

Vizag Google data center

Fact finding report



Who are we ?

We are an alliance of concerned citizens, artists, activists, and environmentalists.

Sustainable environmental management and development rooted in communities with active rights based protection is one of key priorities for the movement.

We are strongly against the rapid, unsustainable environmental extraction and a profound lack of community safeguards.



What have we done so far ?

Fact finding trips



Public consultation



Public awareness



About our Vizag - location

Population: The district has **42,90,589** people, while the **city population** sits at **2,358,412**.

Species: The region supports **1,275** marine species and **490** urban land wildlife species.

Tree Cover: Only **14%** of the forest division remains **covered**, with a 5% canopy loss since 2000.

AQI: **Air quality** has steadily declined, with the city's average AQI rising from **103** to **113**.

Water & Heat: The city faces a **66 MLD public water deficit**, rising nights at 28°C, and summer peaks up to 45°C.



Vizag Hyperscaler project

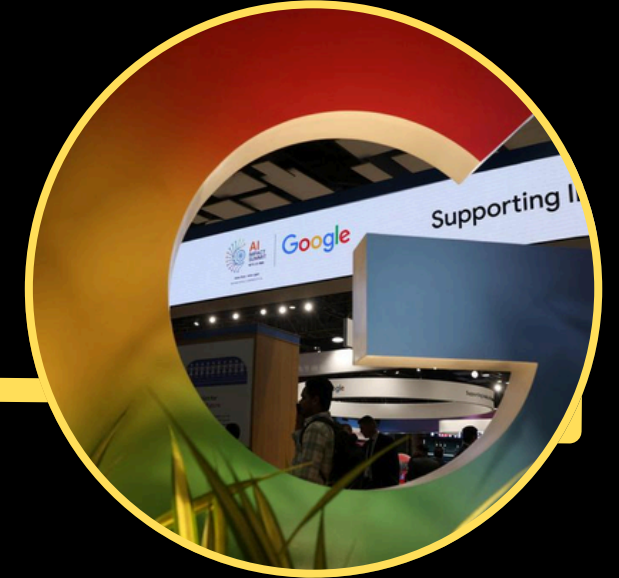
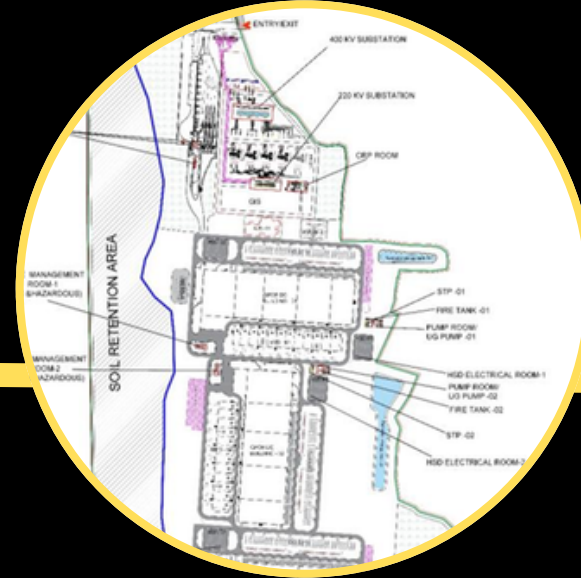


Project overview/timeline

Coalition for Ai
regulation



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Andhra Pradesh
Environment, Forests & C
Government of India
floor, AP MARKFED Buil
Road, Auto Nagar, Vijai
VSP/04/2026



October 11th 2025 - Google announces it's plans to build a 1 GW capacity data centers in Vizag. request increases from 480 - 600 acres.

April 9th 2026- Project had applied for EC for Tarluvada and Rambilli center (440 acres combined)

April 18th 2026 - Environmental clearance given to these two sites within 9 days.

June 10th 2026 - Environmental clearnace given for Mudarsarlova and Adavivaram site without any public consultations

Present day - Thousands of trees have been cut before Ec's were given and no public consultation has taken place

Who are the stakeholders ?

Coalition for Ai
regulation



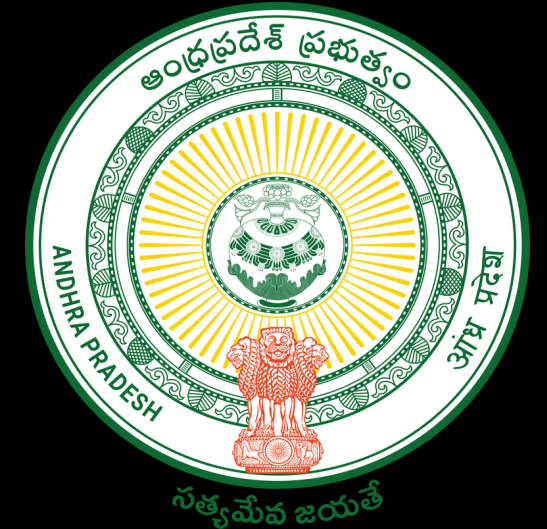
Google - along with their subsidiary partner **Raiden infotech** investing **15 billion dollars**. Driving the overall operations for this center



AdaniConneX - A joint venture **between Adani Enterprises and Edge Conne X**. They are the primary developer and operator for the **data centre infrastructure**



Nxtra by Airtel - The **data centre subsidiary of Bharti Airtel**, building out the underlying **connectivity, terrestrial fiber**, and international subsea cable landing stations



Govt of Andhra Pradesh **Providing critical state-level facilitation, land allotments, renewable energy access, and investment clearances**. Along with appointing state-incorporated Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV for managing lands at campus sites.

