

Roadmap to be set for N-E States, based on the guidance received from Prime Minister, Narendra Modi, during the Post Budget Webinar

Chennai, February 28 2022: The Union Minister of Jal Shakti, Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, will chair a Regional Conference of Ministers of the Public Health Engineering Department (PHED), rural water supply and sanitation department of the North-Eastern States on 28th February, 2022 at Guwahati, Assam. The regional conference will focus on important issues pertaining to implementation of Jal Jeevan Mission and Swachh Bharat Mission (Grameen). The meeting can be viewed on the following link: <https://youtu.be/N2W08QLA6jA>



The Union Minister will be setting the roadmap for the North-Eastern States, keeping in line with the guidance received from the Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, during the Webinar on 'Post Union Budget 2022 - Leaving No Citizen Behind' held on 23 February, where he had said, "a clear roadmap must be built so that States/ UTs can achieve the target within the stipulated timeframe. Priority should be given to North-Eastern border States, hilly region and aspirational districts."

Difficult terrain, heavy rain and snowfall coupled with erratic supply of construction material greatly impacts the progress of the mission work in the border regions of the north-east. Reaffirming the commitment towards public health and well-being of the people living in rural areas, the Union Budget 2022-23 fund allocation for JIM has been increased from Rs 45,000 crore in 2021-22 to Rs 60,000 crore in 2022-23. For SBM(G) Rs.7,192 crore have been allocated in the Budget 2022-23.

Har Ghar Jal is a flagship programme of the Government of India being

implemented in partnership with States/ UTs, aims at providing tap water connection to every rural household in the country by 2024. Manipur, Meghalaya and Sikkim aim to achieve Har Ghar Jal in 2022. The deadline set by Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram, Tripura and Nagaland is 2023; Assam aims to meet the goal in 2024. Swachh Bharat Mission-Grameen (SBM-G) is another flagship programme being implemented by Ministry of Jal Shakti. All the States in the country achieved Open Defecation Free status by 2nd October, 2019, when villages across India had declared themselves ODF. In its second phase, SBM-G is focusing on ODF sustainability and to achieve solid and liquid waste management in all villages by 2024-25 i.e., to transform the villages to ODF Plus. The Secretary DDWS, Smt. Vini Mahajan, will set the agenda of the conference which will focus on important issues pertaining to implementation of both these programmes.

Since the announcement of Jal Jeevan Mission on 15th August 2019, significant progress is made across the country and as on date more than 9 Crore rural households are provided

with tap water connections. Despite disruptions and lockdown in the wake of Covid-19 pandemic, today, more than 100 districts in the country have become Har Ghar Jal.

There are total of 43,668 villages in the North-East of which 6,798 have become Har Ghar Jal. So far, under the programme, 30,196 Village Water and Sanitation Committees (VWSCs) have been constituted and 31,811 Village Action Plans (VAPs) have been developed. As many as 197 Implementing Support Agencies (ISAs) are engaged by the NE States for awareness creation, community mobilization, hand holding of village communities, etc. There are 14 Aspirational districts in the region, where 18.79 lakh households are provided with tap water connections. Out of 68,936 Anganwadi Centres in the region, 35,944 (52%) now have tap water connection. There are 71,814 schools in NE and as on date 48,724 (68%) have access to potable tap water for drinking, cooking mid-day meal, handwashing and use in toilets.

Further, water supply infrastructure is planned for covering the remaining villages under the 'Har Ghar Jal' programme. Jal Jeevan

Mission aims to skill-up local village youth as mason, plumber, pump operator, fitter, technician, electrician, etc. to support village water schemes in construction, repair and maintenance activities. It will also boost the rural economy and check people's migration from villages for livelihood.

Following Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's vision of "Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas aur Sabka Prayas", 100 districts, 1,150 blocks, 67,071 gram panchayats and 1,38,655 villages have become 'Har Ghar Jal'. Three States - Goa, Telangana and Haryana and three UTs - A&N Islands, D&N Haveli & Daman & Diu and Puducherry have provided 100% tap water coverage. Other States are fast moving and are close to achieve the cent percent coverage shortly. Of these Punjab stands at 99%, Himachal Pradesh at 93%, Gujarat at 92% and Bihar at 90%. All these have set 2022 as the deadline to reach every rural home with tap water.

