

PM's address at post-budget webinar on vision of 'GatiShakti'

Chennai, March 01 2022: Namaskar! This year's budget has set the pace for India's development of the 21st century. This direction of "infrastructure-based development" will increase the potential of our economy phenomenally. This will also create many new employment opportunities in the country.



When the country is giving unprecedented momentum to infrastructure development, economic activity will increase and so will job creation.

Friends, Traditionally, the country's experience so far has been to build infrastructure as and when required. It used to be done in a piecemeal manner as per the requirement. As a result, the country has suffered a lot due to the lack of coordination between the Centre, states, local bodies and the private sector. Take for example the rail or road projects where we often find conflict and lack of coordination. Very often, it so happened that a road was built somewhere and the next day it was dug for laying water pipes. When the road was rebuilt, the sewer line personnel dug it again. This happens because different departments do not have clear information. Now everyone will be able to make their plans with complete information in advance due to the PM GatiShakti (plan). This will also lead to optimum utilization of the country's resources.

Friends, The PM GatiShakti is very imperative given the large scale infrastructure development on which the government is working. The direct capital expenditure of the Government of India was about 1.75 lakh crore rupees in 2013-14, which has increased by four times to 7.50 lakh crore rupees in 2022-23. The government has increased investment in every sector, be it national highways, railways, airways, waterways, optical fiber connectivity, gas grid, or renewable energy. Our government has set very ambitious targets in these areas. We can carry forward infrastructure planning, implementation and monitoring in a very coordinated manner and can work in a new direction through the PM GatiShakti. This will also reduce time and cost overrun of the projects.

Friends, As you are aware that infrastructure has a huge multiplier effect on investment. Along with ease of living, it also improves ease of doing business. This also gives impetus to the economic productivity of all sectors.

Friends, Strengthening the principle of cooperative federalism, our government has made a provision of one lakh crore rupees in this year's budget for the assistance of the states. The state governments will be able to use this amount on multimodal infrastructure and other productive assets. The National Ropeway Development Program is being launched to improve connectivity in the inaccessible hilly areas of the country. Our government is also committed to the balanced development of the North East. Keeping in view the requirement of these states, the PM-DevINE scheme has also been announced at a cost of Rs 1500 crore. The investment being made by the government in the infrastructure sector, along with the Production Linked Incentive Scheme, will take the development of the country to new heights in the coming years. All these efforts will open doors of new economic possibilities for you in this new era of infrastructure creation. I would urge the corporate world, the private sector of the country, to work step by step with the government and make a proud contribution to the development of the country.

Friends, You must also be aware that more than 400 data layers are now available in the PM GatiShakti National Master Plan. Not only does this provide information about the existing and planned infrastructure, but it also contains information like forest land, available industrial estate, etc. I suggest that the private sector should use it as much as possible for their planning. All the necessary information is being made available on a single platform in the National Master Plan which will make it possible to get project alignment and various types of clearances at the DPR stage itself. This will also be helpful in reducing your compliance burden. I would also urge the state governments to make the PM-Gati Shakti National Master Plan the

basis for setting up their projects and economic zones.

Friends, Even today, the logistics cost in India is estimated to be 13 to 14 percent of GDP. This is more than in comparison to other countries. The PM GatiShakti has a huge role in improving infrastructure efficiency. A provision has been made in this year's budget to create a Unified Logistic Interface Platform (ULIP) to reduce the logistics cost in the country. You must be aware that at present the digital systems of different ministries are working according to their requirements. Twenty-four digital systems of six ministries are being integrated through ULIP. This will create a National Single Window Logistics Portal which will help in reducing the logistics cost. The PM Gati-Shakti will also help our exports and our MSMEs will be able to be globally competitive. Our government has also set up the Logistics Division and the Empowered Group of Secretaries for better coordination in all the departments of the government to improve logistics efficiency. You can see the big role of technology in the PM Gati-Shakti. I would also urge the governments and the private sector to lay greater emphasis on bringing modern technology to our infrastructure projects. It will be very useful in terms of quality as well as cost-effectiveness and time. It has been found all over the world that natural disasters cause destruction to infrastructure more than human loss. Several bridges get destroyed and it takes 20 years to rebuild them. Therefore, the Disaster Resilience Infrastructure has become very imperative today. Unless there is technology, we will not be able to work in that direction. Therefore, there should be maximum use of technology. Companies working in the logistics sector have world-class knowledge and tools. Utilizing them, we have to ensure that the data available in the country is used better.

Friends, I would also like to draw your attention to the fact that today's webinar is not about making speeches by our government. We want to hear from you. It would be better if you offer suggestions in the light of the budget proposals. We can think about some of your suggestions when we formulate the next year's budget. Do write to me at that time. Right now, we have to emphasize how well we have to implement the budget approved by the parliament. We still have this month of March left. The new budget will come into effect from April 1. Let us make maximum use of this month of March and start implementing the budget proposals from April 1 itself. Can we do this?

Earlier, the entire population of the world used to live near rivers. Large cities were developed near rivers and seas. Systems evolved. Gradually, the world thrived by shifting from there and moving near highways. And now it seems that the world will thrive where there would be an optical fiber. Time is changing. This means that there is no room for isolated infrastructure. A whole new ecosystem develops around it. This GatiShakti Master Plan will benefit us a lot in this regard also. Therefore, I would like you to implement the budget properly. There are also some flaws in the government machinery as files keep on moving for six months and by that time a new budget is on the anvil. The advantage of talking to you in advance is that the government systems will respond positively and immediately if you draw attention to any shortcomings. Therefore, you should contribute profoundly. This is my expectation. Best wishes to you all! Thanks a lot!

