



## From the Minister's Desk:

It is a delight for me to reach out to all of you in a concise yet effective form of newsletter, which encapsulates the initiatives, developments, activities and achievements of the department of Information Technology, Electronics and Communications, Government of Telangana.

It gives me immense pleasure when I think of portrayal of the budding State, the 29th in the Union of India, on the global amphitheatre amid giants of industry and governments at the World Economic Forum held at Davos, Switzerland, in January, 2018.

Telangana had the honour of unveiling itself and showcasing its capabilities for the first time at the WEF, much to the amazement of the audience there. Meetings with people who matter made more sense, for they transformed hopes into aspirations.

Mr Anand Mahindra, Chairman of Mahindra Group, and Mr CP Gurnani, CEO and MD of Tech Mahindra, were kind to accede to our request to open a centre at Warangal. This bolsters the confidence among people of Tier-II cities. I am specially thankful to Dr Petra Laux, Global Head, Public Affairs Policy of Novartis, for coming forth

to expand the company's operations at Hyderabad. The first quarter of 2018 has been very enthusiastic with the State getting an opportunity to host two prestigious IT conferences - WCIT and National Conference on e-Governance; and the annual BioAsia Conference at Hyderabad in February.

Opportunities are arising every now and then. Kiran Mazumdar Shaw, MD of Biocon, has proposed expansion of their company's unit in Hyderabad, while the State Government is actively mulling the idea of increasing the life-sciences ecosystem in Hyderabad from the current USD 50bn to USD 100bn in 10 years.

The State Government, in its continued effort towards achieving women empowerment and fulfilment of its promise made at the Global Entrepreneurship Summit - 2017, has come up with a prestigious initiative of launching a We-Hub, an exclusive Women Entrepreneurs hub that would after due-diligence offer fund to startups led by women.

Opening of SRiX, one of the largest technology business incubators in tier-II cities, in Warangal is a matter of pride.

Before I sign off only to touch base with you next month, I would like to promise that the State is poised to clock an annual IT exports worth of Rs. 1.20 lakh crore by 2020.

All the very best.

*KT Rama Rao*

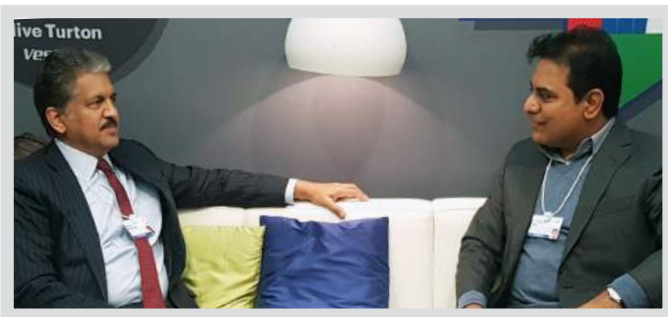


## Telangana makes its mark at WEF

| 23 - 26 Jan |

The World Economic Forum held at Davos was the platform Telangana government chose to promote the state by highlighting the facilities and the bouquet of offerings given by state. IT minister, KT Rama Rao led an intense promotional campaign to prevail upon the global corporations to invest in Telangana. He met heads of several multinational giants and urged them to evaluate Telangana for setting up their business units, highlighting the state government's industrial policy, TS-iPASS.

Mr KT Rama Rao met Anand Mahindra, chairman of Mahindra Group, and CP Gurnani, the CEO and MD of Tech Mahindra, at the event. CM Sri K Chandrasekhar Rao's vision to expand IT to tier-II cities gets wings as Tech Mahindra agrees to set up



a centre in Warangal. The Minister met Dr Petra Laux, Global Head, Public Affairs Policy of Novartis and discussed expansion of operations of Novartis at Hyderabad. He also met Air Asia Berhad CEO Anthony Fernandez, Mitsubishi Heavy Industries Executive Vice President Ken Kawai and Ana Pinczuk, SVP, Hewlett Packard Enterprise.

