

ACC plant inaugurated at Kuditini in Bellary

Industrial hub will be ready in three years: Janardhan Reddy

Staff Correspondent

BELLARY: Minister for Tourism G. Janardhan Reddy inaugurated a cement plant of ACC Ltd. near Kuditini in the district. This is the company's first cement plant that uses slag in south India and the sixth in the country.

Inaugurating the plant on Monday, Mr. Reddy reiterated that the State Government would develop about 540 sq. km in the district as an industrial hub. A high-level committee had cleared proposals by two major steel manufacturers, Tata Steel and Arcelor, to set up steel plants there.

"The Vijayanagar Area Development Authority (VADA) will develop the industrial area with the required infrastructure in order to make it a model one. The process of acquiring land will begin soon," he said adding that the industrial area was likely to be ready in three years.

• VADA to set up infrastructure

• ACC Ltd. to build 50 houses for flood-affected

Managing Director of ACC Sumeet Banerjee stated that the Kuditini plant was a greenfield project, and care had been taken to maintain the highest possible standards in environment management and protection. According to him, the manufacturing process here did not generate any wastewater, effluents or solid waste making it a "zero discharge, zero solid waste plant".

He said that the plant would offer sustainable livelihood to over 1,200 people through direct and indirect employment, besides generating considerable opportunities for new ancillary

businesses, including those in the service sector. Speaking to presspersons, Mr. Banerjee said that the company no immediate plans for expansion or setting up of new plants in the State. "Although the district has adequate potential for development with the Government developing it into a major industrial hub, we will chalk out a plan for expanding our production and announce it later," he said.

As part of the company's corporate social responsibility (CSR), it would construct 50 houses for those affected by the floods in Kuditini village at an estimated cost of Rs. 1 crore. He said that the houses would be constructed in association with the Nirmitti Kendra, Bellary. The CSR department would undertake a survey of the areas surrounding the plant and assess the needs of the public and come out with a detailed plan, he said.