Friends, The GatiShakti will ensure true public-private partnership in infrastructure creation from planning to

development and utilization stage. In this webinar, there should also be brainstorming on how the private sector can achieve better outcomes in collaboration with the government agencies. I am sure you will discuss all the issues in-depth during the webinar. Apart from infrastructure, your suggestions regarding the required changes in rules and policies would also be very important. The creation of modern infrastructure will strengthen the foundation of India and the PM GatiShakti National Master Plan is an important medium in this regard. I wish this webinar a success and hope that we all will benefit from your experiences.

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Chennai, March 01 2022: Jagan Mohan Reddy Hon'ble CM of Andhra Pradesh dedicated INS Visakhapatnam, the indigenously designed and constructed guided-missile stealth destroyer named after the City of Destiny - Visakhapatnam, in a formal ceremony held at Naval Dockyard on 27 Feb 22. The ship is on her maiden visit to the port for participating in the PFR and MILAN 2022.

INS Visakhapatnam is the lead ship of P15B class of guided missile stealth destroyers and was commissioned on 21 Nov 21. The ship symbolises India's matured shipbuilding capability and quest for the Make in India initiative towards achieving 'Atmanirbhar Bharat'. The

'A Land of Stories' A photo exhibition by school students inaugurated! Kanimozhi Karunanidhi, Dr B. Chandra Mohan IAS and Consul General Karin Stoll, Consulate General of Federal Republic of Germany, Chennai inaugurated the exhibition The art project showcases the heritage of Tamil Nadu through the eyes of our future citizens

Chennai, March 01 2022: 'A Land of Stories' a photo exhibition, organized by Goethe-Institut / Max Mueller Bhavan, Chennai and CPB Foundation, was inaugurated by Member of Parliament, Lok Sabha, Tmt. Kanimozhi Karunanidhi - at the Government Museum.

Dr B. Chandra Mohan IAS - Principal Secretary to Government Tourism Culture & Religious Endowments Department & Chairman, TTDC, Director of Tourism and Consul General Karin Stoll, Consulate General of the Federal Republic of Germany, Chennai were the guests of Honor at the exhibition jointly organized by Goethe-Institut / Max Mueller Bhavan Chennai and Chennai Photo Biennale Foundation

The exhibition displays the works of 40 students from private and government schools including Kendriya Vidyalayas from across Tamil Nadu. Mentored by CPB Prism on iPhones, the children made the land and home as their muse and beautifully captured moments on the phones.

The entire art project is aimed at letting students explore the goodness of our state Tamil Nadu and to reflect its richness through

their photographs. Photographs have the ability to freeze any moment and thus through the art project, students got an opportunity to experience all the diverse people, architecture, lush landscapes and cultural trails, thereby exploring the heritage of Tamil Nadu through their pictures.



The pictures display the state's legacy, both natural and man-made, across its length and breadth. These unfiltered visions of the students narrate endless stories of Tamil Nadu, striking a compelling narrative.

Some of the young artists were present at the exhibition to explain their work to enthusiastic visitors.

After the lockdown we aimed to enable students to creatively rediscover their surroundings with new eyes. Thanks to the inspiring and educational workshops conducted by

CPB PRISM the students were able to capture the beauty of Tamil Nadu in all its diversity. I was delighted to see the amazing works created by the students which made me want to explore all the places depicted, said Dr. Katharina Gorgen, Director, Goethe-Institut / Max Mueller Bhavan Chennai.

"We have been promoting photography amongst school children through various channels, giving budding photographers an opportunity to fine-tune their skills with new tips

and techniques. After our training, students are better equipped to capture well-framed photographs, keeping in mind lighting, exposure, composition, and other elements of photography. All of our projects are designed to encourage connection and networking. However, during the pandemic, we also wanted to introduce students to photography as a way of helping their mental wellbeing," said Habiba Begum, a mentor at CPB Foundation.

The student exhibition is open for viewing at the Government Museum, 406, Pantheon Road, Chennai-600 008 between 9.30 am 5.00 pm (Closed on Fridays) and Government Holidays from 26th February to 17th April, 2022. The visitors are requested to abide by the COVID 19 protocols at all times in addition to the rules and regulations put forward by the Government Museum and event organizers.

Jagan Mohan Reddy, Hon'ble Chief Minister Formally Dedicates INS Visakhapatnam to the City of Destiny

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crew of the ship abides by her motto 'Yasho Labhasva' - a sanskrit phrase that translates to 'Attain Glory'. It embodies the indomitable spirit and capability of this mighty ship to achieve success and glory in every endeavour. The motto inspires her crew to surmount all odds and uphold the glory of the Ship, Service and Nation always.

The Hon'ble CM took a short tour of the ship and interacted with crew after the Dedication ceremony.

இ-சேவை மையம்
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PM GatiShakti National Master Plan can help lower our logistics cost to one of the lowest in the world at 7-8% of GDP- Shri Piyush Goyal

Chennai, March 01 2022: The Minister of Commerce and Industry, Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution and Textiles, Shri Piyush Goyal today said that with concerted efforts and the best possible use of the PM GatiShakti National Master Plan, it was possible to lower our logistics cost to 7-8% of GDP, one of the lowest in the world and increase India's competitive edge in the global market.

He was addressing the concluding session of the "Webinar on PM GatiShakti: Creating Synergy for Accelerated Economic Growth", organized by the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) from New Delhi today. Over 850 participants drawn centre and state government agencies, leading players from the private sector, academics and industry representatives came together to discuss and chart out the strategy for enhancing India's logistics efficiency during the webinar.

