

VISAKHAPATNAM URBAN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Note on Integrated Naval Museum Project along with underground Parking at Beach road, Visakhapatnam

Background:

During the visit of Hon'ble Chief Minister of A.P, in December 2017 for the inauguration of De-commissioned TU-142 Fighter Jet Museum in Beach road, it was advised that AP Tourism and the VUDA should plan for an integrated Naval Museum in a comprehensive way by integrating various facilities such as Kurusura Submarine, TU-142, Victory at Sea, Rajiv Smruthi Bhavan etc., as the city has been attracting many tourists and visitors across the country. Hon'ble Chief Minister further advised to prepare the master plan for this project in order to make it an another tourist attracting spot in the city, as the coastal city of Visakhapatnam is also the Head Quarters of the Eastern Naval Command.

Further to the above, on the request of Govt of AP, Indian Navy has allotted a de-commissioned Fighter Jet of Indian Navy i.e Sea Harrier to Visakhapatnam for converting in to a Museum for public purpose. A team of officials of VUDA visited Goa Naval Air Base in March 2018 to assess the requirement for installing Sea Harrier Fighter Jet in a dedicated museum on the beach road.

Project:

With the above background and in the light of suggestions of the Hon'ble Chief Minister, a concept Master Plan has been prepared by the Consultant, which proposes to address the integration of the Submarine, Sea Harrier, TU-142 Museums, Victory at Sea, Rajiv Smruthi Bhavan etc., along with creating an exclusive state-of-the-art Museum for the Kurusura Submarine and the Sea Harrier in a novel way.

Considering the growth of the traffic and visitors in the Beach road, it is also proposed to create an underground parking facility to park about 1000 vehicles between Rajiv Smruthi Bhavan and Victory at Sea under the convergence project of Visakha Smart City. An underground drive way is also proposed in the above stretch of the about 900 Mts. thus creating a completely pedestrian recreational zone for public use.

The concept Master Plan duly considering above factors has been prepared duly taking the inputs of Eastern Naval Command, District Collector and other officials of the District. The said concept plan was presented to the Hon'ble Chief Minister during his visit to the city on 21.06.2018 and he advised to make presentation to the Hon'ble MLAs, Hon'ble MPs etc. Accordingly, the Tourism Promotion Board scheduled a meeting on 24th August at Velagapudi Secretariat, chaired by Hon'ble Chief Minister.

The cost of the project is estimated to be around Rs.100 cr. The salient features of the proposed Integrated Museum and Tourism Project, are listed as below:

1. Master planned to integrate many projects components like, 4 museums, underground parking areas, crafts shops, food courts, tourist information centres, restaurants and coffee shops, public amenities, order to provide a seamless access to all areas.
2. No acquisition of land from other organisations or agencies
3. No construction or development on the seaward side of the road.

4. No disturbance to the land profile and sandy beach
5. **No demolition of any existing building** structure
6. No adding of new building structure, thus improvement and addition in the built-form, **only by retrofitting existing building structure**
7. Huge basement parking facility for visitors for easing out traffic on the surface.
8. Taking the beach road to underground level, [for approximately 1.0 Km Stretch] to provide large public green space for recreational activities.
9. Provides a safe and secure green open space for people of all ages and walks of life.
10. Obstruction free pedestrian zone.
11. Facilitates single ticket access all museums.
12. Designated vendor's and hawker's zone provided
13. Tourist Information Centres, Crafts Shops and Food courts provided
14. Parking for 800 Cars and 1400 Two-wheelers