amaravati Construction City, a one-stop location providing construction technologies, building materials and leasing of construction equipment⁵.

3 For Erect Group and CKR Group, this is the first time the companies are investing in their own facilities in India to offer key services in construction equipment leasing and a pre-cast plant respectively. This allows them to fully capitalise on the construction opportunities and grow together with the capital city as it develops.

4 ByBiTech has been contracted by local architect Juniper Brooks to offer Building Information Modelling (BIM) solutions in the building of the Non-Resident Telugu (NRT) Tower. For Amaravati Construction City, ByBiTech will be expanding its presence in India to offer customised training in BIM in close collaboration with end users such as the regulatory authorities.

5 A total of seven Singapore companies will be working with the Amaravati Development Partners⁶ to incorporate their technologies and solutions at the Welcome Gallery of the Amaravati Capital City Start-Up Area. This opportunity

² Erect Group (Singapore) is a specialist in lifting and access solutions, delivering products and services under the brand Sante in Asia.

³ CKR Group of Companies is a main contractor firm providing one-stop professional building services, including main contract general building works, structural steel supply, fabrication and installation, and leasing of machinery.

⁴ ByBiTech LLP is a professional Building Information Modeling (BIM) Solutions company in BIM consultation, implementation, and associated technology services for the construction industry.

⁵ The Government of Andhra Pradesh aims to turn Amaravati Construction City into India's largest Centre of Excellence for Construction Technologies, Building Materials and Leasing of Construction Equipment.

⁶ Amaravati Development Partners is the joint venture between Ascendas-Singbridge, Sembcorp and Amaravati Development Corporation, an agency of the State Government of Andhra Pradesh.

allows them to showcase their technologies to all visitors at the Welcome Gallery as well as demonstrate its potential to be scaled across Amaravati.

Annex B: Factsheet on Skills Development projects

1 In July 2018, SkillsSG Ventures Pte. Ltd (a joint venture of 10 approved Singapore Training Partners) and SynchroServe Global Solutions Pvt. Ltd. (an Indian company), in consultation with the Andhra Pradesh Skills Development Corporation, launched pilot courses to train 210 students in Bridal Fashion and Photographic Makeup Artists, Apparel Fashion Designer, and ENABLE (Empowering NextGen with Applied Business and Learning and Employability Skills Program).

2 Phase 1 of the courses was taught by 18 Singaporean Trainers and supported by 6 Indian Trainers.

3 In September 2018, SkillsSG and SynchroServe formed the joint venture, Singapore SynchroSkills Pte Ltd.

4 By November 2018, there was a total of 300 graduates from the training programmes. Phase 2 of the courses was launched.

5 The establishment of the WISC certification system was a milestone for two Singapore government agencies - Skillsfuture Singapore (SSG) and Enterprise Singapore (ESG), which supported SAPTCO Singapore (a trade association of Approved Training Organisations (ATOs) in Singapore), to develop the system. The system provides international certifications for the skilling efforts by the Singapore ATOs.

ANNEX C: Factsheet on Urban Sketchers Exhibition

1 Urban Sketchers Singapore (USK) is a non-profit organisation specialising in on-location drawing. “We Draw Amaravati Together” is a project by twenty-six sketchers from USK, and four sketchers from various parts of India, including Andhra Pradesh. The sketchers — in collaboration with Temasek Polytechnic, and supported by the Amaravati Partnership Office, Ministry of Trade and Industry (Singapore) — visited 29 villages in Amaravati to capture images depicting its heritage, culture, and landscapes before its impending urbanisation as part of the infrastructural and economic development of the Capital City of Andhra Pradesh.

2 More than 90 sketches will be exhibited in the Cultural Centre of Vijayawada and Amaravati (CCVA) from 10 to 31 January 2019. The exhibition, organised by the Amaravati Partnership Office, is supported by Malaxmi Group’s (India) corporate social responsibility (CSR) efforts to highlight the art, culture, tradition and literature of Andhra Pradesh. Four pieces from the exhibition are from artists from India (including Andhra Pradesh). The exhibition in CCVA also features curated archaeological artefacts tied to the history of Amaravati, from CCVA’s collection.

3 The exhibition also seeks to raise awareness of the possibilities brought about by the partnership between Singapore and Andhra Pradesh, and to develop deeper understanding and friendship between the people of Amaravati and Singapore.