



ANALOG IAS INSTITUTE

2nd Floor, 1-2-288/32, Indira Park 'X' Roads, Domalguda, Hyderabad – 500029

Ph. No: 040-64590440, 9912441137

www.analogeducation.in

VISAKHAPATNAM(VIZAG)

Visakhapatnam is a coastal, port city, often called "The Jewel of the East Coast", situated in the of Andhra Pradesh, located on the eastern shore of India, nestled among the hills of the Eastern Ghats and facing the Bay of Bengal to the east. It is the administrative headquarters of Visakhapatnam District and is also home of the Eastern Naval Command of the Indian Navy.

It is the second largest city in Andhra Pradesh with an area of 550 km², it is primarily an industrial city, apart from being a port city. It is also home to the Eastern Naval Command.

According to the history, the city was named after the god of Valor-Vishakha. It was a part of the Kalinga Kingdom, under Ashoka's rule in 260 B.C. It passed on later to the Andhra Kings of Vengi. After this Pallava, Chola and Ganga dynasties ruled the city. In the 15th century, Vishakhapatnam became a part of the Vijayanagar Empire.

It is often called the best tourism destination in Andhra Pradesh. From Lakes to cool Beaches, from beautiful Hill Ranges to Caves and Valleys, Visakhapatnam has them all. The district has many tourism spots that represent the Culture and Heritage of the true India

HISTORICAL ASPECTS AND ETYMOLOGY

Inscriptions indicate that the District was originally a part of Kalinga Kingdom subsequently conquered by the Eastern Chalukyas in the 7th Century, A.D. who ruled over it with their Head Quarters at Vengi. This District was also under the occupation of various rulers such as the Reddy Rajahs of Kondaveedu, the Gajapathis of Orissa, the Nawabs of Golkonda and the Moghal Emperor Aurangzeb through a Subedar. This territory passed on to French occupation in view of succession dispute among Andhra Kings and finally it came under the British Reign. There were no geographical graftings till 1936 in which year, consequent on the formation of Orissa State the Taluks namely Bissiom, Cuttack, Jayapore, Koraput, Malkanagiri, Naurangapur, Pottangi and Ryagada in their entirety and parts of Gunpur, Paduva and Parvathipur Taluks were transferred to Orissa State. The Visakhapatnam District was reconstituted with the remaining area and residuary portions of Ganjam District namely Sompeta, Tekkali and Srikakulam Taluks in entirety and portion of Parlakimidi, Ichchapuram, Berahmpur retained in Madras presidency. With the passage of time, the reconstituted District was found administratively unwieldy and therefore it was bifurcated into Srikakulam and Visakhapatnam districts in the year 1950. The residuary district of Visakhapatnam was further bifurcated and the Taluks of Vizianagaram,

Gajapathinagaram, Srungavarapukota and portion of Bheemunipatnam Taluk were transferred to the newly created Vizianagaram District in the year 1979.

Coming to etymology of the name Visakhapatnam, tradition has it that some centuries ago a King of Andhra Dynasty encamped on the site of the present Head Quarters Town of Visakhapatnam on his pilgrimage to Banaras and being pleased with the place, had built a shrine in honour of his family deity called Visakeswara to the South of the Lawson's Bay from which the district has derived its name as Visakeswarapuram which subsequently changed to Visakhapatnam. The encroachment of waves and currents of the sea supposed to have swept away the shrine into off shore area.

PHYSICAL FEATURES

The District presents two distinct Geographic divisions. The strip of the land along the coast and the interior called the plains division and hilly area of the Eastern Ghats flanking it on the North and West called the Agency Division. The Agency Division consists of the hilly regions covered by the Eastern Ghats with an altitude of about 900 metres dotted by several peaks exceeding 1200 metres. Sankaram Forest block topping with 1615 metres embraces the Mandals of Paderu, G. Madugula, Pedabayalu, Munchingput, Hukumpeta, Dumbriguda, Araku Valley, Ananthagiri, Chinthapalli, G.K. Veedhi, and Koyyuru erstwhile Paderu, Araku Valley and Chinthapalli taluks in entirety.