Overview of the project - what and why ?

- Investment & Expansion: A \$15 billion, 600-acre Artificial Intelligence hub across three campuses, with an initial 1 GW capacity scalable up to 2.5 GW.
- Global Significance: This development represents the largest Google data center hub outside the United States and features an international subsea gateway.
- Power Demand: At 2.5 GW, the facility consumes 21,900 GWh annually, which equals nearly three forth of the total electricity used by all 72 lakh connections in North Andhra.
- Water Consumption: The project requires 6.85 crore (68.5 million) liters of water daily at peak, absorbing roughly 12% of Visakhapatnam's entire municipal supply.
- Employment Issue: The sites create 1,725 direct local jobs, while broader policy documents s and PIB documents claim it will support 1.88 lakh tech and operational roles nationally and statewide.

Subsidies given for this project

- **₹22,002 Crore** Subsidy Package: Formally approved by the **AP State Cabinet on Oct 10, 2025**, for Google's subsidiary (Raiden Infotech) across a **10-to-20-year period. Tax holiday till 2047!**
- **Land & Tax benefits** : A **25% direct discount on land costs**, 100% stamp duty exemption on first sales, and 100% Net SGST reimbursement.
- **DISCOM STATUS:** **Granted a Deemed Distribution Licence (DDL)** to bypass local utilities and directly source/manage its own green energy network.
- **Water Subsidy:** **Provides a 25% tariff discount for 10 years on all municipal or industrial water** used by the facility.



Policies supporting these projects

Andhra Pradesh Artificial Intelligence Cloud Hub Policy 2018-2020 (31-01-2018)

- Incentive benefits to Data Center and Artificial Intelligence Technology Companies, covering land and infrastructure, **employment-linked incentives**, fiscal and non-fiscal incentives
- Data centers will be treated as Essential services under **Essential Services Maintenance Act** and will be extended prime importance in an event of natural disaster.
- 50% reimbursement of SGST for a period of 3 years
- Power subsidy of Rs. 2 per unit for 2 year



Adani Data center Approval

Adani Data Center Parks 2019 approval (12-02-2019)

- segregate renewable and non-renewable tax during the implementation period,
- (m) to provide potable water at a fixed rate of INR 10/- per ton/ KL for an initial period of 10 years, and at INR 25/- per KL/ ton for the next 15 years;
 - (n) dual grid power supply will be extended to the Data Center Park(s) in a manner that they are spaced so as to not to be impacted by nature's act simultaneously. The cost of transmission infrastructure viz. connecting lines and sub-station(s) at respective Data Center Park(s) will be borne by the IT,E&C Department from its incentives' budget;
 - (o) to provide a subsidy of INR 2/- per unit for the energy consumed from the DISCOMs of Andhra Pradesh for a period of 12 years from the date of land agreement for sale for respective site, as a special case as this project would create a robust data-driven
- from the DISCOMs of Andhra Pradesh to Data Center Park(s),
- (p) to categorize the Data Center Park(s)/ Data Center units as Mission Critical Infrastructure with zero load shedding;
 - (q) to provide requisite support and help pursue necessary approvals within the purview
- (g) to allow banking of 100% energy up to the extent of consumption of Data Center Park(s)/ unit(s) without any restrictions duly relaxing the provisions of AP Solar Power Policy, 2015 as a special case for a period of 12 years from the date of land sale agreement for respective Data Center Park(s). For the data center units/



Adani Data center Approval

Adani Data Center Park and Technology/ Business Park Approval 2021

- be retained by APILC for their use.
- d) To extend **Power incentives** as per distribution license option for a **duration of 20 years** from the date of handing over of land, with the condition that dual supply line shall be set up only after initial commissioning of the project.
 - e) To extend **100% reimbursement of SGST** on all data center units, electrical, communication & IT equipment for CAPEX for a period of **7 years** from the date of handing over of land.
 - f) To categorize the **data center as mission critical infrastructure** and provide **24x7 water**.



Adani Data center Approval

The project proponent shall accordingly ensure the creation of direct employment committed in its proposal i.e. 1,240 direct employment from the 200 MW data center park, 1,200 direct employment from IT business park, 21,000 direct employment through companies operating in the IT business park, 550 direct employment from the skill university, and 1,000 direct employment from the recreation center, totaling a direct employment of 24,990. These jobs are to be created within a period of 7 years from the date of handing over of the land to the project proponent.

