



Government of **Western Australia**
Department of **State Development**

Quarterly Newsletter

Oct – Dec 2017

Meet us at Gas in India, New Delhi (6-7 Nov 17) & International Mining and Machinery Exhibition (IMME), Kolkata (8-11 Nov 17)

Avail a chance to meet with WA representatives during the event and know more about the METS and Mining opportunities with WA companies by contacting Bhanu Rahoni (Manager – Trade and Investment) - Bhanu.rahoni@jtsi.wa.gov.au or call +91 22 6630 3973

AP, Western Australia seal sister State deal:

Western Australia and the Andhra Pradesh State government entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on sister State relations here on 1st September 2017. **Western Australia Deputy Premier Roger Cook met Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu at CM's camp office in Vijayawada.** The duo discussed about sister State relations, investment opportunities in AP and other related issues. Western Australia would assist the AP government in geological mapping of mines in the State. Also, Western Australia will invest ₹3,000 crore in the mining sector in AP. Mr. Cook said that his government would work with the AP government in the fields of mines, transport, technology, medical and education. Australian industrialists would be encouraged to invest in A.P. With signing of the MoU, the relations between AP and Western Australia would become stronger, he said. Mr. Naidu said that the AP was marching ahead of others by effectively using the technology. Andhra Pradesh was a newly created State. Though there were a few teething problems, AP has its own advantages. Vast coastline, abundant natural resources and best human resources were a few to mention. AP has set a target of becoming one of the top three States in the country by 2022 and the best State by 2029 and the best destination across the globe by 2050, he said. Staff exchange The Chief Minister said that there would be staff exchange programme between the AP Economic Development Board

(EDB) and Western Australia in Tourism, science and innovation. An MoU would be entered between Acharya Nagarjuna university and Curtin University for research and teaching collaboration in fields of dryland agriculture. The State government and Western Australia company KSI global company would enter into an MoU under which unique roller safety barriers would be tested on black spots on the Tirupati ghat roads, he said



New WA Economic Profile out now

Strategic Policy's latest WA Economic Profile has just been released, and you can view it via the JTSI website. Read on for the main updates.

You can view detailed report [here](#)

Mining

Indian Mines Delegation to Western Australia

The Joint Secretary of the Indian Ministry of Mines, Mr. Niranjana Kumar Singh, recently led a 12 person delegation to visit key mines and research institutions in Western Australia. The delegation comprised Indian central government officials and their counterparts from six Indian states, including Western Australia's Sister State, Andhra Pradesh. The aim of the visit was to

learn more about Australian exploration techniques, mining technology and equipment, and environmental management at mine sites. The visit to Western Australia included briefings with key government, private and research organisations. Highlights of the tour included the FMG Integrated Operations Centre and touring the Christmas Creek mine in the Pilbara. The visit gave the delegates a good insight into WA's big mining sector and the successful handling of large-scale mining operations using world class Mining technologies.



Lithium powers new WA mining boom

WHILE politicians across the globe squabble about the best way to reduce emissions from cars and power stations, the WA mining industry has been quietly getting on with the job of fuelling the looming green power boom, and building a new multi-billion industry in the State at the same time.

WA produces one-third of the world's lithium supply, through the Greenbushes mine in the South West. But it is about to expand that share dramatically, with more than \$2 billion worth of projects in the pipeline.

Companies such as Mineral Resources, Neometals and Galaxy Resources have begun shipping lithium, and hopefuls such as Pilbara Minerals, Altura Mining and Kidman Resources have major projects in the pipeline.

One of China's biggest lithium companies, Tianqi, is pumping more than \$1 billion into its WA operations, committing \$320 million to double the size of its Greenbushes mine. It is also building a \$400 million processing plant to turn lithium concentrate, worth about \$1000 a tonne, into lithium hydroxide, which sells for more than 10 times that figure. Such is the demand in China, the company is already considering a \$300 million expansion to that plant.

Agriculture

WA grain industry update- Crop report:

Most grain growing regions of the state continued to receive rain and favourable growing conditions during August. However, due to the lateness of the season and variable crop growth from the patchy start, it is still too early to tell whether these more recent favourable conditions will have a significant impact on final tonnages. To achieve current estimated tonnages the mild conditions of the season over the last few months will need to continue along a similar path and with more rain needed for most regions during September. Overall, barley grain yield potential is looking better than wheat, as many of the early wheat crops "ran up" during the dry period in May/June and do not have the same density as barley. Canola and lupin crops are being sprayed out for weed control where grain yield potential is too low to continue within the northern and eastern regions of the state. Grain quality concerns are emerging with crops being late for this time of the year. Wheat and barley could be low in weight and protein as fertiliser has been modest and top up applications have been late.

Read more detail [here](#).

Grains the leading Aussie ag export by commodity

GRAIN products are once again Australia's largest agricultural export by value, replacing beef and cattle at the top of the tree due to the record 2016-17 winter crop.

Australia had the record production of over 50 million tonnes of grain last year, but this year there have seen the drought and frost hitting yields in NSW. The agricultural exports data comes from Rural Bank, which this week released its 2016-17 A Australian Agriculture Trade Performance report, which found the total value of Australian agri-food exports, has increased for the seventh consecutive year.

Total ag exports were up by \$3.9 billion to almost \$50 billion, with the cropping sector alone rising \$3.7 billion, with a 49pc year on year increase in production the major driver.

Australian wheat exports to India rose by 920 per cent after wheat tariffs were reduced, while Indonesia, Philippines and Vietnam all bought significantly more Australian wheat. Legume

volumes were also up 85 per cent over the past 12 months, with subcontinent markets soaking up the extra volume from a record year in terms of both chickpeas and lentils.

Margaret River Gourmet Escape-2017

Margaret River Gourmet Escape is an extraordinary festival of food and wine which continues to surprise the public each and every year, attracting some of the world's best chefs, sommeliers and critics. It's our ability to consistently produce a bigger and better festival every year that has led us to being acknowledged by some of the best.

In 2016 Gourmet Escape once again received critical acclaim from international culinary and wine master circles and was awarded the **Best Tourism Event** and the **Best Regional Event** at the Australian Event Awards. Passionate festival goers experienced the extraordinary Western Australian offerings of premium food and wine elevated by the unique culinary talents of the World's Best Chefs including Rick Stein, Nigella Lawson, Dominique Crenn and Ana Ros [Click her for more detail about event.](#)

Education

One of world's best universities sets up Dubai campus

Curtin University, Western Australia's largest university and ranked one of the world's best, has launched an overseas campus in Dubai.

The university, which was recently named as one of the top one percent of universities worldwide, said the campus at Dubai International Academic City will initially offer a range of undergraduate and postgraduate programs in business, science, humanities and communications.

Curtin University is Western Australia's largest university, with more than 58,000 students. Of these, over 15,000 are international students.

Oil & Gas

Chevron, Woodside gets three blocks off Western Australia

Chevron Australia and its 50:50 partners Woodside Energy have acquired exploration interests in three blocks in the Northern Carnarvon Basin off the Western Australia coast.

Blocks WA-528-P, WA-529-P and WA-530-P cover 23,170sq km and are approximately 220km northwest of Dampier off the coast of Western Australia.

Event in Perth



2017 APPEA Health, Safety and Environment Conference



Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre ● 25-26 October

The 2017 APPEA HSE Conference will examine issues such as:

- Human factors and behaviour management: how guidance, assessment and learning tools can make operations safer, more efficient and effective.
- Technology and innovation: the role of advanced engineering, robotics, remote-sensing, cognitive science and big data analyses and the use of new communications platforms and media.

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