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## VMRDA Proposes Four Theme-Based Townships in Vizag Region

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The Visakhapatnam Metropolitan Region Development Authority (VMRDA) has taken a bold step toward transforming the Vizag metropolitan area with plans for four theme-based townships. These integrated, self-sustained urban clusters, covering around 500 acres in total, are designed to promote a “walk-to-work” lifestyle while stimulating sector-specific growth.

The proposed townships are to be developed in strategic locations such as Kothavalasa in Bheemunipatnam mandal and Sontyam in Anandapuram mandal, with two additional sites nearing finalization. Each township will carry a distinct theme, ranging from IT and Innovation to Health and Wellness, Knowledge and Education, and Tourism and Culture, aimed at attracting investment and talent in those sectors.

VMRDA has issued a request for proposals for a transaction advisor to perform pre-feasibility studies, create detailed financial models, structure the projects (under models like public-private partnership, EPC, or hybrid), manage stakeholder engagement, and lead the developer selection process. The initiative is designed to align with the broader “Bay City” vision for Vizag, which seeks to position the city as a dynamic coastal metropolis similar to Miami.

Officials anticipate that the townships could generate between 500,000 and 600,000 job opportunities, boosting the region’s economy and enhancing urban living standards. Sustainability, inclusion, and smart infrastructure are expected to guide the planning and execution of these projects.