Expressing his gratitude to Prime Minister Narendra Modi for addressing the inaugural session of the Webinar, Shri Piyush Goyal said that the Webinar would lend 'momentum' to the government's to demystify PM GatiShakti for all stakeholders and utilize the full power of it with 'Sabka Prayas'. Referring to Prime Minister's holistic vision for GatiShakti, Shri Goyal said that GatiShakti envisioned a 'nation as whole approach' to Infrastructure planning.

Shri Goyal lamented that for decades India had been held back by lack of infrastructure development. Infrastructure that got created was built in bits and pieces and there was an utter lack of coordination between the Center, States and Local Bodies which resulted in uneven development with gaps, he added. He said that GatiShakti would help States and central bodies to plan utilities and infrastructure such as ports, electricity, water, internet connectivity, rail, road, common affluent treatment plants, packaging



facilities and even skill development centers as per the needs of industrial clusters. He called upon all stakeholders to continually engage with GatiShakti and make the best possible use of its tremendous potential.

The Minister opined that fixing mistakes when it comes to infrastructure was very difficult and added that time delays often rendered the projects outdated and irrelevant. He said that the root cause of the problem was the huge difference between macro planning and micro implementation. Due to silos approach in decision-making, the budget was wasted and instead of infrastructure acting as a force multiplier, we often ended up losing value, he said.

Shri Goyal said that guided by PM's mantra of 'Work for Progress, Wealth for Progress, Plan for progress and Preference for progress', GatiShakti aspired to increase synergy and coordination between Center and States at every level. PM GatiShakti envisions to accelerate the economy and the nation with 7 engines of progress viz. roads, railways, airports, ports, mass transport, waterways and logistics infrastructure, he added.

Shri Goyal said that GatiShakti would help in building Next Gen infrastructure to improve Ease of Living as well as Ease of Doing Business. This will kickstart the virtuous cycle of private and public investment and will have a multiplier effect, he added.

He appreciated the scientists of BISAG-N for their hard work in brining GatiShakti to life and congratulated DPIIT for playing a pivotal role in keeping the Master Plan on track. It may be noted that The National Master Plan

portal, developed by BISAG-N (Bhaskaracharya Institute for Space Applications & Geoinformatics) is a dynamic GIS platform. It is a Digital Master Planning tool with Project Management tools, dynamic dashboards, MIS reports etc. It provides a bird's eye view of infrastructure development in India.

Observing that we must aim to increase infrastructure investment and enable supply side infrastructure financing both by public and private sector, the Minister said that there was a need for workable financial models for projects to prepare smarter concession agreements with least scope of litigations and come up with options for long term and cost-effective agreements to encourage private sector participation in infrastructure projects.

Shri Goyal called for multi-stakeholder collaboration across academia, industry and government for data sharing and for upskilling the logistics sector. He also asked for better coordination between various agencies for faster clearances for Land, Environment, Forest etc.

Placing the Webinar in the context of the mythological story of 'Saagar Manthan', the Minister expressed confidence that the Webinar would 'churn' many new ideas which would then be translated into actions soon.

Alluding to the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav celebrations, Shri Piyush Goyal said that at this critical juncture in our history, we all need to collectively think of the ways we can improve further and keep asking ourselves the question- What can I do today for the nation that may benefit

generations?

Shri Goyal said that PM GatiShakti is a tool, which if used to the maximum possible extent, would make India a super power in the 'Amrit Kaal'. PM GatiShakti will showcase our true potential and show the world how a confident Aatmanirbhar Bharat is engaging with technology to create a better future for our citizens.

Earlier, the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi delivered the inaugural address and five sub-groups in breakout sessions discussed various aspects related to implementation of Gati Shakti. Shri Anurag Jain, Secretary, DPIIT, Ministry of Commerce and Industry led the session on 'Nation as a whole approach' to introduce a new vision of integrated planning and synchronized time bound implementation. The second session on 'Cooperative Federalism and Enhanced Capital Investment for Infrastructure' was led by Shri Amrit Lal Meena, Special Secretary for Logistics at DPIIT, Ministry of Commerce and Industry. Secretary, Ministry of Road Transport & Highways (MoRTH), Shri Giridhar Aramane led a separate session on 'Enablers of Logistics Efficiency' focusing on the national expressway master plan along with Sagarmala, Parvatmala as well as the PM GatiShakti multi-modal cargo terminals. Shri Rajesh Aggarwal, Secretary, Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) was lead for the session on 'Logistics workforce strategy- Enhancing skill and employment opportunities'. The final session was led by Shri Amitabh Kant, CEO, NITI Aayog, was titled 'ULIP-Revolutionizing Indian Logistics'.

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Machine Learning a future in Dentistry?

Chennai, March 01 2022: Artificial intelligence, as the word sounds, is the intelligence created artificially when the machines are made to behave like humans, in terms of intelligence. Artificial intelligence is one of the advancements in the computer sciences, therefore can be said as a branch of computer science. It is the intelligence of machines. Generally, we do not understand the intelligence of human beings, but when the same is depicted by machine, then termed as artificial intelligence which can help peoples to get treated with the timely diagnosis of various kinds of diseases. Similarly, Machine Learning has created an impact in healthcare sectors for taking precautionary measures for treatment of disease especially its one of the role has paved a way in the field of dentistry for dental image analysis. In addition, one

of the major factor is machine learning algorithms in which they have an underlying mechanism to provide high quality medical training data sets with well advanced sets in parallel computing training data sets which can pave a way for robustic approach for improved approach for dental imaging in Machine Learning.

