

Telephonic Talk between Union Minister for Power and MNRE, RK Singh and Mr John Kerry, U.S. Special Presidential Envoy for Climate

New Delhi, August 28 2021: Mr John Kerry has congratulated India on achievements in renewable energy on reaching 146GW Renewables with 63 GW under construction and 25 GW under bids. Union Minister R.K. Singh has informed Mr. Kerry about India's plan to emerge as a Global leader in Green Hydrogen.

India is proposing to mandate using green hydrogen in fertilizer and in refining. This is part of the Government's commitment towards replacing grey hydrogen with green hydrogen. This was stated by Union Minister for power and MNRE Shri RK Singh in a telephonic talk with Mr John Kerry, U.S. Special Presidential Envoy for Climate (SPEC) here last evening.

Singh underlined to the US Presidential envoy, that the Hon'ble Prime Minister, Narendra Modi places the highest importance on the environment. He suggested to him that India and USA could work together in the areas of innovations for power and technology, pointing out the requirement of bringing down the cost of storage of renewable power. India is in the process for inviting bids for 4000 Megawatt hour of battery storage.

The Minister informed Mr Kerry about the recent milestone the country had achieved by crossing 100 GW in Installed Solar and Wind Capacity. If we add Hydro capacity also, the total installed renewable capacity is 147 MW. Further, 63 GW of renewable capacity is under



construction which makes India one of the fastest growing in terms of renewable capacity addition.

Singh also informed Mr Kerry that the National Hydrogen Energy Mission has been launched to enable cost competitive green hydrogen production. He added that India would be conducting competitive bids for green hydrogen in next 3-4 months to pave the road for viable usage of hydrogen as a fuel. India is looking at bids

for 4000 MW of electrolyser capacity. The other countries need to come up with more electrolyser plants to bring down the costs.

It was suggested that India and USA should work at setting up an alternate supply chain for lithium in order to secure inputs material for battery Energy Storage. Shri Singh and Mr Kerry are expected to meet shortly to take forward discussions on Energy Transition.

Union Minister Sonowal and Assam CM Dr. Sarma attends MoU signing for Slipway at Pandu

New Delhi, August 28 2021: Providing a major boost to the economic growth of the region, Chief Minister Dr Himanta Biswa Sarma along with Union Minister of Ports, Shipping and Waterways Sarbananda Sonowal today attended the MoU signing programme between Inland Water Authority of India & Hooghly Cochin Shipyard Ltd. for setting up a new 'Ship Repair Facility' at Pandu in Guwahati.

As per the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), the design and implementation of this project with best standards would be ensured. The technical support is to be provided by IIT Madras. The facility - also known as Slipway - is to be developed on a land of 3.67 acres provided by Government of Assam and is expected to be completed by August 2023. The facility is to be built at an estimated cost of Rs 75 crores.

The Union Cabinet Minister of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, Shri Sarbananda Sonowal, said that this endeavour is another step towards augmenting the economic development of the region with special emphasis

on waterways connectivity for movement of big cargo from the region. He stated that the rivers will fuel Assam & NE's growth and these waterways would be developed so that prosperity and employment opportunities can be ensured. Praising Prime Minister's initiatives, he highlighted that Prime Minister Modi has relentlessly pushed for NE's growth through Act East Policy and thus bringing the BBIN & ASEAN countries closer to NE region through Act East Policy.

While the infinite potential of waterways remains largely underutilised, Honourable Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi resolved to develop this untapped economic potential, the union minister said.

Union Minister Sonowal said that given the expected rise in vessels transporting cargo from the region, there will be an increasing demand for ship repair and maintenance, which at present, for this type of repair, the ships are sent to Kolkata for dry docking which is expensive, time consuming and tedious and thus the new slipway will overcome this



hurdle and is also likely to create employment in the state.

"Before independence, the British used to export Assam's products like timber, coal etc through the waterways to other parts of the world and we must harness the rivers for revolutionising water transport here", Sonowal said.

