

Taskforce soon to boost AP pharma sector, says CM

Holds meeting with industry representatives

CHRS SARMA

Visakhapatnam, September 29

Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu has promised to constitute a taskforce expeditiously for the promotion of pharma sector in the State, but has appealed to the industry to strictly adhere to the pollution control norms and safety standards.

Naidu was participating in an interactive session with the representatives of the pharma sector here on Tuesday. He

said the State government would address the problems and issues raised by the industry, "but at the same time, self-regulation is necessary with regard to pollution and safety standards.

There can be no compromise on the issues."

Port for exports

He said there was immense potential for the growth of the sector in AP, as pointed out by the representatives of several companies, but a fresh impetus has to be imparted to the sector after the bifurcation of the State.

Several speakers wanted the

notification of Visakhapatnam port for pharma exports.

It was also pointed out that the pharma companies were forced to employ local people in certain cases even without the requisite skills due to political pressures and that was leading to safety issues.

Many speakers spoke about the need for support of premier research institutes and also the need for skill development in the sector.

State Health Minister K Srinivas, Visakhapatnam MP K Haribabu, District Collector N Yuvaraj, Industries Secretary Rawat and other officials participated in the meeting.

Govt.