The State delegation met Indorama Ventures PCL CEO Alope Lohia and Foud Alghanim Company delegates. Mr KT Rama Rao also met Mohammed Al Shaibani, the CEO of Investment Corporation of Dubai at the Telangana Pavilion.



### T-Hub Startup Wins Award at WEF

Banyan Nation, a T-Hub incubated startup, won the Dell People's Choice Award for circular economy entrepreneur at the WEF. Minister KTR congratulated Mani Vajipey, the co-founder of the startup.

Besides, he also met N Chandrasekharan, chairman, Tata Sons, Mukesh Ambani, chairman of Reliance Industries Limited, Gautam Adani, chairman of Adani Group, Rahul Bajaj, chairman of Bajaj Group, Pawan Munjal, CEO of Hero MotoCorp, Uday Kotak, executive vice president of Kotak Mahindra Bank and several other business honchos from other countries.

The minister met Lockheed Martin Executive Vice President Richard Ambrose, and explained to him how the state emerged as the aerospace and defence hub in India. He urged Mr Ambrose to evaluate Hyderabad for setting up their business facility. He met Salesforce CEO Marc Benioff and its President Amy E Weaver to discuss possible collaborations for investments in the state. Mr Rao also met Dassault Systemes CEO Bernard Charles and explained to him about the IT and Life Sciences ecosystem in Hyderabad.

Suzlon Group chairman Tulsi Tanti and Suzlon Energy vice-president Nidhi Tanti met the Minister and expressed interest in setting up a wind power plant in TS. Mr KTR also met PepsiCo Chairman and CEO Indra Nooyi, Ericsson Group CTO Erik Ekudden and many global heads of various companies. The Minister met former US Vice President Al Gore and discussed the Haritha Haram programme, which aims at increasing green cover from 23 per cent to 33 per cent in the State.

The Minister participated in the Republic Day flag hoisting ceremony organised at Invest India Lounge, in Davos.

IT Minister Mr KT Rama Rao was given a rare opportunity to represent Telangana state in a panel discussion on 'Leveraging Digital to Deliver Value to Society'. The WEF panel discussions are usually attended by Central Ministers of various countries.

Addressing the panel, he explained the various initiatives taken by the State government for achieving digital Telangana, including the T-Fibre project to provide broadband connectivity through optic fibre cables to every household. He also explained the various digital services and initiatives to increase digital literacy.



## WCIT-2018 in Hyderabad

| 19 -21 Feb |

It is a matter of pride for Telangana State and Hyderabad city to host The World Congress on Information Technology (WCIT), a World Information Technology and Services Alliance's (WITSA) flagship event, the first in the annual series of such events to come to India. The WCIT- 2018 focused on the theme 'Amplify Digital - Disrupt The Core', reflecting the digital transformation taking place at a fast pace across businesses and organisations.

More than 2500 delegates from over 25 countries joined WCIT to make it a grand success. The mega event witnessed multiple deep dive sessions covering the technologies reshaping the world that include Artificial Intelligence, Blockchain, sports and technology among others.



Over 160 innovative startups were showcased at this industry-recognized idea-sharing forum. IT Minister KT Rama Rao is positive that international events like WCIT will help Hyderabad and Telangana achieve greater heights in not only IT but also other sectors.



During the event, the Telangana state government signed an MoU with NASSCOM for establishing a Centre of Excellence in Data Science and Artificial Intelligence in Telangana. This sector will be worth USD 16bn and will create 1,50,000 jobs by 2025.

At WCIT, Minister KT Rama Rao delivered the keynote address at 'Digital Social Innovation - Technology for Social Good' awards ceremony organized by NASSCOM Social Innovation Forum (NSIF) and presented awards to the winners.

"Every event provides an opportunity to showcase the strength of the city and the ecosystem it offers to the tech companies. WCIT has reinforced the position of Hyderabad on the global IT map."

**KTR**

## Rural Shores to set up unit in Nizamabad

| 27 Jan |

The efforts of IT Minister KT Rama Rao to promote information technology in tier-II cities are bearing fruit. Rural Shores, a Bengaluru-based ITeS company, is planning to set up a business process

outsourcing (BPO) unit in Nizamabad and would recruit about 350 employees.