To enhance the performance in Machine Learning in the field of dentistry, a well-structured architectural approach is mandatory for dental imaging analysis for which CAD or Computer aided design play a very potential role in Healthcare sector. Among which choosing a right algorithm is again considered as important factor for analysis dental images. Out of which Convolutional Neural Networks (CNN) is



Dr. Aravindha Babu, MDS, FICD (USA), Professor in Oral Pathology & Assistant Director of Centre of Oral Cancer Research, Sree Balaji Dental College and Hospital, Pallikaranai, Chennai and Dr. Jayalalitha S (PhD in Biotechnology) works for an

considered as major successful factor in machine learning algorithm which particularly deals with the efficiency on figuring out features despite the problematic location in the image. Finally, to conclude, right training at the right time with the renowned source can

pave a extended help to the clinicians to enhance the support on AI Enabled ML model for Dental Data Analysis. In addition, it can also pave an important factor to serve the patients with high level of accuracy results with better treatment strategy benefiting the society.

Annpurna Devi presented National ICT Awards to 49 teachers across the country

Chennai, March 01 2022: Union Minister of State for Education Smt Annpurna Devi presented National ICT Awards to 49 teachers across the country.

Speaking on the occasion, Smt Annpurna Devi said that the National Education Policy-2020 emphasizes on the extensive use of technology in teaching and learning processes, removing language barriers, increasing access for DIVYANG students along with educational planning and management.

She informed that the Information and Communication Technology [ICT] intervention under Samagra Shiksha also has a component to provide IT infrastructure to schools and Teacher Education Institutes (TEIs) to facilitate innovative use of ICT in school and teacher education leading to improved quality in all the spheres of school and teacher education.

Smt Annpurna Devi highlighted that the flagship projects to bridge the digital divide include DIKSHA,



Pathshala, ICT Curriculum for teachers and students, School MOOCs on SWAYAM (Study Webs of Active Learning for Young Aspiring Minds), PMeVIDYA (One Class One Channel) and NISHTHA (National Initiative for School Heads' and Teachers' Holistic Advancement) integrated teacher training programme through online mode. These initiatives help in enhancing the access and outreach of technology irrespective of any social, political, economic or geographic barriers, she added.

She appreciated the role of teachers in nation building and mentioned that Guru's are given utmost respect in Indian Society. She congratulated all the teachers being awarded today for their diligent

efforts and innovation in the field of education and promoting the outreach of technology in their schools even during the COVID pandemic situation.

She further said that the recent budget announcements by the Govt. of India have provided further impetus to all the digital education initiatives. Launching of 200 DTH TV channels, 750 Virtual labs in science and mathematics, transforming teachers as digital teachers are some of the new budget announcements of our Govt. for 2022-23.

Recognition given in the form of National Award for school teachers for use of ICT in Education indirectly contributes to motivate teachers to use ICT extensively and significantly in their classrooms through

content-pedagogy and technology together.

NCERT adopts a rigorous process in inviting online applications through a dedicated portal, online self nominations by prospective candidates, receiving nominations from state/UT/Organizations level authorities, organization of National level jury meeting for final selection through jury, which is being done in a transparent manner.

It has now been envisaged to extend this Award to the Teacher Educators (School Complexes, CRCs, BRCs, BIETs, DIETs, CTES/IASES, SCERTs/SIEs, SIETs, SIEMAT etc. and for the States & UTs for their best practices.

These ICT Awardees are also being bestowed with a responsibility to function as ICT Ambassadors in widening the outreach of ICT in Education through their continuous efforts by mentoring other teachers and also develop entrepreneurial skills among the students in order to develop a skilled workforce.

Rajnath Singh reviews the preparations of the Largest Ever DefExpo 2022 to be held at Gandhinagar, Gujarat

Chennai, March 01 2022: Rajnath Singh, on 28th February 2022, reviewed the preparation for DefExpo-2022 Asia's Largest Exhibition on Land, Naval, Air and Homeland Security Systems. The event has gained significant traction since India relaxed its health protocols on 10 February 2022 due to the reducing cases of COVID19. DefExpo-2022 promises to be the largest event since its inception in 1999. The uncertainty on organizing such events due to the pandemic last year had not deterred India in its resolve to further the business interests of its indigenous Defence manufacturing sector and the Ministry of Defence's decision of 31 July 2021 to go ahead with DefExpo-2022 appears not off mark in hindsight.

DefExpo-2022 is set to resonate India's 'Path To Pride'. To make DefExpo-2022 inclusive for those who can't make it due to restrictions or delays at their end in decision making, the event will be held in hybrid mode, with stalls in both physical and



virtual realms. The onboarding process of the virtual event has commenced with Ministry of Defence inviting greater participation from nations with different health protocols and the initiative will result in greater engagement and outreach as exhibitors can cater to those who are not physically present.

DefExpo-2022 is being planned in the largest ever area of approximately one lakh sqm at three venues; Exhibition at the Helipad Exhibition Center (HEC), Events and Seminars at the Mahatma Mandir Convention and Exhibition Center (MMCEC) and Live demonstration for the public at Sabarmati Riverfront.

Raksha Mantri noted that the recent relaxation of health protocols in India has generated greater interest in DefExpo-2022 which has 78 participating nations, 39 Minister Level delegations with other confirmations to be received in the days ahead and 1000+ registered exhibitors. Foreign Defence Ministers confirmations are also being received and as on date are equal to the previous edition at Lucknow in Feb 2020 in the pre-COVID times.