Under SBM(G), NE States have done good work on sanitation. Achievement of ODF status has resulted in substantial health gains for people. The resources under SBM(G) are being used to support construction of individual toilets for the new households and community sanitary complexes for households without the space for toilet construction and floating population; grey water management systems; solid waste management, including door-to-door collection of waste. SBM (G) is also working to shun the Single Use Plastics and safe disposal of faecal sludge. Attainment of solid and liquid waste management will help people realise sustainable health and hygiene benefits.

responsible and reliable partner in the maritime domain, underscoring the Indian Navy's commitment to maritime security across the global commons.

The goals of MILAN are aligned with the Hon'ble Prime Minister's vision of SAGAR - Security and Growth for All in the Region. MILAN 22 will play a vital role in establishing regional synergy for achieving peace and prosperity through cooperation and collaboration.

As a part of the harbour phase, a MILAN village has been set up at the Tarang Naval Institute. The village would provide a glimpse of Indian culture to the visitors, showcasing Indian handicrafts, cuisine and arts, especially from the state of Andhra Pradesh. The village will also provide a venue for social interaction and cultural exchange between the participating navies.

between like-minded Navies. This is achieved by professional interaction and experience sharing at the harbour and enhancing interoperability, including multilateral operations, at sea. The harbour phase of the exercise will culminate on 28 Feb 22, followed by the sea phase from 01 Mar to 04 Mar 22.

This edition of MILAN is larger and more complex than all previous ones, reflecting India's growing stature as a

Several Indian origin Scientists abroad keen to return home and the credit for this goes to the enabling atmosphere generated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, says, Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh

Chennai, February 28 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 said that India is today witnessing a sort of reverse brain drain with several Indian origin Scientists abroad keen to return home and the credit for this goes to the enabling atmosphere generated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

The Union Minister was speaking at an event to mark 36th Foundation Day of the Department of Biotechnology at the Regional Center of Biotechnology, Faridabad, Haryana.

The Minister also released New Guidelines for Ease of Doing Science; Towards "Less Government More Governance" and Directory for the Ramalingaswami Re-entry Fellows along with inaugurating the Ramalingaswami Re-entry Fellowship conclave. Ramalingaswami Re-entry Fellowship is a prestigious scheme of the Department of Biotechnology, launched in 2006-07 with the aim to bring back the Indian Scientists working abroad.

Dr. Jitendra Singh congratulated the Department of Biotechnology on its 36th Foundation day and said that the DBT over the past 36 years has impacted Biotechnology research and development, education and innovation across the country.

The Minister noted that the Department of Biotechnology (DBT) used Covid as the opportunity to showcase to the world what it is all about. He said that the Department has contributed to the development of all aspects of Biotechnology and the



best of biotechnology is yet to come.

Dr. Jitendra Singh said that the DBT has the mandate of promoting and nurturing Biotechnology by creating a strong ecosystem for facilitating basic, early and late translational research and entrepreneurship and also formulation of policies and guidelines in all sectors of biotechnology. This is being achieved through promotion of research, innovation and technology leading towards product development; building capacities, both human resource and infrastructure; establishing national and international partnerships.

Dr. Jitendra Singh said that the DBT has also established 15 theme-based autonomous institutions across the country. One international institution namely the New Delhi centre of the International Centre for Genetic Engineering & Biotechnology and two Public Sector



Undertakings BIRAC and BIRAC have also been established for manufacturing of biologicals and fostering and nurturing the startup innovation ecosystem.

The Union Minister also outlined the commendable role of the DBT towards the mitigation of COVID-19 pandemic and especially under the Mission COVID Suraksha, DBT has played crucial role towards development of vaccines against COVID-19.

Dr. Jitendra Singh maintained that the biotechnology sector in India has evolved over the last three decades and has

made significant contribution in various sectors including health, agriculture etc. Due to enormous support received both from government & private sector, biotechnology sector has seen a rapid growth and India is now being rated among top 12 biotechnology destinations in the world.

On this occasion, the DBT Foundation day lecture was delivered by Padma Santosh Yadav, first woman who scaled Mt Everest twice. She shared her experiences and challenges of mountaineering with scientists and fellows.