Kakatiya Sandbox founder Raju Reddy said that the company would set up the unit with an initial investment of Rs 3 crore. Kakatiya Sandbox provides a platform for individuals and organisations to test ideas and develop scalable solutions for transforming the society.



## Foundation Stone for IT Tower in Karimnagar

| 8 Jan |

Laying the foundation stone for IT Tower near Ujwal Park in Karimnagar, IT Minister KT Rama Rao announced the sanction of another similar IT Tower in the town to help local youth find employment.

He said that the government would sanction a TASK centre and a T-Hub centre at the IT Tower, once the construction is completed. Eight entrepreneurs from the USA, Australia and other parts of the world signed MoUs with the government for the setting up of their firms in the IT towers.



## WE HUB launched

| 8 March |

On the occasion of International Women's Day, Mr KT Rama Rao launched a dedicated incubator for women, the WE HUB. The state government has allocated Rs 15 crore fund for promoting entrepreneurship among women through the incubator. The incubator will provide access to capital, mentorship and an enabling environment to women that will help

them overcome all the challenges and barriers they have to face. This incubator will support not only tech entrepreneurs but also all kind of innovators.

Tessy Thomas, India's Missile Woman, Vani Kola, Managing Director - Kalaari Capital, Mr Phanindra Sama, Chief Innovation Officer of Telangana, and Deepthi Ravula, CEO of WE HUB attended the event.

### WE HUB Services For Innovative Startups

- Legal, IPR Support
- Mentorship
- Ecosystem connect with prospective clients, investors, T-Hub etc.

[www.wehub.telangana.gov.in](http://www.wehub.telangana.gov.in)



## Telangana demonstrates T-Fiber at WCIT

| 19 Feb |

The World Congress on Information Technology became the platform for the inauguration of the pilot project of Technology Development Network (TDN) under T-Fiber project. T-Fiber is Telangana government's ambitious plan to provide broadband connectivity to 10 million households. The project aims at encompassing citizens with government-to-government and government-to-citizen services and applications.

Union IT and Electronics Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad launched the pilot and interacted with

the students of a government school. Corporates like Cisco and Nokia took part in establishing the network. The ITEC Department established a Technology Demonstration Network with high-speed Internet connectivity covering about 50 government offices and households in Maheshwaram, Tummaluru, Sirigurpur and Mansanpalli villages of Maheshwaram mandal in



Rangareddy district. In an innovative step, T-Fiber project is piggybacking on Drinking Water Project – Mission Bhagiratha. T-Fiber used Mission Bhagiratha's pipeline trenches for laying ducts that carry optic fibre cables. Thus, the state government succeeded in reducing expenditure considerably and expedited laying of optic fibre. Minister KT Rama Rao stated that T-Fiber will usher in revolutionary transformation in Agriculture, Education, Healthcare and E-Commerce sectors.

[www.tfiber.telangana.gov.in](http://www.tfiber.telangana.gov.in)

## KTR meets bizmen in South Korea

| 15-16 Jan |

Mr KT Rama Rao, during his visit to South Korea, assured businessmen there that the Telangana Government would extend full support to the South Korean firms in setting up their ventures in Telangana. He met several business leaders and explained to them about TS-iPASS, the State's industrial policy.

He met Hyundai Corporation working Vice-President Nam Geunho and explained about the investment prospects in the state. He called on green energy major OCI's CEO WooHyun Lee and invited the firm to set up its business unit in TS. The minister also met Choi Dong Jin, Executive Director, MOIBA, an association of about 500 Mobile Internet companies based in South Korea.



The delegation led by Mr KTR called on Youngone Corporation Chairman Kihuk Sung whose company had recently announced a USD 300mn investment in Kakatiya Textile Park in Warangal.

Mr KT Rama Rao along with government advisor G. Vivekanand, ITEC Principal Secretary Jayesh Ranjan and others visited Daegu metropolitan area.