Assam Chief Minister Dr Himanta Biswa Sarma, in his speech, said that there are nearly 200 vessels plying on the rivers of Assam and for repairing these vessels, they had to be taken to Kolkata earlier. Now, with this facility in Guwahati, repairs will be done here which will save time and money. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been putting lots of emphasis on the development of roads, railways, waterways, airways and internet connectivity in

the NE for faster development, he said.

He thanked Union Minister Sonowal for the decision to set up the Slipway at Pandu and for announcing to build a modern convention centre at Pandu Slipway site. He also requested the Union Minister for setting up a Maritime cum Shipping Institute in Assam so that required manpower for the emerging sector can be created while also generating employment opportunities for local youth.

Industry Minister Chandra Mohan Patowary, Union MoS of Ports, Shipping and Waterways Shantanu Thakur, MP Queen Oja, Secretary of Ports, Shipping and Waterways Ministry Dr Sanjeev Ranjan were also present on the occasion among others.

RESEARCHERS DISCOVER THREE SUPER-MASSIVE BLACK HOLES MERGING TOGETHER IN OUR NEARBY UNIVERSE

New Delhi, August 28 2021: Indian researchers have discovered three supermassive black holes from three galaxies merging together to form a triple active galactic nucleus, a compact region at the center of a newly discovered galaxy that has a much-higher-than-normal luminosity. This rare occurrence in our nearby Universe indicates that small merging groups are ideal laboratories to detect multiple accreting supermassive black holes and increases the possibility of detecting such rare occurrences.

Supermassive black holes are difficult to detect because they do not emit any light. But they can reveal their presence by interacting with their surroundings. When the dust and gas from the surroundings fall onto a supermassive black hole, some of the mass is swallowed by the black hole, but some of it is converted into energy and emitted as electromagnetic radiation that makes the black hole appear very luminous. They are called active galactic nuclei (AGN) and release huge amounts of ionized particles

and energy into the galaxy and its environment. Both of these ultimately contribute to the growth of the medium around the galaxy and ultimately the evolution of the galaxy itself.

A team of researchers from the Indian Institute of Astrophysics consisting of Jyoti Yadav, Mousumi Das, and Sudhanshu Barway along with Francoise Combes of College de France, Chaire Galaxies et Cosmologie, Paris, while studying a known interacting galaxy pair, NGC7733, and NGC7734, detected unusual emissions from the centre of NGC7734 and a large, bright clump along the northern arm of NGC 7733. Their investigations showed that the clump is moving with a different velocity compared to the galaxy NGC7733 itself. The scientists meant that this clump was not a part of NGC7733; rather, it was a small separate galaxy behind the arm. They named this galaxy NGC7733N.

This study, published as a letter in the journal Astronomy and Astrophysics, used data from the Ultra-Violet Imaging Telescope

(UVIT) onboard the first Indian space observatory ASTROSAT, the European integral field optical telescope called MUSE mounted on the Very Large Telescope (VLT) in Chile and infrared images from the optical telescope (IRSF) in South Africa.

The UV and H-alpha images also supported the presence of the third galaxy by revealing star formation along with the tidal tails, which could have formed from the merger of NGC7733N with the larger galaxy. Each of the galaxies hosts an active supermassive black hole in their nucleus and hence form a very rare triple AGN system.

According to the researchers, a major factor impacting galaxy evolution is galaxy interactions, which happen when galaxies move close by each other and exert tremendous gravitational forces on each other. During such galaxy interactions, the respective supermassive black holes can get near each other. The dual black holes start consuming gas from their surroundings and become dual AGN.

The IIA team explains that if two galaxies collide, their black hole will also come closer by transferring the kinetic energy to the surrounding gas. The distance between the blackholes decreases with time until the separation is around a parsec (3.26 light-years). The two black holes are then unable to lose any further kinetic energy in order to get even closer and merge. This is known as the final parsec problem. The presence of a third black hole can solve this problem. The dual merging blackholes can transfer their energy to the third blackhole and merge with each other.