MILAN 22 - OPENING CEREMONY

Chennai, February 28 2022: The Opening Ceremony of the biennial Multilateral Naval Exercise, MILAN 22 was held at the Naval Auditorium at Visakhapatnam on Saturday, 26 February 2022. The Chief Guest for the event was the Hon'ble Raksha Rajya Mantri, Shri Ajay Bhatt. The event was attended by the Chief of the Naval Staff, Admiral R Hari Kumar, as well as Ambassadors, High Commissioners, Chiefs of Navies, Delegation Heads of participating countries and the Commanding Officers and crew of all participating ships. A Special Day Cover and a movie on the MILAN exercise was released by the Chief Guest to mark the occasion.

The eleventh edition of MILAN is being hosted by the Eastern Naval Command at the City of Destiny, Vishakhapatnam for the first time. All previous editions have been held at Port Blair



under the aegis of the Tri-Service Andaman and Nicobar Command. The participation from Friendly Foreign Countries includes 13 ships, 39 delegations and one Maritime Patrol Aircraft. This large congregation gives significance and potency to the word

'MILAN' which means "meeting" or "confluence" in Hindi.

MILAN endeavours to promote "Camaraderie, Cohesion, Collaboration"

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DPIIT to hold its first Post Budget Webinar on PM GatiShakti

Chennai, February 28, 2022: Carrying forward the momentum on the PM GatiShakti national master plan announced in this year's Union Budget, the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Ministry of Commerce and Industry (MoCI) is organizing its first Post Budget Webinar titled 'Creating Synergies for Accelerated Economic Growth' on Monday the 28th of February 2022.

This webinar will see high ranking officials from various stakeholder Ministries, leading academics and industry representatives come together to discuss and chart out the strategy for enhancing India's logistics efficiency.

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi shall address all participants on the vision of GatiShakti and its convergence with Union Budget 2022 and Minister for Commerce and Industry, Shri Piyush Goyal will chair the concluding session of the day wherein the leaders for all themes will present their outcomes and elaborate on the way

forward.

Following the PM's address the participants will break out into 5 simultaneous sessions covering various aspects of the logistics sector in India.

Shri Anurag Jain, Secretary, DPIIT, Ministry of Commerce and Industry shall lead the session on 'Nation as a whole approach' to introduce a new vision of integrated planning and synchronized time bound implementation. This session will focus on the GatiShakti national master plan portal that has been developed by the Bhaskaracharya Institute of Space Application Geoinformatics, which will provide real time, inputs to stakeholders through a dynamic Geographic Information System interface.

The second session on 'Cooperative Federalism and Enhanced Capital Investment for Infrastructure' will be led by Shri Amrit Lal Meena, Special Secretary for Logistics at DPIIT, Ministry of Commerce and Industry. This session will focus on ways to

improve integration between the Centre and States while planning large infrastructure projects along with announcements in the budget to enhance the availability of capital for such projects.

Secretary, Ministry of Road Transport & Highways (MoRTH), Shri Giridhar Aramane will lead 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) will lead the session on 'Logistics workforce strategy- Enhancing skill and employment opportunities'. This session will hold discussions on ways to building world-class talent for accelerating India's growth through PM GatiShakti.

The final session led by Shri Amitabh Kant, CEO, NITI Aayog, is

titled 'ULIP - Revolutionizing Indian Logistics'. Logistics sector is the backbone for realizing the "Atmanirbhar Bharat" initiative and for strengthening the same, it is necessary to interconnect concerned players. Unified Logistics Interface Platform (ULIP) is one of such promising initiatives in this direction which will introduce digital efficiencies and create a nationwide single window logistics platform for end-to-end visibility and efficient movement of goods. During this session, the progress made so far and way forward for ULIP shall be deliberated upon.

PM GatiShakti aims to create Next Generation Infrastructure by learning from the past. PM GatiShakti National Master Plan is as an integrated plan, which will address the missing gaps to ensure seamless movement of people, goods & services. It aims to enhance ease of living, ease of doing business, minimize disruptions and expedite completion of works with cost efficiencies.

