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Explained: Why Amaravati has been chosen as the new Andhra Pradesh capital

The capital region comprising 30 villages between Vijayawada and Guntur was chosen because it is centrally located and easily accessible from north and south, coastal districts and the Rayalaseema region.

Written by SRINIVAS JANYALA | Updated: October 21, 2015 3:35:43 pm

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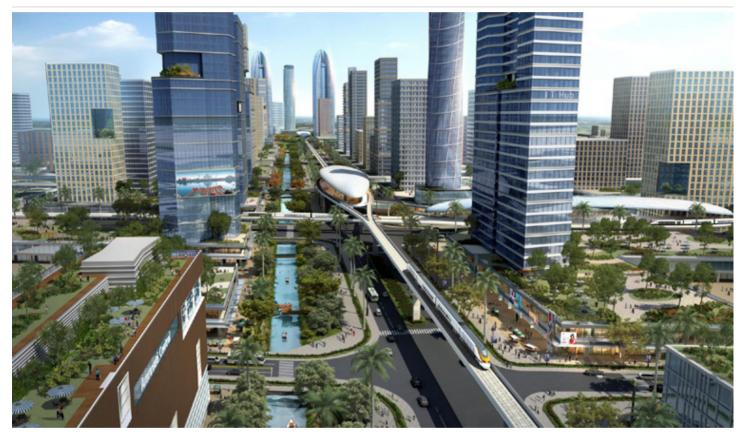
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The new Amaravati will rise on the banks of the Krishna river between Vijayawada and Guntur.

Amaravati is one of the few places in the country where a river flows north instead of south or east. This is considered auspicious and well over 2,000 years ago, the Satavahanas chose the site to build their capital at Dharanikota, two kilometres away from Amaravati town. It's located close to two well developed cities: it is 32 kilometres away from Guntur and 39 kilometres away from Vijayawada.

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When the Andhra Pradesh government decided to name the proposed new capital city 'Amaravati' it was not just to resurrect the name of an ancient political, cultural and Buddhist

capital that was ahead of its time even then, but also with the hope that the new capital would acquire the name, fame, glory and grandeur associated with it — retaining its historical significance yet reflecting modernity.

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The new Amaravati will rise on the banks of the Krishna river between Vijayawada and Guntur. Given that the new capital requires large tracts of land for development, the AP government took a major decision to procure 33,000 acres for the capital through land pooling instead of land acquisition. So far, 30,000 acres have been procured. The capital region comprising 30 villages between Vijayawada and Guntur was chosen because it is centrally located and easily accessible from north and south, coastal districts and the Rayalaseema region.

"Vijayawada-Guntur was chosen as the Capital Region after identifying it as suitable for competent administration, economic development, and cultural integration," says Parakala Prabhakar, advisor to Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu. The region was also chosen because of its scenic beauty with blue hills overlooking the river Krishna.

The region is one of the few places in the state where such a large parcel of land is available for constructing a capital city. Since it is close to Vijayawada and Guntur, connectivity is not a problem. Plenty of water is available from the river Krishna for the capital city and its residents, and the government plans to revive decades-old waterways and canals linking the capital with many towns in the Krishna delta.

Amaravati

Andhra Pradesh

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