Non-Fiscal Incentives:

- 1. Affiliates & Partners: For creating the data center and allied ecosystem, the Government will facilitate the incentives to be available to the notified partners of M/s. Raiden Infotech India Pvt Ltd, subject to taking prior approval from the Government, and duly limited to the core business of data center operations. Also, the notified partners should invest to avail the incentives.*
- 2. Cloud Partnership and Procurement: The Government will consider Google Cloud Services in the Government data services, as long as the procurement rules of the State are followed.*



Site - 1 Mudarsarlova and Adavivaram

Overview and general facts

Site investment : **₹17,700 Crore** capital investment and classifies as a B2 category project (building and constructions).

Power Capacity: **512 MW**.

Land Size : **160 acres total**.

Projected employment from this site :

50 temporary jobs during construction/setup.

Only **500 permanent jobs during operations**, low long-term employment for a project of this scale.

Mudarsarlova Site
Credits - Human rights forum



Site - 1 Mudarsarlova and Adavivaram

Water Consumption vs. Vizag's Local situation

Source: Supplied by the **Rural Water Supply (RWS)** department.

Daily Water Consumption: **Requires 307 KLD** (Kilo Liters per Day) total.

Freshwater required: **246 KLD.**

Recycled water used: **61 KLD.**

The Local Context (GVMC Data): Visakhapatnam already suffers from a structural **pipel water supply gap of nearly 66 million liters per day (MLD)** for its residents.

The Threat: **Diverting 246 KLD** of fresh water to a single facility strains an already depleted public supply system that is failing to reach 100% of local households.



Mudarsarlova reservoir catchment area

Site - 1 Mudarsarlova and Adavivaram

Mudasarlova Contamination Risks

Location Risk: Located directly **opposite** the historic **Mudasarlova Reservoir**.

A Critical Lifeline (APPCB Records): Built in 1901, Mudasarlova is a **primary reservoir supplying over 4.5 to 6.8 million liters (MLD) of water** daily to the citizens of Visakhapatnam.

Catchment Threat:

High **risk of wastewater/effluents** draining into the reservoir's catchment area.

Potential **threat to water quality** for nearby residents in **Adilova and Gudisalova**.



Water filter located in mudarsarlova reservoir park used for supply to Adilova and Gudisalova residents

Site - 1 Mudarsarlova and Adavivaram

Environmental harms and other factors

Closeness to Wildlife (Regulatory Class B2):

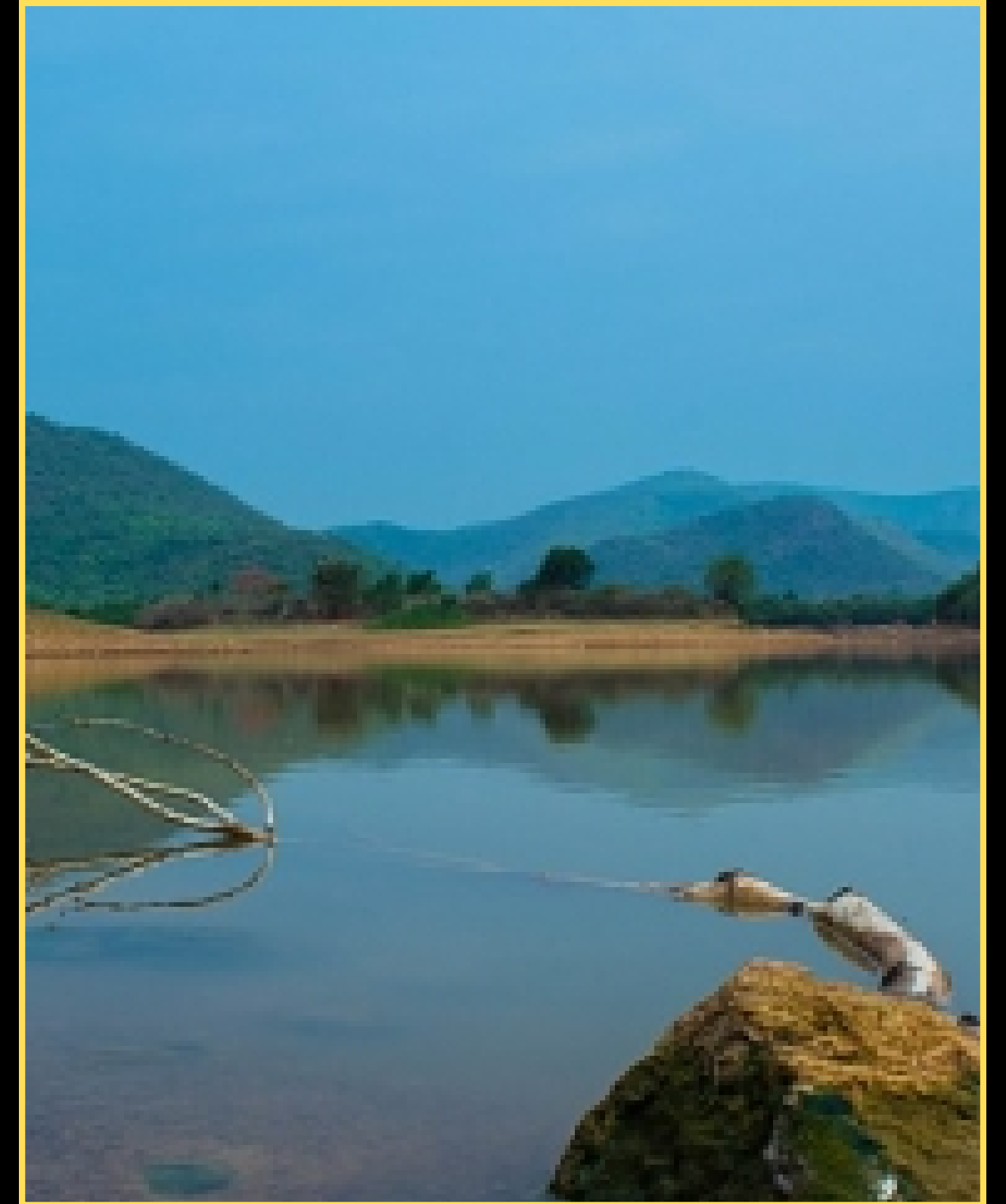
Just **750 meters** from Kambalakonda Wildlife Sanctuary.