CLIMATE

The district has differing climatic conditions in different parts of it. Near Coast the air is moist and relaxing, but gets warmer towards the interior and cools down in the hilly areas on account of elevation and vegetation. April to June is warmest months. The Temperature (at Visakhapatnam Airport) gets down with the onset of South West Monsoon and tumbles to a mean minimum of 21.0o C by December

RAINFALL

The District receives annual normal rainfall of 1202 MM, of which south-west monsoon accounts for 72.0% of the normal. The rest is shared by summer showers and winter rains. Agency and inland Mandals receive larger rainfall from the South West Monsoon, while Coastal Mandals get similarly larger rainfall from North-East monsoon.

SOILS

Red Loamy soils predominate with coverage of 69.9% of the villages of the district. The Soils are poor textured and easily drained. Sandy loamy soils come next with 19.2% villages coverage, largely confined to the coastal areas of Nakkapalli, Payakaraopeta, S.Rayavaram, Rambilli, Atchutapuram, Paravada, Visakhapatnam, Pedagantyada, Gajuwaka and Bheemunipatnam Mandals and to certain stretches in the interior Mandals of Chodavaram, Narsipatnam, K.Kotapadu and Madugula. Black cotton soils come up next having sizeable chunks of area in K.Kotapadu, Devarapalli, Cheedikada, Paderu and Hukumpeta Mandals. 45% of the soils in the district are low in organic content and 55% in Phosphorous content.

LAND USE

The total geographical area of the district is 11.16 lakh hectares of this 36.45% alone is arable area while 39.53% is forest area. The rest is distributed among "Barren and uncultivable land" about 11.7% and "Land put to non agricultural uses" about 9.0%.

FLORA AND FAUNA

More than the one third of the area in the District is covered by forest. The forests are of moist and dry deciduous type. The common species available in them are Guggilam, Tangedu, Sirimanu, Kamba, Yagisa, Nallamaddi, Gandra, Vepa etc. Bamboo shrubs are sparsely scattered. But forest area in the district has been showing a quiescent decline since 1955-56 perhaps due to podu practice, indiscriminate grazing and browsing. To stem this, regeneration programmes are being carried out. Chinthapalli Teak Plantation is an off shoot of this. The latest caper in this regeneration programme is rising of Teak, Silver trees, coffee plantations, as the agency areas are found suitable agronomically for coffee growth. Coffee plantations have been raised in about 10000 Acres in Chinthapalli, Minimuluru, Devarapalli and Ananthagiri regions by different agencies for different purposes. By the forest Department to conserve soil, by the Coffee board to evolve cultures suited to on-traditional areas and by the Girijan Corporation and the I.T.D.A. to wean out tribals from the pernicious practices of "Podu Cultivation"

ECONOMY

AGRICULTURE

Agriculture is the main stay of nearly 70% of the households. Though Visakhapatnam city is industrially developing, the rural areas continued to be backward. Rice is a staple food of the people and Paddy is therefore the principal food crop of the district followed by Ragi, Bajra and Jowar and Cash Crops such as Sugarcane, Groundnut, Sesamum Niger and Chillies are important. Since there is no Major Irrigation system, only about 36% of the cropped area is irrigated under the Ayacut of the Medium Irrigation System and Minor Irrigation Tanks. The rest of the cultivated area is covered under dry crops depending upon the vagaries of the monsoon. The productivity of the crops is low.

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY

Animal Husbandry is an important allied economic activity to Agriculture. Next to draught Animals which are main source of energy for Agriculture, Milch Animals, Sheep and Goat are important for income generation of the rural households. A sizable number of households earn subsidiary income by selling milk to Visakha Dairy and in Local markets. The total livestock of the district is 12.02 lakhs of which working animals account for 2.14 lakhs while milch Animals account for 3.10 lakhs. Goats and Sheep totalling upto 4.06 lakhs are important for the livelihood of the considerable population.

FISHING

It is another important economic activity of the fishermen population living in about 59 fishery villages and hamlets on coastline stretching to a length of 132 KMs. covering 11 coastal mandals. About 13,000 fishermen families to eke out their livelihood from marine, Inland and brackish water fishing besides catching fish living around Thandava and Raiwada reservoirs.