As the countdown for the mega DefExpo-2022 has begun and the attendees reposing their faith in the Ministry of Defence to further their Defence Business interests, Raksha Mantri noted that the extension

of DefExpo-2022 by one day will benefit the local students as dedicated trips for them are being planned. DefExpo-2022 on 14th March 2022 will facilitate inclusiveness for young entrepreneurs and college/school millennial of the host state.

DefExpo-2022 is symbolic of India's resolve to further its Business interests and take global initiatives towards furthering peace and security in the region. Raksha Mantri observed the preparedness and efforts and expressed confidence for the conduct of a safe and successful DefExpo-2022.

Raksha Rajya Mantri Shri Ajay Bhatt, Chief of the Army Staff General Manoj Mukund Naravane, Defence Secretary Dr Ajay Kumar, Secretary DDR&D and Chairman DRDO Dr. G Sathesh Reddy, Financial Advisor (Defence Services) Shri Sanjiv Mittal and other senior civil & military officials of MoD were also present on the occasion.

India welcomes the IPCC Working Group II contribution to the IPCC Sixth Assessment Report (AR6) on Climate Change: Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability

Chennai, March 01 2022: India welcomes the release of the Working Group II (WG2) contribution to the Sixth Assessment Report (AR6) of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC).

Union Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Shri Bhupender Yadav in a series of tweet messages said that the report reaffirms India's call for equity and climate justice and stated that the Developed countries must take the lead in urgent mitigation and providing finance for adaptation, loss and damage.

"India is walking the path of climate resilient development under Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and has demonstrated a clear resolve to move ahead along a sustainable, resource efficient growth path.", said the Union Minister

A delegation from India participated in the

final discussions on the Summary for Policymakers of the Report, held online from 14th February to 27th February (extending two days over its scheduled duration) and has joined other nations in approving the Summary for Policymakers of the Report.

The following are the key findings of the Report and its Summary for Policymakers:

- The Report affirms that climate change due to historical emissions is leading to serious impacts which are already being felt globally including in developing countries with low contribution to cumulative emissions. These impacts will rise as warming proceeds and will rise rapidly at higher levels of warming.

- The Report emphasizes that action on adaptation is urgently needed - as urgently as action on mitigation.

- The Summary for

Policymakers (SPM) underlines the need for climate action on the basis of equity and climate justice to ensure the well-being of humanity and the planet.

- The science of climate resilience now fully acknowledges the importance of equity and climate justice that India has always championed and had brought into the Paris Agreement.

- Further, the SPM clearly acknowledges the importance of Indigenous and Local Knowledge in adaptation to climate change.

- Vulnerable and marginalized communities, regions and populations face rising exposure to hazards. The SPM notes that vulnerability is enhanced by lack of development, social and economic inequalities.

- The Report is a clarion call for the world to abandon their unsustainable production

and consumption and move urgently to climate resilient development. Reference to sustainable lifestyles has already been introduced in the Paris Agreement thanks to India's efforts, led by the Hon'ble Prime Minister at Paris in 2015.

- The Report notes that the impacts and the consequent limitations to adaptation would rise beyond 1.5 degree warming above pre-industrial levels. India notes that the Working Group I contribution to AR6 released in August, 2021 had made clear that developed countries need to rapidly decrease their emissions and reach net zero by 2050

- Provision of finance is critical for helping developing countries and vulnerable populations act quickly and effectively. Public finance is the key enabler for adaptation.

- Development to reduce non-climatic drivers of vulnerability is critical to promoting

adaptation and is already reducing vulnerability. Rapid progress on achieving the SDGs will help in enhancing adaptive capacity and resilience.

- The Report re-affirms that the balance between adaptation and mitigation in climate resilient development depends on national circumstances according to countries' capabilities including resources and past contributions to global emissions.

- The Report fully acknowledges the importance of losses and damages arising from climate change. Inadequate adaptation due to lack of financial and technological resources, capacity building and other constraints lead to losses and damages. Further losses and damages would increase as some limits to adaptation are being reached and more would be at higher levels of warming.

- Adaptation suffers from a tremendous lack of

finance, with only a small proportion of climate finance devoted to it, while the overwhelming proportion goes to mitigation.

- Ecosystem based adaptation and Nature-based approaches such as green infrastructure offer multiple benefits and synergies between adaptation and mitigation. Though the Report refers to the prospects and limitations of Nature-based Solutions (NbS) in climate mitigation, the SPM acknowledges the reservations of developing countries that NbS will be promoted as the sole or the major solution to climate mitigation which is obviously not the case.

- The Report recognizes the key role of agriculture and the great importance of food security in adaptation.

- India faces multiple climate hazards and has high vulnerability to climate change.

- The Report notes that

future climate-resilient development pathways depend on climate risks, adaptation measures and the remaining carbon budget.

India is already walking the path of climate resilient development with its combination of several adaptation-oriented development actions and its contribution to mitigation. At COP26, as the implementation of the Paris Agreement began, India reaffirmed its commitment to climate actions, including the goal of net zero by 2070, and the one-word mantra of L.I.F.E. = lifestyles for environment.

India notes that future reports should strengthen the "solution space" and more comprehensively assess knowledge regarding effectiveness, costs and benefits.

India firmly believes that climate change is a global collective action problem that can be solved

only through international cooperation and multilateralism.

India has taken tremendous actions under the visionary leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi to combat climate change by taking several initiatives including, inter-alia, setting up of International Solar Alliance, Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure, 'One Sun, One World, One Grid' and Infrastructure for Resilient Island States, raising the domestic renewable energy target to 500 GW by 2030, putting in place an ambitious National Hydrogen Mission and continuing efforts to decouple its emissions from economic growth.