Only **471 meters** from the Eco-Sensitive Zone (ESZ).

3.9 km from Seethakonda Reserve Forest.

Clean Energy usage : Despite Vizag facing rising summer temperatures peaking between 43°C and 45°C, this 512 MW project has **zero plans for solar power to run the main facility.**

The Reality: Solar is only **recommended for basic lighting (common areas, gardens)**, missing a critical opportunity to mitigate urban heat islands and reduce grid reliance.



Kambalakonda wildlife sanctuary
Credits - Native planet

Site - 1 Mudarsarlova and Adavivaram

Potential Species in danger due to this project as seen in Simhachalam



Green Vine Snake



Leopard Gecko



Golden Gecko

Credits - Zoo's Print

Site - 1 Mudarsarlova and Adavivaram

Key Takeaways

Low Return on investment : A massive ₹17,700 Cr, 512 MW project occupying 160 acres, yet it generates only 50 permanent jobs during operations.

Burden to a water stressed city : Demands 246 KLD of fresh water daily from the Rural Water Supply, deeply straining a city already facing a 66 MLD public water deficit. (GVCF)

Water polluting : Located directly opposite the Mudasarlova Reservoir, risking chemical effluent contamination to a source providing 4.5–6.8 MLD of drinking water to citizens.

Too close to reserve forests: Built just 750m from Kambalakonda Wildlife Sanctuary and 471m from its Eco-Sensitive Zone, raising major environmental red flags.

False renewable energy claims : Despite heavy local grid reliance and intense 43°C+ regional summer heat, the 512 MW facility has no concrete plans for solar energy to power its main operations.

Site - 2 Tarluvada - Anandpuram Mandal

Tarluvada Site
Credits - Human rights forum

Overview and general facts

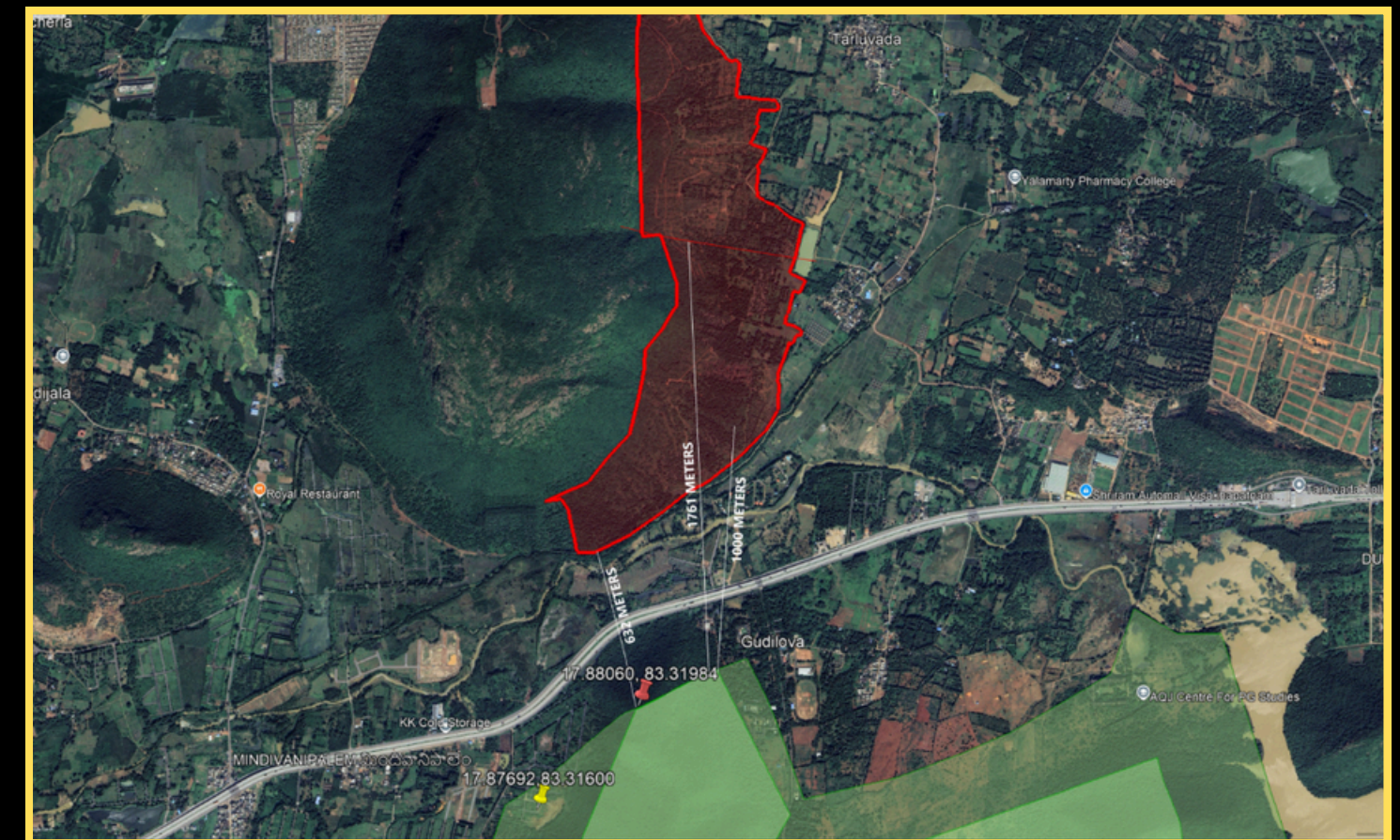
Project Investment: **₹26,400 Crore** capital investment.