Many AGN pairs have been detected in the past, but triple AGN are extremely rare, and only a handful has been detected before using X-ray observations. However, the IIA team expects such triple AGN systems to be more common in small merging groups of galaxies. Although this study focuses only on one system, results suggest that small merging groups are ideal laboratories to detect multiple supermassive black holes.

Shri Jyotiraditya M. Scindia writes to Karnataka CM for strengthening aviation Infrastructure in state

New Delhi, August 28 2021: Shri Jyotiraditya M. Scindia, Union Minister of Civil Aviation, has written to S h r i BasavarajSomappaBommai, Chief Minister of Karnataka, requesting his personal intervention in expediting the matters for strengthening of aviation infrastructure in the state. AAI has embarked upon development and expansion of airports in the country at a cost of Rs. 20,000 Crore in the next 4-5 years in order to meet the growing passenger demand in the country.

Shri Scindia has drawn attention of to Shri BasavarajSomappaBommai

on following issues that are impacting the implementation of various projects pertaining to aviation sector in Karnataka:

AAI has projected land requirement of 370 acres at Belagavi airport, out of which only 348.6 acres have been handed over.

Similarly, AAI has requisitioned for allocation of 240 acres at Mysore Airport. However, the said land is yet to be handed over by the State Government.

The Govt. of Karnataka may take necessary steps to operationalize Shivamoga and Vijayapura airports so



that the bids received under RCS-UDAN 4.1 can be considered for award. Further, the State Govt. needs to communicate its consent for 100% VGF support for the routes to be awarded from these two airports as these are part of State Regional

Connectivity Scheme (SCRS).

An amount of Rs. 7.55 Crores is outstanding on part of the State Government as VGF share for Regional Air Connectivity Fund Trust (RACFT).

Now get free post-vaccine sensitization kit after your vaccination dose in Chennai

Chennai, August 28 2021: The COVID-19 vaccination drive across India is picking up pace, thanks to the combined efforts of public hospitals and private healthcare providers. While people are getting vaccinated, they have many doubts and questions on post-vaccination hygiene and care. On the other hand, some individuals become completely negligent towards hygiene norms after their vaccine dose, believing they are completely immune. Acknowledging these concerns and to address them, an interesting initiative has been announced.

Cinthal Health Plus, the health soap brand from Godrej Consumer Products Ltd (GCPL), and Fortis Hospital Vadapalani have joined hands for a post-vaccine sensitization programme. The objective is to create awareness around post-vaccine precautions, do's and don'ts while encouraging citizens to keep following hygiene norms even after the vaccination is done. The week-long pilot of this

programme has already started at Fortis Hospital, Vadapalani (Chennai), where a post-vaccine kit will be given free of cost to those getting vaccinated at the hospital.

Being built on the strong association with protection outdoors, Cinthal Health Plus is a health soap that gives all-round protection with a refreshing fragrance. Fortis Healthcare, a leading private sector healthcare provider in India and across its network of hospitals has been at the forefront of the vaccination drive with 24 hospitals across India engaged in administering vaccinations.

Cinthal Health Plus has conceptualized the post-vaccine sensitization kit along with Fortis Hospital, incorporating key hygiene messages that can inform and empower people. The carefully curated kit contains a COVID-19 booklet capturing important do's and don'ts in an easy to understand language. The kit also includes safety and hygiene

products, including Cinthal Health Plus germ protection soap, sanitizer, masks, gloves, face shield, face wipes, among others.

Commenting about the initiative, Sunil Kataria, CEO - India and SAARC, Godrej Consumer Products Limited (GCPL), said, "Vaccination is the most important part to beat the COVID-19 virus. As a brand, Cinthal Health Plus has always inspired people to take on one's duties fearlessly with its assurance of protection from germs. Our post-vaccine sensitization program is a humble step to contribute to the massive national COVID-19 vaccination drive. The strategic partnership with Fortis will facilitate a direct connect with individuals taking their vaccine dose. We are confident that the pilot program in Chennai will lead to a positive impact and inspire many more such initiatives across cities."