India's cumulative and per capita current emissions are significantly low and far less than its fair share of the global carbon budget and its actions to address global climate change are compatible with Paris Agreement goals.

International Monsoons Project Office launched

Chennai, March 01 2022: Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology; Minister of State (Independent Charge) Earth Sciences; MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr Jitendra Singh launched the International Monsoons Project Office (IMPO) through a high-level virtual event today on the occasion of National

Science Day 2022.

The International Monsoons Project Office (IMPO) will be hosted at the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM), Pune, an institution under the Ministry of Earth Sciences, Govt of India, initially for five years. Setting up the IMPO reiterates the importance of monsoons for the national economy. It would encompass activities and connections

related to international monsoon research that would be identified and fostered under the leadership of the World Climate Research Programme and the World Weather Research Programme. Both the World Climate Research Programme and World Weather Research Programme are international programmes coordinated by the United Nations World Meteorological

Organisation (WMO). Setting up the IMPO in India would mean expanding an integrated scientific approach to solve the seasonal variability of monsoons, enhancing the prediction skill of monsoons and cyclones, strengthening monsoon research for better support operations and services, thereby promoting knowledge sharing and capacity building in areas of monsoon research crucial

for agriculture, water resources and disaster management, hydropower and climate-sensitive socio-economic sectors.

Speaking at the event, Dr Jitendra Singh said, "the IMPO is a step towards making India a global hub for monsoon research and coordination in a seamless manner for addressing common and region-specific aspects of the monsoons around the world". He emphasized that setting up the IMPO

will give huge impetus to global monsoon research yielding mutual benefits to both the international and Indian research fraternity.

As part of its core responsibilities, the IMPO would support activities of the Monsoons Panel, jointly established by the World Climate Research Programme's CLIVAR (Climate and Ocean Variability, Predictability, and Change) and GEWEX (Global Energy and Water

Exchanges) projects. IMPO will also extend support to the World Weather Research Programme's working group on tropical meteorology research.

The launch of IMPO is aligned with this year's theme of the National Science Day - 'Integrated Approach in Science and Technology for a Sustainable Future'. It also precedes the 7th WMO International Workshop on

Monsoons which is being organized in India jointly by the Ministry of Earth Sciences, World Climate Research Programme, and World Weather Research Programme in March 2022. The international workshop would be a huge forum for global researchers and stakeholders to discuss advances and issues involving monsoons as key components of earth system science-related phenomena.

Rainbow Children's Hospital cares for children with rare diseases

Chennai, March 01 2022: Rainbow Children's Hospital, one of the leading pediatric hospitals in India today announced its support for Rare Disease Day 2022 with the theme for this year "Share your Colors" along with the children who were treated for rare diseases with their parents who came forward together with the hospital to raise awareness for people living with such diseases. Chief Guest Dr. J. Radhakrishnan, IAS, Principal Secretary, Department of Health & Family Welfare, Government of Tamil Nadu along with other special guests witnessed the occasion.

Every year, the last day of February is recognized as a rare disease day to provide health care, diagnostic & treatment facilities to people diagnosed with rare diseases & to offer support to their families. There are about 7000 rare diseases with 300 million people affected around the world and of which 72% are genetic. More than 2/3 of people affected by rare diseases are children and for the parent, rare disease means living with uncertainty.

Dr. R. Ganesh, Senior Consultant - General Pediatrics & Pediatrics Metabolic Disorders, Rainbow Children's Hospital said, "There are a lot of challenges faced by the medical fraternity in managing rare diseases like lack of awareness about rare diseases in the general public & in the



medical fraternity which may result in delayed treatment/misdiagnoses. The diagnosis process for a rare disease may result in multiple outpatient consult visits or admissions to the hospital, frequent blood sampling, and subject to X rays and scans, thereby taking a long time to establish the diagnosis & Once a diagnosis is finally established, then comes worries in the mind of patients and their families - is there any specific treatment to cure the disease or there is no treatment available. Also for the children and their families, learning to cope without knowing anything about their future creates agony and anger.

Dr. Rahul Yadav, Lead Consultant - Perinatology & Neonatology, Rainbow Children's Hospital added, "Diagnosis, treatment, and long-term care of patients with rare diseases require multidisciplinary cooperation between medical and paramedical personnel and with patients and families. We do perform basic newborn screening tests for all the babies born in our hospital [Extended newborn screening tests in select situations] that helps in early post-natal

along with nursing and paramedical staff."

Medical crowd funding recently has emerged as an alternate method of raising funds for these diseases. Families can opt for crowd funding in a digital platforms like Milap, Ketto and impact guru.



diagnosis and treatment of certain rare diseases like inborn errors of metabolism and inborn errors of immunity."

Mr. Saravanakumar Rajan, General Manager Operations, Rainbow Children's Hospital said, "As you are all aware that Chennai is emerging as a major hub in medical tourism & soon will become a global healing destination. Rainbow Children's hospital in Chennai equipped with 135 bedded quaternary care offering comprehensive health care, diagnostic & supportive treatment care facilities for children diagnosed with certain rare diseases. The hospital has a multidisciplinary team of metabolic specialists, neonatologists, Pediatric intensive care specialists, pediatric neurologists, pediatric nephrologists, biochemists, geneticists, hemato-oncologists

and technology. As iDEX is growing in family and spirit, it shall also be launching a distinctive event, Invest4iDEX, inviting reputed investors and venture capitalists, while providing the startups to pitch in front of the live audience and leverage the opportunity to generate investments and leads for future. Innovation has become the key driver of the pace of societal evolution and it redefines social parameters with unique outputs. The iDEX has always been at the forefront of innovation in defence and internal security, and most of its projects also have tremendous civilian applications: quantum computation, AI/predictive maintenance/logistics/data analytics, security/encryption, communication, etc. To take this further, the iDEX will be launching the sixth edition of DISC with 29 new problem

NGOs like rotary clubs can liaison with the hospitals treating rare disease patients to reach out the families with rare diseases offering them support for medical help where ever needed. The hospital houses sophisticated machines like Prismaflex that helps to remove the excess ammonia, lactate and correct the acidosis quicker in a sick child with inborn errors of metabolism thereby improving the survival outcome. Since prevention is better than cure.