Power Capacity: Groundbreaking **1,000 MW** (1 Gigawatt) facility.

Land Footprint: **Phase 1 covers 120 acres, with 266+ total acres** officially granted.

Employment Paradox: Generates **only 20 permanent construction jobs** and **575 permanent operational jobs**.

Overall the **returns are critically low** for a 266-acre tech campus. With large number of subsidies.



Site - 2 Tarluvada - Anandpuram Mandal

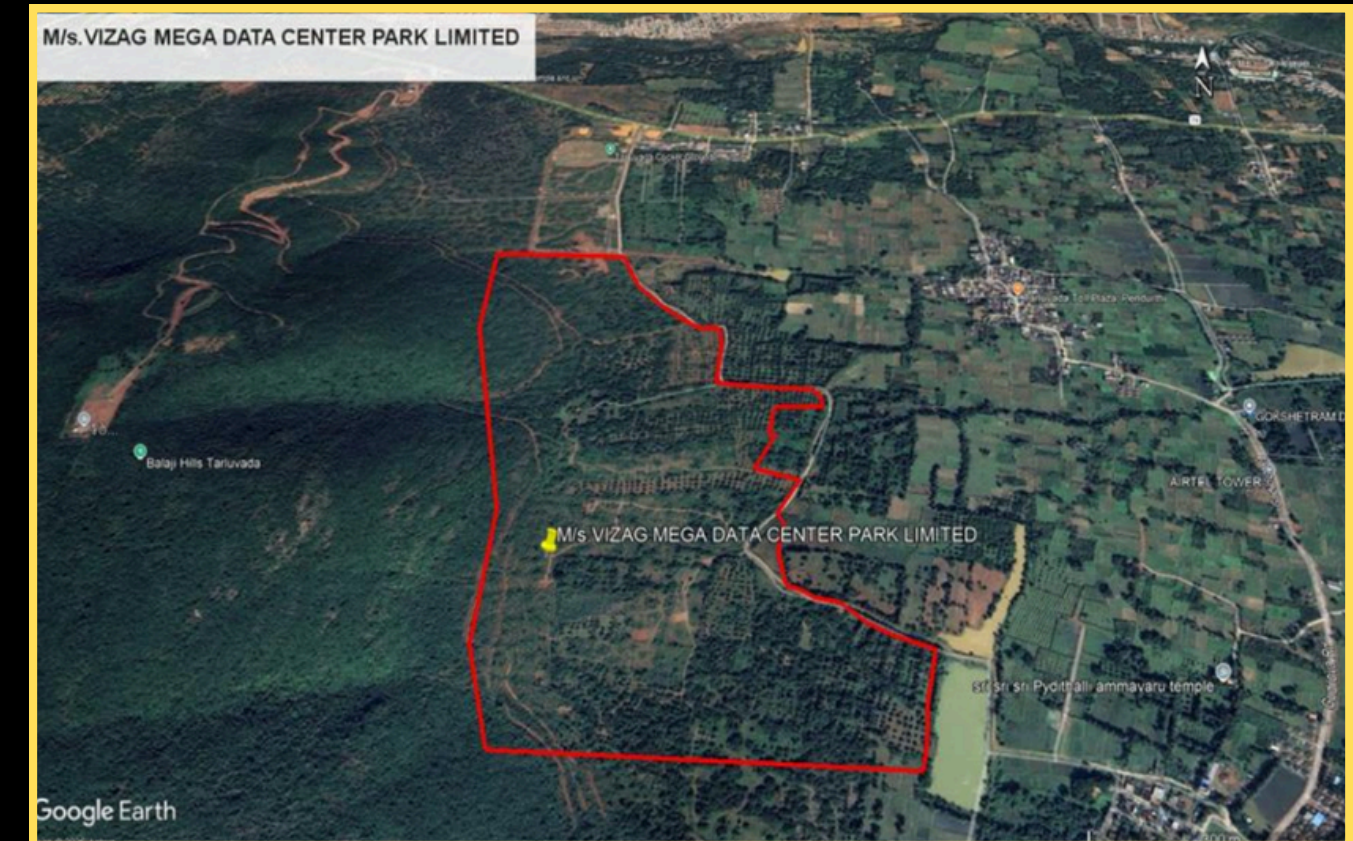
Environmental & Water Troubles

Forest Manipulation: Approx 90% of the site sits within the **Pedda Chukka Konda Reserve Forest**. Clearances were fast-tracked because Survey of India topo sheets recorded "no forest content."

