

ANDHRA PRADESH

State signs MoU with LKY school

STAFF REPORTER

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For cooperation in research, training to improve competitiveness

The State government on Monday entered into an MoU with the Singapore-based Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy (LKYSPP) for cooperation in research and training to improve competitiveness in administration. The MoU was signed by the LKYSPP Dean Professor Danny Quah and Special Chief Secretary and CCLA Anil Chandra Punetha in the presence of Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu in Singapore.

Mr. Naidu said Singapore had turned crises into opportunities and grew from adverse conditions into a world economic power. He said **Andhra Pradesh** had similar features. It also faced problems associated with bifurcation four years ago and was navigating through all the initial obstacles. Singapore lent a helping hand when Andhra Pradesh had no capital. It helped us prepare a master plan for our capital in the initial days and we would be forever indebted to them, he said.

Opportunities

“We request cooperation from the LKY Institute in making Andhra Pradesh as one of the top three States by 2029 vision of the State government,” he said. The partnership would help in training the AP bureaucrats.

Explaining the opportunities in investing in Amaravati, he said the State government was attracting a lot of FDI and it was number one in the ease of doing business.

AP had a large traction in the automobile sector. Huge investments in food processing by companies like Mondelez International Inc., Pepsi, ITC were flowing. Tirupati had become hub for electronics and manufacturing. Foxconn too, had a large manufacturing facility. Our single desk bureau had been very effective in granting early clearance for industries. All investments were tracked real time and followed up efficiently by officials, he said.

Books released

Mr. Naidu released two books including 'Balanced, Sustainable and Competitiveness Enhancement (BSCE) Study for Vietnam: A Critical Evaluation with Development Potentials' by Minister Heng Swee Keat with Dr. Vu Tien Loc, Chairman and President, Vietnam Chamber of Commerce and Industry. The second book was "Productivity Tracking and Efficiency Monitoring of Singapore's Small and Medium Enterprises" by Professor Danny Quah, Dean, LKYSPP.

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