Alone we are rare, together we are strong goes the saying. We, the medical and paramedical personal and the families with rare diseases today feel proud to join the many others in the world who are working towards diagnosing and treating people affected with rare diseases and offering support to their family.

Invest4iDEX and Manthan 2022 to be key highlights in upcoming Defence Expo 2022

Chennai, March 01 2022: Innovations for Defence Excellence (iDEX), launched by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi in 2018, essentially provides a unified platform for various stakeholders in the defence and aerospace sector. It acts like an umbrella organisation to oversee technology development and potential collaborations in the field.

Innovation is gradually becoming the most important factor in determining the effective power of a nation in modern military warfare. Platforms like iDEX enable the military to find disruptive solutions to complex challenges through its flagship programs like Defence India Startup Challenges (DISC) and Open Challenges (OC), which shall be the key components for future of military technology. In line with this, the Indian Navy has successfully

placed a Supply Order with an iDEX winner, Saif Automations Services LLP.

Till date, iDEX has launched five rounds of DISC, and three rounds of OC, receiving more than 2,000 applications from individual innovators and startups. Furthermore, iDEX has been able to fund projects in numerous technological areas through its Grant-in-Aid framework, Support for Prototype and Research Kickstart (SPARK), which entail provisioning of grant up to Rs 1.50 crore to the budding entrepreneurs.

As most awaited biennial event, Defence Expo 2022, is round the corner, the iDEX is ready to showcase its startups and award its winner during its flagship event Manthan. This year iDEX will also be signing the Memorandum of Understanding (MoUs) with three new partner incubators, who are leaders in venture development and science

and technology.

As iDEX is growing in family and spirit, it shall also be launching a distinctive event, Invest4iDEX, inviting reputed investors and venture capitalists, while providing the startups to pitch in front of the live audience and leverage the opportunity to generate investments and leads for future.

Innovation has become the key driver of the pace of societal evolution and it redefines social parameters with unique outputs. The iDEX has always been at the forefront of innovation in defence and internal security, and most of its projects also have tremendous civilian applications: quantum computation, AI/predictive maintenance/logistics/data analytics, security/encryption, communication, etc. To take this further, the iDEX will be launching the sixth edition of DISC with 29 new problem

statements from Defence Public Sector Undertakings (DPSUs), Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) and Indian Coast Guard (ICG).

The recently announced allocation of 25 per cent of Defence R&D budget for startups, academia and private industry have encouraged innovators to innovate and develop state-of-the-art products and revolutionising technology solution. Keeping in line with the common aspirations, the iDEX is organising various knowledge sessions.

The iDEX is able to utilise India's strong science, technology and research talent base to develop new capabilities in defence innovation. The understanding of the budding entrepreneurs in the direction of the need of sensitising the audience towards defence innovation is being further complemented by the support provided through this scheme.

Tata Capital expands its reach to 250 branches across India Adds 60 branches in FY 21-22

- o Tata Capital adds 60 new branches; achieves the 250 branch network milestone
- o Plans to increase reach to 300 branches by March 2023
- o Expansion focus on Tier II and Tier III markets
- o Caters to over 2.5 million customers across categories

Chennai, March 01 2022: Tata Capital Ltd, the flagship financial services company of the Tata Group, expands its presence in the country with the addition of 60 new branches in the FY 21-22 with a special focus on tier II and tier III markets. With this, Tata Capital has a wide network of over 250 branches and extension counters spread across India.

Tata Capital is a trusted financial partner to over 2.5 million customers and

offers a comprehensive suite of diversified products and services. The company is steadily expanding its network and targets to reach over 300 branches by March 2023. The branch expansion program which includes tier II and tier III locations will enable Tata Capital to cater to the underserved customer segment and aid economic activity in these regions.

Sarosh Amaria, MD, Tata Capital Financial Services Ltd. said, "We at

Tata Capital endeavor to serve our customers across digital and physical platforms. We believe a branch plays an important role in strengthening our relationship with our customers and helps us curate financial solutions for them. Our innovative and easy-to-access digital offerings complement our branch outreach initiatives to drive scale and seek new avenues for growth as well. Also, our expansion in tier II and tier III markets aims to facilitate inclusive growth in the country."

Tata Capital's suite of offerings comprising Consumer Loans, Housing (including Affordable Housing) loans, SME / Corporate Finance Products and Wealth Management Solutions are available across the company's 250 branches and digital platforms. Also, Tata Capital's customers can currently be serviced by logging on to the Tata Capital website, Mobile Apps, TIA (the chat and voice bot) on Alexa, Google Assistant and WhatsApp as well.

DBS Bank India migrates to new IFSC and MICR codes of erstwhile Lakshmi Vilas Bank (LVB)

New IFSC codes for all LVB branches activated since 25th October 2021; older IFSC codes will be valid until 28th February 2022

New IFSC codes communicated to customers through letters/emails/SMS, LVB website and at branches
 New cheque books (with new MICR code) made available to customers.