Critical Wildlife Proximity: Located just **1.5 km from Kambalakonda Wildlife Sanctuary** and **400 meters from its Eco-Sensitive Zone**, risking severe noise and heat disturbance to local wildlife.

Water Strain: Consumes **267 KLD from Rural Water Supply and Sanitation**, taking 239 KLD of pure freshwater while **recycling only 28 KLD**.

Tarluvada Mapping
Credits - Human rights forum



Site - 2 Tarluvada - Anandpuram Mandal

People's losses & Broken Promises

Targeting Dalit Farmers: Authorities used systemic methods of **coercion to seize ancestral patta lands from 50 Dalit families**, stripping them of their **primary income**.

Unfulfilled Compensation: Displaced **families were promised alternative land behind Chuka Konda and one permanent job per person**. To date, no land has been assigned and no hiring steps have been taken.

Testimony (Ramakrishnamma, Tarluvada Farmer):
*"If this land was used to **build schools or hospitals**, we would have happily given it up. We do not know how this project benefits us when we have lost our basic livelihoods."*

Chukka Konda -
Credit - frontline, Bhaskar Basava



Site - 2 Tarluvada - Anandpuram Mandal

Tarluvada construction
Credits - The Hindu

The Energy Burden

Massive Grid Demand: Requires a continuous **929 MW** of power supplied directly via **APTRANSCO**.

Deemed DISCOM Status Advantage: The government granted the facility "**Deemed Distribution Company**" status under strategic infrastructure provisions, which allows the **tech giant to operate its own internal power network, purchase wholesale bulk electricity directly, and entirely bypass standard industrial tariffs and state electricity board regulations.**

The Inequity: This special status **protects the corporation from standard costs and surcharges** while everyday citizens face rising power tariffs and summer load shedding.



Site - 2 Tarluvada - Anandpuram Mandal

Key Takeaways

High investment, Low returns: A massive ₹26,400 Cr, 1,000 MW project that takes over 266 acres of local land but **returns only 575 long-term jobs.**

Broken Social Contract: **Displaced 50 Dalit families** through coercion, leaving them with pennies for compensation (**20 Lakh INR/ acre**), no alternative land, and unfulfilled employment promises.

No environmental Safety: Built over a reserve forest and **placed just 400 meters from a vital Eco-Sensitive Zone**, avoiding strict public environmental scrutiny.

Increasing the resource problem: **Diverts 239 KLD of fresh public water daily**, ignoring the region's current water scarcity issues.

Unfair privileges: Will use the "**Deemed DISCOM**" status to access subsidized grid power, leaving local citizens to bear the burden of grid maintenance and rising tariffs.

Site - 2 Tarluvada - Anandpuram district

What we saw when we visited



Site - 3 Rambilli - Anakapalli District

Overview and facts

Project Investment: Massive **₹21,400 Crore** capital investment.

Power Capacity: Hyper-scale **1,000 MW (1 Gigawatt)** infrastructure footprint.

Land Allocation: **Spans 174 acres** within the Rambilli Industrial Park area.

Employment Paradox: Generates **only 20 permanent construction jobs** and **650 permanent operational jobs**, offering minimal long-term employment for a massive land layout.

Rambilli Site
Credits - Rambili EC



Site - 3 Rambilli - Ankapalli District

Rambili Site
Credits - Rambili EC

Local ecological impacts and problems

Fast-Tracked Environmental Clearances: Local authorities **rushed and completed the entire 174-acre tree survey in just two days** to bypass regulatory bottlenecks and fast-track official project approvals.

Agricultural Disruption: The site is completely **surrounded by fertile agricultural land** and involves the clearing of vast, **dense groves composed of indigenous toddy, coconut, and palm trees.**