KVIC proposes lifting of "Export Prohibition" on Bamboo Charcoal for Higher Profitability of Bamboo Industry

Chennai, February 28, 2022: Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) has urged Government to lift the "export prohibition" on bamboo charcoal for optimum utilization of raw bamboo and higher profitability in the bamboo industry. One of the biggest challenges that the Indian bamboo industry faces today is the extremely high input cost owing to inadequate utilization of bamboo. However, export of bamboo charcoal would ensure complete utilization of the bamboo waste and thus make the bamboo business more profitable.

KVIC Chairman Shri Vinai Kumar Saxena has written to Union Minister of Commerce and Industries, Shri Piyush Goyal, seeking to lift the export restriction on bamboo charcoal for larger benefit of the bamboo industry.

In India, bamboo is mostly used in manufacturing of Agarbatti wherein, a maximum of 16%, i.e. the upper layers of the bamboo, is used for manufacturing of bamboo sticks while the remaining 84% of bamboo is a complete waste. The Bamboo waste generated in Agarbatti and bamboo craft industries is not being utilized commercially, as a result, the Bamboo input cost for



Round Bamboo Sticks is in the range of Rs 25,000 to Rs 40,000 per MT as against the average Bamboo cost of Rs 4,000 to Rs 5,000 per MT. Compared to this, the Bamboo price in China is Rs 8,000 to Rs 10,000 per MT but their input cost is Rs 12,000 to Rs 15,000 per MT owing to 100% waste utilization.

KVIC Chairman Shri Saxena said the bamboo waste can be best utilized by making "Bamboo Charcoal" which, though, has a very limited use within the domestic market but it is hugely in demand in the international market. However, the Indian bamboo industry is not able to tap the opportunity due to its "export prohibition". Considering the repeated requests of the industry, KVIC has requested the government to consider lifting the export restriction on bamboo charcoal. He said this would not only enable the industry to exploit huge global demand but also enhance the profitability

of existing KVIC units by proper utilisation of bamboo waste and thus contribute to the PM's vision of "Waste to Wealth".

Notably, the world import demand of bamboo charcoal has been hovering in the range of USD 1.5 to 2 billion and has been growing at the rate of 6% in recent years. Bamboo Charcoal for Barbeque sells for about Rs 21,000 to Rs 25,000 per ton in the international market. Besides, it is also used for soil nutrition and as a raw material for manufacturing Activated Charcoal. Rising import demand is witnessed in countries like USA, Japan, Korea, Belgium, Germany, Italy, France and UK at negligible import duty.

It is pertinent to mention that an amendment in export policy for Bamboo products under the HS code 141100 was made in 2017, wherein exports of all the Bamboo products were kept in the OGL

category and were "Free" to exports. However, exports of Bamboo Charcoal, Bamboo Pulp and unprocessed shoots were still kept under prohibited category.

Earlier, in order to create more employment in bamboo-based industries, particularly in Agarbatti industry, KVIC, in 2019, had requested the Government for policy changes in import of raw Agarbatti and import duty on round bamboo sticks that were heavily imported from Vietnam and China. Subsequently, in September 2019, the Ministry of Commerce "restricted" the import of raw Agarbatti and in June 2020, the Ministry of Finance increased the import duty on round bamboo sticks.

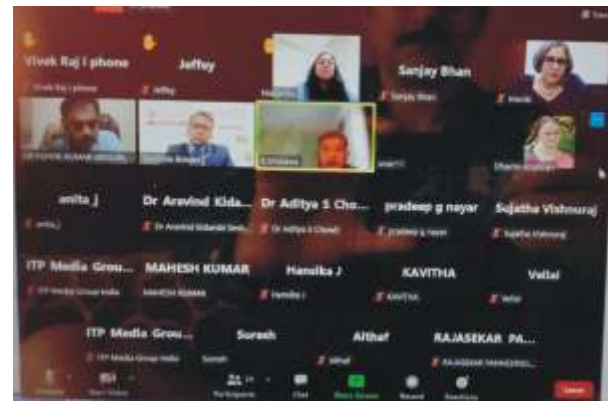
As an implication of the policy changes, Agarbatti and bamboo-craft industries in India have witnessed the revival of hundreds of closed units. After the policy changes, KVIC has set up 1658 new Agarbatti manufacturing units under its flagship Prime Minister's Employment Generation Program (PMEGP). Similarly, 1121 new bamboo crafts related units, too, have been set up across the country. This has not only optimized the use of bamboo but also created sustainable employment in rural areas.

