



02 Aug 2024

Andhra Pradesh State Regional News

<p>Visakhapatnam at Risk: Study</p>	<p>Context:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A recent study by the Centre for Study of Science, Technology and Policy (CSTEP) forecasts potential sea level rise impacts for Visakhapatnam by 2040, highlighting significant risks of inundation due to climate change. <p>Key points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inundation Risk: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> By 2040, 1% of Visakhapatnam's area (about 7 sq km) could be submerged if sea levels rise by 16.7-18.3 cm. A worst-case rise of 18-19.8 cm could increase this to nearly 1.1%. Vulnerable Areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coastal zones like Visakhapatnam port, Tennesi park, Rushikonda, and Mangamaripeta beaches are especially at risk. Land Subsidence Projections: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> By 2040, significant subsidence is expected in Mumbai, Yanam, and Thoothukudi. Other cities like Chennai, Panaji, Kochi, and Visakhapatnam will experience varying degrees of subsidence. Long-Term Trends: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sea levels are projected to continue rising through the century under all climate scenarios.
<p>Discovery of Eighth-Century Clay Pots and Rock Tombs in Ongole</p>	<p>Context:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local historians made a significant archaeological discovery at the Dhenuvakonda hill-foot in Ongole, located on the banks of the Gundlakamma rivulet in Addanki mandal of Prakasam district. <p>Findings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Multiple clay pots and pieces About 15 rock tombs Time Period: Prehistoric/pre-Mauryan era, specifically the 8th-7th century BC <p>Observations Tombs:</p>



- 15 ancient rock tombs found in a 0.50-acre area at a depth of six feet.
- Each tomb measures around six feet long and three feet wide.
- Made with four granite slabs.
- Two joint tombs possibly for a couple who died together.

Clay Pots:

- Large clay pots placed at the head side of each tomb
- Smaller pots containing grains and seeds found in abundance.

National Clean Air Programme

Context:

- **Visakhapatnam is ranked 30th** among India's most polluted cities under the National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) for the **financial year 2023-2024**.
- **PM10 Levels:** This ranking is based on the average concentration of PM10 (particulate matter with a diameter of 10 micrometers or less).

NCAP Implementation in Andhra Pradesh:

- **Cities Identified:** **Thirteen cities in Andhra Pradesh** are part of the **131 cities identified under the NCAP for air quality improvement**.

City Rankings:

- Vizianagaram is ranked **98th**.
- Vijayawada and Anantapur are at **113th and 115th** positions, respectively.
- Chittoor, Kurnool, Ongole, and Nellore follow, with Kadapa at 128th position, having the lowest concentration of PM10 among the cities in Andhra Pradesh.

NCAP:

- The **NCAP is a pollution control initiative** launched by the **Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change in India**.
- Its primary goal is to **reduce air pollution** by cutting the concentration of **coarse particulate matter (PM10) and fine particulate matter (PM2.5)** by at least 20% within the next five years (with 2017 as the base year for comparison) 12.



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Objective: The NCAP aims to improve air quality in 131 non-attainment cities across India. • Monitoring and Tracking: It provides a portal for monitoring and tracking the implementation of air quality management efforts in these cities. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ This includes information on city air action plans, fund releases, air quality data, and results from the Swachh Vayu Survekshan 2023.
Amaravati	<p>Context:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amaravati, the planned capital city of Andhra Pradesh, has faced significant delays and setbacks in its construction projects. • By leveraging the expertise of IIT Madras and IIT Hyderabad, the government aims to gain detailed insights into the current state of these constructions. <p>About:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Location: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Amaravati is situated in Guntur district, at the heart of the state, on the right bank of the Krishna River and southwest of Vijayawada. • Historical Significance: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ The name "Amaravati" is derived from the historic Amaravathi site, which was the capital of the Satavahana dynasty over 2,200 years ago. • Creation as Capital: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ After the bifurcation of Andhra Pradesh in 2014, Hyderabad served as the temporary capital. ◦ The government acquired 33,000 acres of land from Guntur district farmers through an innovative land pooling scheme.



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