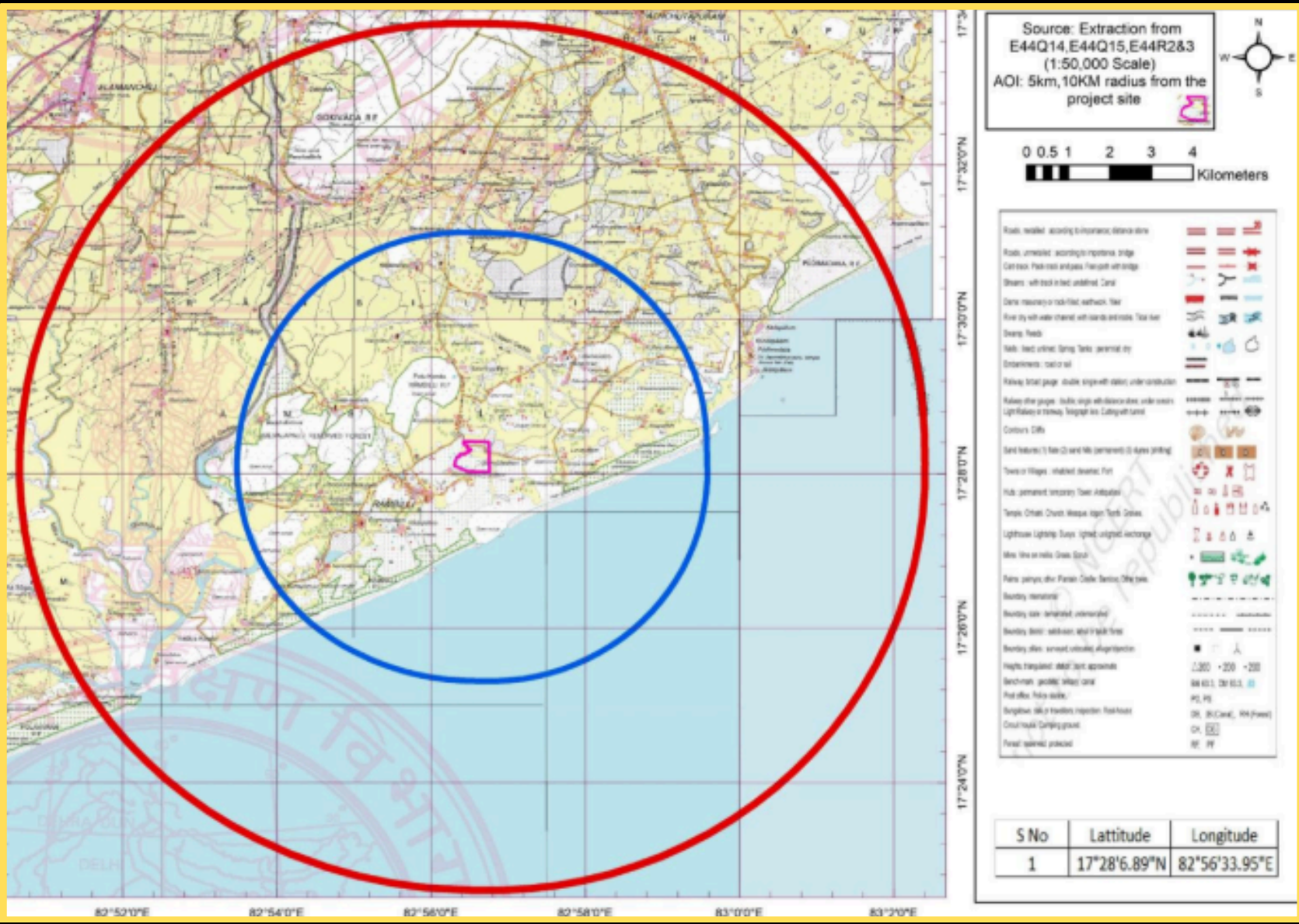
Site - 3 Rambilli - Anakapalli District

Forest & Wildlife Encroachment

The Forest Blanket: The mega data center park directly intersects and **impacts critical green zones, with 6 key reserved and protected forests** situated within a **7km radius**:

- Rambilli Reserved Forest: **1.3 km Northwest**
- **Rambilli Protected Forest: 1.6 km South**
- Sitapalem Protected Forest: **1.9 km Southeast**
- Kalavalapalli Reserved Forest: **1.98 km West**
- Gokivada Reserved Forest: **7.1 km Northwest**
- Pudimadaka Reserved Forest: **7.2 km Southeast**