## T App Folio launched

| 26 Feb |

Minister KTR launched T App Folio in Hyderabad. It is the official mobile service delivery gateway of the state government through which the citizens can avail all the services offered by Telangana government.

T-App Folio offers 150 services in English and

Telugu languages, and is available in both Android and iOS versions. The users can generate requests to get land records, income, birth, death certificates and several services pertaining to the Transport Department.

The Minister said, “Telangana is the second state to launch its own App Folio after Karnataka. Within a year we will be adding 1000 services”.

Mr Jayesh Ranjan, IT Secretary, Mr M Mahendar Reddy, DGP and Mr GT Venkateshwara Rao, Commissioner, ESD were present at the event.

## Governance should be felt, not seen: KTR

| 26 Feb |

While attending the 21<sup>st</sup> National Conference on e-Governance at HICC in Hyderabad, IT and Industries Minister KT Rama Rao said, “Governance, should be felt but not be seen. It should be unobtrusive. The fruits of technological power should be used for economic development of the people.”



## KTR opens REC Innovation Platform

| 29 Jan |

IT Minister KT Rama Rao urged the educational institutions to improve academic standards among students by bringing in practical knowledge and building partnerships with firms.

Launching the Rural Electrification Corporation (REC) Innovation Platform at T-Hub, he asked the chairman of higher education council and vice-chancellors of universities to promote innovation by building more creative labs.

About 1,800 engineering students from 30 government institutions in Telangana and Andhra Pradesh will produce 600 projects at the REC Innovation Platform. Out of this, 30 projects will be shortlisted for mentoring and finally three will be selected for advance mentoring at the T-Hub.

## TASL, GE facility at Adibhatla

| 12 Feb |



KT Rama Rao participated in the ground-breaking ceremony for the Centre of Excellence (CoE) of Tata Advanced Systems Limited and GE. Mr Rao remarked that the partnership between TASL and the GE gave a big boost to the Hyderabad aerospace and aviation ecosystem.

The Minister said, "Telangana has created a strong ecosystem for aerospace manufacturing and has already created two aerospace parks and five airstrips. The government is focusing on strengthening its infrastructure supported by its efforts for skilling so that there is adequate manpower available for the industry."

Banmali Agrawala, president, Infrastructure and Defence and Aerospace, Tata Sons said, "This investment will create highly skilled jobs and develop a high-end supply chain that will offer a globally competitive manufacturing ecosystem in India."

## 'The Garage' at Microsoft - Hyd

| 26 March |

Mr KT Rama Rao inaugurated 'The Garage' at Microsoft India Development Centre in Hyderabad. It is a platform for Microsoft employees that supports and encourages a culture of experimentation, working together across organisations and technology to explore ideas and build prototypes, adding value to existing products.

Microsoft is planning to expand its Hyderabad facility spread in an area of over 50 acres. Mr KT Rama Rao expressed happiness on knowing that the company was expanding its campus and would employ an additional workforce of 2,000-2,500 people.



## SRiX incubator launched at Warangal

| 5 March |

IT Minister KT Rama Rao inaugurated SRiX, the largest technology business incubator in a tier-II city in India. SR Innovation Exchange (SRiX) was set up by SR Group and the project is supported by the Department of Science and Technology. SRiX is likely to create about 5,000 jobs in Warangal by the year end.





A business delegation led by Ms Chutima Bunyapraphasara, Hon'ble Deputy Commerce Minister, Thailand, met IT Minister KT Rama Rao on the sidelines of Bio Asia 2018 in Hyderabad.

21 Feb



Mr KT Rama Rao at Young Presidents Organisation & Young Entrepreneurs Organization at Chennai (YPO & YEO)

17 Feb

Mr KTR at the First Anniversary Celebrations of RICH (Research and Innovation Circle of Hyderabad).

24 Feb



IT Minister KTR with Suzuki Motor Corporation Chairman Osamu Suzuki, during Japan Tour

18 Jan

Foundation Stone for Greenfield Optical Fiber Manufacturing unit by HFCL (Himachal Futuristic Communication Ltd.) in Fab City, Maheshwaram Mandal.

12 Mar



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