AJI-NO-MOTO®(MSG) can help people to reduce their salt intake Renowned doctors from all over India meet to talk about the truth and facts regarding AJI-NO-MOTO® (MSG)

Chennai, February 28, 2022: Renowned doctors from all over India, along with Ishikawa-Katsuyuki, Managing Director, Ajinomoto India and Govinda Biswas, Manager-Marketing, Ajinomoto India, attended a virtual meet to discuss the truth and facts about AJI-NO-MOTO®(MSG).

Dr Jeffrey George - Consultant Gastroenterologist, Aster Medcity Kochi, Nabanita Saha - Chief Clinical Dietician, Manipal Hospital Bangalore, Dr. Aruna Kalra - Senior Gynaecologist & Obstetrician, CK Birla Hospital Mumbai, Dr A. Ashok Kumar - Senior Consultant, Interventional Cardiologist, Rela Hospital Chennai, Anita Jatana - Dietician, Indraprastha Apollo Hospitals Delhi, and Dr Dharini Krishnan, Dietician Chennai are some of the key participants of the virtual meet.

About 1.65 million deaths are reported every year due to heart disease, which can be triggered by regularly consuming more salt than the daily prescribed limit. WHO recommends not more than 5 gm (one tea spoon) of salt intake for a healthy person per day. However, the average daily salt consumption of an adult individual in India is 11 gm (two teaspoons), double what WHO recommends.



Excessive salt intake can cause high blood pressure, leading to a range of health problems including vision loss, heart failure, heart attack, stroke, kidney-disease and sexual dysfunction. Considering the health implications of excessive salt intake, the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has taken an initiative through their "Eat Right India" campaign to educate the masses about the importance of reducing the amount of salt in their diet.

Monosodium Glutamate is generically known in India as Ajinomoto. Actually, Ajinomoto Co., Inc. Japan is the first inventor or the commercial manufacturer of the famous taste enhancer of Monosodium Glutamate. Monosodium Glutamate is sold under the brand name AJI-NO-MOTO®. Monosodium Glutamate is produced from the vegetarian sources like Sugarcane or Tapioca starch through natural fermentation process. It is basically a Sodium salt of glutamic acid.

Ishikawa-Katsuyuki,

Managing Director, Ajinomoto India said, "MSG contain only one third sodium (12%) compared to that of table salt (39%). In general, the amount of MSG used is less than that of salt including not only table salt but also that derived from seasonings, thus the sodium derived from MSG in food is reduced further. Normally if we reduce the salt quantity in a dish than the test also reduces. But if we reduce the salt in the dish and add a pinch of MSG, the study has shown that it helps us to reduce the salt intake significantly almost by 30% but at the same time it helps maintain the delicious, well-balanced taste of the dish. This is because of the presence of the glutamic acid in the MSG, which is easily soluble and dissolve smoothly in any dish and enhances the taste of the dish naturally. Thus, in the present scenario, MSG can be proven a blessing in disguise for the Indians consumers. As they can significantly reduce the salt intake without compromising the overall taste of the dish, anyone can try out the umami seasoning AJI-NO-MOTO® (MSG) without any worries."



Said Govinda Biswas, Manager-Marketing, Ajinomoto India, "Glutamic acid provides pleasant "brothy" or "meaty" long-lasting, mouth-watering taste and coating sensation to the tongue Regulatory bodies like FSSAI, USFDA, JECFA have thoroughly done research on this food additive and declared it: generally recognized as safe for human consumption and no global regulatory bodies have fixed any acceptable daily intake (ADI) level for this food ingredient."

Dr Dharini Krishnan, Dietician said, "Mono Sodium Glutamate is very safe for humans as it is manufactured from natural ingredients. Glutamic acid or glutamate is an amino acid, which occurs in nature and found in foods commonly eaten by people. It is present in fruits, vegetables, tomatoes, cheese, and even human milk. MSG is a flavor enhancer comprising water, sodium, and glutamate. It also adds nutritional value to the food that we consume."