MINERALS

The District has mineral deposits of Bauxite Apatite (Rock Phosphate) Calcite, Crystalline limestone confined to tribal tracts. Bauxite deposits at Sapparla, Jerrila and Gudem of G.K.Veedhi Mandal are considered to be the largest in the country. Bauxite deposits are also identified at Galikonda, Katuki, Chittengodndi of Araku group deposits, Katamrajukonda of Gurthedu sub-group of deposits. Phosphate Apatite is available in Kasipatnam village of Ananthagiri mandal. Rich deposits of Crystalline limestone and Calcite are mapped in Borra Caves and along the Valley up to Araku from Borra and around Valasi village of Ananthagiri mandal. Ruby Mica is another mineral available in the District essential for electrical and electronic industries. The mineral occurs in the form of Phlogopite and is confined to Borra tract.

Quartz is another mineral found mostly in Bheemunipatnam, Padmanabham, Devarapalli, K.Kotapadu and Ananthagiri mandals. Vermiculate found near Kasipatnam of Ananthagiri mandal. Clay deposits near Malivalasa of Araku mandal are identified. Limeshell useful for manufacture of chemical grade lime is also available in the district. Red and Yellow ochre deposits are also identified in Araku and Ananthagiri mandals.

INDUSTRIES

Industrial Development is conspicuous in Visakhapatnam urban agglomeration with the large scale industries like Hindustan Shipyard, Hindustan Petroleum Corporation, Coromandal Fertilisers, Bharat Heavy Plates and Vessels, L.G.Polymers Ltd., Hindustan Zinc Plant and the recent giant Visakhapatnam Steel Plant and a host of other ancillary Industries. The Visakhapatnam Steel Plant is the biggest with an authorised share capital of Rs.7466 crores with a licenced capacity of 2.8 Million Tonnes of salable steel 3.0 Million Tonnes of Pig Iron and 8.32 lakhs Tonnes of By product. About 25,000 persons expected to be employed. The project has provided employment to 16300 persons. On the country side the agro based industries like Sugar Factories, Jute Mills and Rice Mills are there besides brick and tile units.

POWER

Power consumption by industries is 43.669 Million KWH while it is 46.052 for Agricultural purposes.

COMMUNICATIONS

The District has a Road length of 6922 kms. Of which the National Highway 5 runs to a length of 134.28 KMs. State Highways at a length of 343 KMs. And the balance forms the roads maintained by Roads and Buildings, Zilla Praja Parishad and Mandal Praja Parishads.

BANKING

There are 350 Bank Branches including Cooperative Banks in the district to look after the credit needs of the people.

AT A GLANCE

District Formation	1803 A.D
No. of Parliamentary Constituencies	3
No. of Assembly Constituencies	15
No. of Revenue Divisions	3
No. of mandals	43
No. of Gram Panchayats	976 (47 Notified)
No. of Revenue villages	3082
Municipal corporations	1
Municipalities	3
Total Geographical Area (Sq. Km.)	11161
Percentage of area under Forest	39.53 %
Sea Coast	132 K.m.
Agricultural land Available in the District	3.27 Lakh Hects.
Irrigated Land	1.34 Lakh Hects.
Un- Irrigated	2.14 Lakh Hects.
Total Land Holdings	3, 63,610
Marginal Farmers (upto Ac.1.0 Hect.)	2, 81,695
Small Farmers (upto 2.0 Hects.)	67,877
Medium Farmers (upto 10 Hects.)	12,769
Large Farmers (upto 20 + Hects.)	1,269
Total Population	38.32 Lakhs
Male	19. 30 Lakhs
Female	19. 02 Lakhs
Urban Population	15. 31 Lakhs
Rural Population	23. 01 Lakhs
Schedule Castes	
Schedule Tribes	2.91 Lakhs
Backward classes	5.57 Lakhs
	21.60 Lakhs
Density of Population	
	343 per Sq. Km.
Percentage of Literacy	
Male Literacy	60.0%
Female Literacy	69.70%
	50.10%

Irrigation Profile of Visakhapatnam District
Chief Water Sources of the district
Major Rivers
THADAVA RIVER
VRARHA RIVER
SARADA RIVER
RIVULETS
MEGADRIGEDDA / NARAVAGEDDA
MADHURUVADA MINIOR DRINAGE BASIN
ANAKAPALLI MINOR DRINAGE BASIN
AGENCY BELT
G-12 SABARI BASIN (TRIBUTORY TO GODAVARI RIVER)
