

"21.19"

PRESS INFORMATION BUREAU (DEFENCE WING)
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

...

DEFENCE MINISTER VISITS NAVAL
INSTALLATIONS AT VISHAKAPATNAM.

New Delhi, Srayana 18,1887
August 9, 1965

For the first time on an official visit to the Naval installations at Vishakapatnam, Shri Y.B.Chavan, the Union Defence Minister, visited the port to-day, August 8, on a proposed two day visit.

On arrival at the airport, a Naval Guard of honour was paraded and Commodore Douglas St. John Cameron, Commodore, commanding all East Coast Naval Establishments received the Defence Minister with full Naval honours.

The Defence Minister and his entourage then repaired to Circuit House, the State Guest House in Vishakapatnam. It was here that the Defence Minister first learned that his long awaited visit to the port of Vishakapatnam, would have to be cut short as a result of his immediate recall to the Capital. The Defence Minister, however, was able to fulfill a part of the programme scheduled for the day, before eventually ~~emplaning~~ for Delhi in the evening.

The day's events started with a visit to Dolphin's Nose, a 1500 foot hill and a familiar landmark on the east coast. At a certain spot on the hill, the motor-cade was stopped for the Defence Minister to view the proposed site where the new Boys Training Establishment of I.N.S. CIRCARS is to be situated. Blue prints of the new establishment were posted at a suitable spot on the hill where the Defence Minister was able to gauge the extent and set up of the new establishment to be.

Later the Defence Minister visited the Naval Store Depot and the Naval Armament Depot and Workshops of I.N.S. CIRCARS the Naval Establishment at Vishakapatnam. About 1200 civilian employees of these workshops assembled to hear the Defence Minister address them

in a short speech. In his address (which was in English, translated into telegu by an interpreter) the Defence Minister stated that he was very glad to be able to be with the workers on this occasion, to see them at work and to be able to talk to them. He said that he was deeply impressed by what he saw and that he did not fail to perceive the valliant spirit of the worker at his task. He thanked them for their devotion to duty and further encouraged them to work for the country's good since they were as important as the country's fighting men, in the role which they had been entrusted with in the building up of the new India since Independence. He deeply regretted that he could not be with them for a longer period because he was required urgently in the Capital, but he promised to come back at a more suitable time. Loud cheers from the workers bid the Defence Minister farewell as the motorcade sped swiftly away to Circuit House.

The Defence Minister, after cancelling the rest of his programme, emplaned for New Delhi the same evening.

...

EFG/RDS
'74'

235/2