Chennai, March 01 2022: Following the amalgamation with DBIL, the IFSC & MICR codes of all branches of erstwhile LVB have changed. While the new codes have been active since 25th October 2021, the older IFSC codes will remain valid until 28th February 2022 to ensure customers' convenience and ease of transition. Customers will be required to use the new DBS IFSC code from 1st March 2022 onwards to receive funds through NEFT/RTGS/IMPS.

The change was communicated to customers through physical letters, emails, and SMS as well as at the branches. They were requested to share the new IFSC code with business partners, associates and vendors to update their records, recurring payments and receivables well in time. All existing cheques issued to the third party will have to be replaced with new cheques before 28th February 2022. Any cheque with old MICR codes presented

after the aforementioned date will not be honoured.

New cheque books (with new MICR code) have been available since 1st November 2021. Customers can apply for a new cheque book by visiting their branch, calling customer care at 1860 267 4567 or through the internet/mobile banking channels.

A complete list of new IFSC codes / MICR codes can be viewed at

<https://www.lvbank.co>

m/view-new-ifsc-details.aspx

LVB was amalgamated with DBS Bank India Limited, the wholly-owned subsidiary of DBS Group Holdings Ltd, as part of a scheme of amalgamation under the special powers of the Government of India and Reserve Bank of India under Section 45 of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949, India. The amalgamation came into effect on 27th November 2020.

OP DEMO AND INTERNATIONAL CITY PARADE

Chennai, March 01 2022: Visakhapatnam witnessed an enthralling Operational Demonstration by the Indian Navy and a colourful International City Parade on Sunday evening at RK Beach. The event conducted as part of the ongoing Multilateral Exercise MILAN 22 saw an overwhelming response from the people of the city. Hon'ble Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh Shri YS Jagan Mohan Reddy was the Chief Guest for the event.

The Operational Demonstration showcased various operations by the Indian Navy including special operations and sky diving by Marine Commandos, rescue operations by naval helicopters and fly-past by naval aircraft. The sky diving demonstration was the show stealer, where six divers landed next to the dais and



presented a memento to the Chief Minister. The Chief Minister addressed the audience on completion of Operational Demonstration and extended a warm welcome to all the international participants from the visiting Friendly Foreign Countries and lauded the Indian Navy for selfless service to the nation.

The International City Parade included smart marching contingents from the Indian Navy, Coast Guard, visiting navies, NCC, SCC, Sainik School Korukonda, AP Police Department, AP Fire Services and Veterans. The dazzling dance performances by cultural troupes and tableaux by AP Tourism Dept, celebrating 'Azadi ka Amrut

Mahotsav', kept the audience captivated throughout the event. The spectacular Horn Pipe Dance Show by the Cadets from Sea Cadet Corps, dance on the theme 'Global Peace' by students of Navy Children School, Tattoo Ceremony by the Indian Naval Band and a grand Dance Finale by artists showcased the cultural vibrancy of India and added colour to the City Parade. The event culminated with a spectacular laser show, fireworks and illumination by naval ships at anchorage including INS Visakhapatnam, which was dedicated to the 'City of Destiny' by the Chief Minister earlier in the day. The Operational Demonstration and International City Parade left the local populace mesmerised.

Exports of Electronic Goods sees a jump of 88% since 2013-14

Chennai, March 01 2022: India's export of electronic goods rose by almost 88% from USD 6600 Million in 2013-14 to USD 12,400 Million in 2021-22. Mobile phones, IT hardware (laptops, tablets), consumer electronics (TV and audio), industrial electronics and auto electronics are key exports in this sector.

The National Policy on Electronics 2019 (NPE 2019) aims to position India as a global hub for Electronics System Design and Manufacturing (ESDM) by encouraging and driving capabilities in the country for developing core components and creating an enabling environment for the industry to compete globally. Four schemes namely the Production Linked Incentive Scheme (PLI) for Large Scale

Electronics Manufacturing, Scheme for Promotion of Manufacturing of Electronic Components and Semiconductors (SPES), Modified Electronics Manufacturing Clusters Scheme (EMC 2.0) the Production Linked Incentive Scheme (PLI) for IT Hardware have been introduced to give boost to the electronics sector and establish the necessary ecosystem.

India has been seeing consistent growth in exports. It may be noted that India's merchandise export in January 2022 increased by 23.69% to USD 34.06 billion over USD 27.54 billion in January 2021; recording an increase of 31.75% over USD 25.85 billion in January 2020.

India's merchandise

export in 2021-22 (April-January) rose by 46.53% to USD 335.44 billion over USD 228.9 billion in 2020-21 (April-January); marking an increase of 27.0% over USD 264.13 billion in 2019-20 (April-January).

The government has been taking up a number of proactive steps to boost exports. An export monitoring desk has been set up to help remove impediments, constraints and bottlenecks faced by the export sector, especially during the pandemic.

Various Acts under the Department of Commerce are being reviewed to remove redundancies and outdated provisions. Several bilateral trade agreements are being pursued with great vigor. The government is committed

towards developing each district in India as an export hub through initiatives such as One District One Product (ODOP). Support is also being extended to exporters through various exporters-oriented schemes. Efforts are being made to reduce compliance burden through rationalization and decriminalization and several initiatives are being undertaken to improve the ease of doing business.

An IT based platform for providing exporters licensing and addressing their grievances is in the works. The Government is also working on enhancing value of branding of Indian exports to improve India's global standing as a reliable supplier and proactive steps are being undertaken to align the nation with the global value chain.