Rambili Site
Credits - Rambili EC



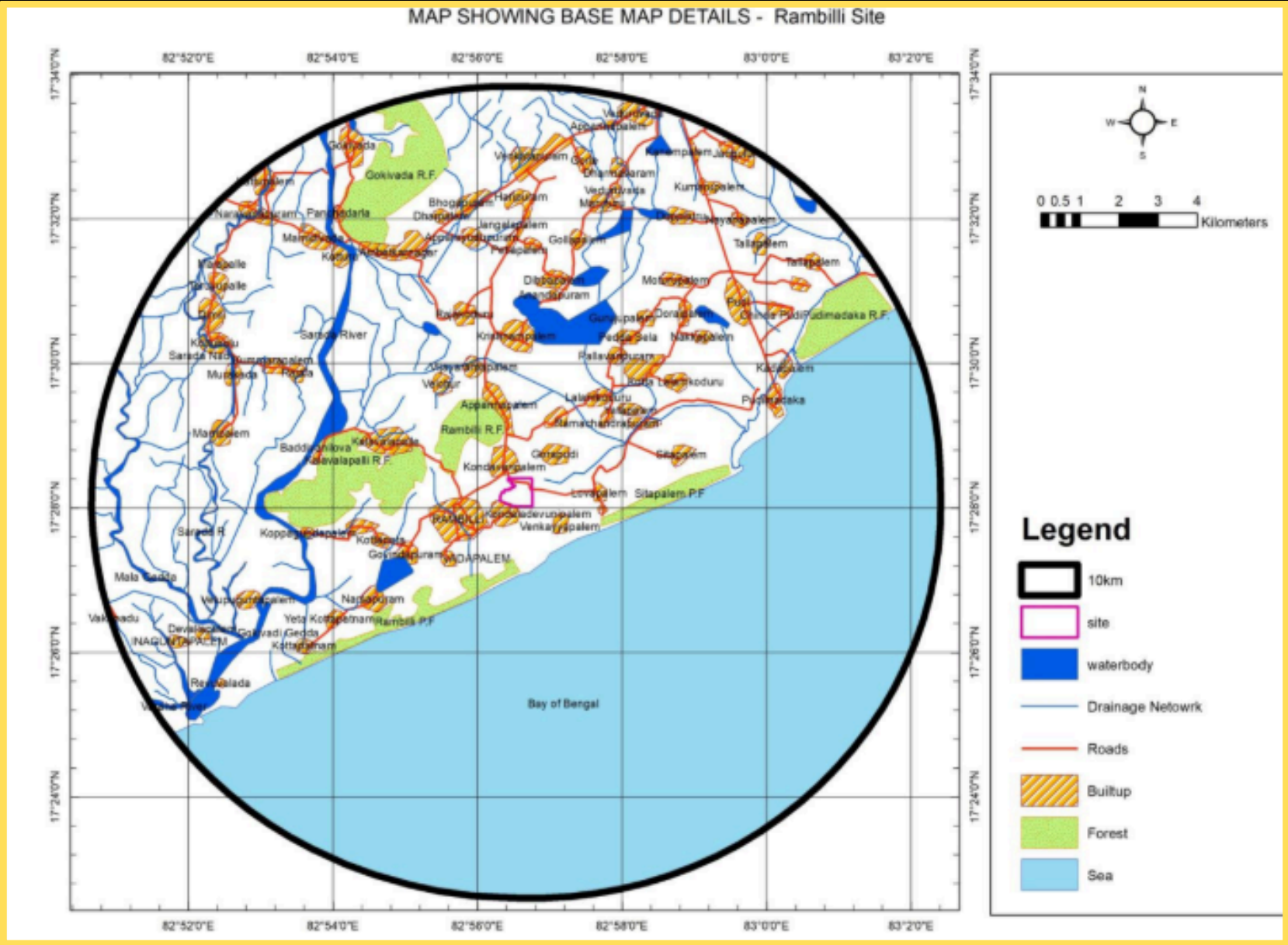
Site - 3 Rambilli - Anakapalli District

Water Drain & Effluent problem

Public Utility Strain: Diverts **234 KLD (Kilo Liters per Day)** from the local Rural Water Supply network, drawing 207 KLD of clean freshwater daily while **recycling only 27 KLD**.

Heavy Chemical Discharge: **Generates 85.8 KLD of total wastewater**, with a staggering **58.7 KLD of that effluent coming purely from industrial equipment cleaning processes**.

Rambili Site
Credits - Rambili EC



Site - 3 Rambilli - Anakapalli District

Key Takeaways

Resource Drain: A ₹21,400 Cr, 1,000 MW installation taking 174 acres of local territory but yielding just 650 operational jobs.

Rushed Environmental Audits: Rushed a massive 174-acre tree survey in just 48 hours to secure rapid clearance orders and dodge deep eco-scrutiny.

Destruction of Farming Greenery: Wipes out vast swathes of thriving toddy, coconut, and palm tree ecosystems while surrounded on all sides by active agricultural fields.

Encroaching Forest Buffers: Placed in immediate ecological proximity to 6 major local reserve and protected forests, threatening the region's existing biodiversity.

Aggressive Water Consumption: Pulls 207 KLD of pure public fresh water daily and creates high volumes of toxic equipment-cleaning wastewater.

Overall Conclusion Across All Three Sites

Key Takeaways

Resource Drain: The three sites demand a combined **2,512 MW of projected power and over 780 KLD of water daily**, heavily straining a city already facing a 66 MLD public water deficit.

Threat to Wildlife: All three facilities are built right **next to the critical Kambalakonda ecosystem and reserve forests**, coming as close as 400 meters to Eco-Sensitive Zones.

High Land Loss, Low Jobs: **The project takes over 550 acres of local land and receives massive state subsidies**, yet creates only **1,725 permanent jobs across all three sites combined**.

The Bottom Line: This model prioritizes **fast-tracked corporate greed** over public water security, environmental safety, and local livelihoods.

Government Retaliations & Silencing Tactics

Key Takeaways

Local authorities and political groups have used threats and intimidation tactics like detention to silence residents and environmentalists asking valid questions about resources.

Instead of answering tough questions about water scarcity and grid strain, officials dismiss evidence-based citizen research as "misinformation." along with censorship on social media and threats.

By keeping local communities completely out of the planning process, the government has shielded these multi-billion-dollar deals from public scrutiny.



So join us ?

AND

**Help us save Vizag, save nature
and fight for the rights of those
who are vulnerable**