Speaking on the partnership, Dr. Sanjay Pandey, Zonal Director, Fortis

Hospitals, Chennai said, "We are delighted to partner with Cinthal Health Plus to raise awareness among the public about the need of maintaining basic hygiene during COVID. In many cases, post vaccination, there is misconception in the minds of people that they can ignore basic hygiene Sanitising, Masking and Social Distancing (SMS). While there is no doubt that the current two-dose vaccines will surely protect an individual from ending up in ICU or getting cured with minimal infection, medical experts are still in the process of learning and understanding the vaccine's longevity, virus mutations and behaviour. Even before the vaccine, individual discipline protected everyone from the virus spread. Today, it is still necessary to maintain that discipline and follow SMS even after getting vaccinated. We sincerely request every individual to follow SMS principle to contain community spread and remain protected."

Lactalis India Forays into Yoghurt Category; Launches Lactel Turbo

Chennai and Bangalore, August 28 2021: Lactalis India, part of the Lactalis Group that has the esteemed position of being France's No. 1 milk brand for over 50 years and has its presence in over 150 countries, today announced their foray into the Yoghurt category with the launch of Lactel Turbo for the first time in India. Lactalis India, that focuses on high quality products meeting global standards, announced that First time in India, Lactel Turbo yoghurt drink will now be available.

Lactalis India, which has been part of the Indian Dairy industry for 7+ years through their acquisition of Thirumala Milk in south India, Anik Milk in north India and Prabhat Dairy in west India, had launched Lactel UHT Milk late last year. As part of their strategy for the Indian market, the French dairy giant, based on market extensive research conducted for Indian market has decided to bring Lactel Turbo, which has amassed great interest and adoption in international market, to India. The product

has been adapted to Indian consumer's requirement in easy open pouch at an affordable price point of Rs.15 only.

Mr. Rahul Kumar, Managing Director, Lactalis India, launched the snackable yoghurt drink that is targeted at 'on-the-go' young Indians from all sections of consumers and comes in a unique easy pouch. With Lactel Turbo the brand aims at democratizing yoghurt for the masses and expects a market penetration of 20% and is looking for the product to add to their overall revenue of 2%. Lactel Turbo Yoghurt Drink will be available in Chennai & Bangalore in first phase and plans to launch across North & West Indian cities by Jan 2022.

Mr. Rahul Kumar, Managing Director, Lactalis India, said, "In India, Fermented milk products have always been part of daily food intake. But Yoghurt is relatively new & largely restricted to niche audience living in metro cities. With Lactel Turbo Yoghurt drink

we want to give the discerning audience the goodness of yoghurt in a snackable drink format. Hence we are bringing in on the go & affordable variety of Yoghurt drink that would allow every Indian to enjoy the goodness, health benefits and taste of all natural French quality yoghurt in easy open pouch pack at an affordable price point of Rs.15 only."

"Consumers can now enjoy a snack that has found a global following in a drinkable variant that comes in an easy to open pouch. Each pouch would cost Rs. 15/- and would contain all the benefits of all natural premium French quality yoghurt. Since our next gen consumers love quick snack and are always on the go we feel that Lactel Turbo will be well accepted especially with that audience and others that have always wanted to try a healthy alternative. We are very excited with the launch of Turbo, as we have already seen its success in other global markets and soon expect it to become a favourite amongst our Indian consumers as



well." Added Mr. Rahul.

Lactel Turbo yoghurt drink is a quick snackable yoghurt drink packed with dairy goodness of calcium, proteins and other minerals almost perfectly covering daily nutrient requirements and plush with probiotics that help maintain good digestive health and regulates metabolism. All the benefits of French Quality Yoghurt in an easy to open pack for consumption on the go. Lactel Turbo passes a plethora of quality checks to ensure premium quality at an affordable rate of just Rs 15/- and comes in Strawberry and Mango flavours.