Future of India Healthcare start ups

Chennai, February 28, 2022: Healthcare system plays a very role constantly among the scientist and doctors to find a better solution in treatment or cure ailments that affects the patients. However, there are couple of healthcare Start up in today's scenario which has attained true potential and effectively addressing the challenges to the Indian healthcare system despite of COVID crisis. However, one of the major setback which concerns is about of innovative options for investments in the Indian start up, regulatory hurdles that have led the muted investors in the Healthcare industry. In addition, Government of India also started playing a crucial role in fostering the major growth of Startups, especially in the healthcare industry in order to make healthcare services at affordable and accessible manner for

innovative usage of various technologies or drugs especially for the people to get benefited who are in the poverty line or below the poverty line.

In addition, Innovation is considered as one of the major goal for all the Start up's which enables them to speed up with innovative solutions much quicker in a shorter time than established companies with more stakeholders who may take longer to approve go-ahead on projects. Considering the health care in India, healthcare data has become more prominent these days where data analytics and predictive healthcare is considered to give more accurate information. Taking this into account many start up started to access to problem of healthcare, while the improvement in accuracy of predictions



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

will increase the personalisation aspect of fitness and wellness products, and also reduce the time taken for treating patients. In addition, Personalised treatment will not only be able to target diseases more efficiently, but also help in developing the biotech,

biopharma and medical devices industry. Finally, to conclude, Health care Start-ups are not only the key to find creative solutions for various complex issues but also it paves a way for emerging healthcare Entrepreneurs a better healthcare for serving the nation.

PM's address in the 86th Episode of 'Mann Ki Baat'

Chennai, February 28 2022: My dear countrymen, Namaskar!

Welcome to 'Mann Ki Baat' once again. Today we will commence 'Mann Ki Baat' mentioning India's success. In the beginning of this month, India has been successful in bringing home an invaluable heritage of hers from Italy. This heritage is the over one thousand years old idol of Avalokiteshvara Padmapani. This idol was stolen a few years ago from Kundalpur temple, Devi Sthan of Gaya ji in Bihar. But after innumerable efforts, India has now got this idol back. Similarly, a few years ago the idol of Lord Anjaneyaar, Hanuman ji was stolen from Vellore in Tamil Nadu. This idol of Hanuman ji was also 600-700 years old. Earlier this month, we retrieved this in Australia; our Mission has received it.

Friends, in our history of thousands of years, idols, one better than the other were always being made in various parts of the country; it also comprised reverence, capability, skill and was full of varied diversity. And the history of each of our idols also depicts the influence of their respective times. Not only were they a wonderful artistic example of Indian sculpture; our faith was

also connected with them. But, in the past, many idols were stolen and kept being taken out of India. Sometimes in this country, at times in another, these idols were sold... and for them they were just pieces of art. Neither did they have anything to do with their history, nor with reverence attached to them. It is our responsibility towards Mother India to bring home these idols. These idols embody a part of the soul of India; faith as well. They also have a cultural-historical significance. Realising this responsibility, India increased her efforts. And resultantly, it fostered a deterrent fear against the tendency to steal. The countries where these idols were stolen and taken away to, also started to feel now that it could also have immense significance in the diplomatic channel of soft power in relations with India. India's feelings are associated with it; India's reverence is attached as well, and, in a way, it creates a lot of strength in people-to-people relations as well. Just a few days ago you must have noted that the idol of Ma Annapurna Devi, which was stolen from Kashi, was also brought back. This is an example of the changing global outlook towards India. Till the year 2013, nearly 13 idols had been

brought back to India. But, in the last seven years, India has successfully brought back more than 200 precious idols. Many countries such as America, Britain, Holland, France, Canada, Germany, Singapore have understood this sentiment of India and helped us to retrieve these idols. When I went to America in September last year, I came across a lot of very old idols and many artefacts of cultural importance there. Whenever any priceless heritage returns to the country, it is naturally a matter of great satisfaction for all of us... as an Indian, as one who has reverence for history and archaeology, one connected with faith and culture.

Friends, talking about Indian culture and our heritage, today I want to introduce you to two people in 'Mann Ki Baat'. These days, two Tanzanian siblings, Kili Paul and his sister Nima, are in the news a lot on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram, and I'm sure you too, must have heard about them. They have a passion, a craze for Indian music and for this reason they are also very popular. Their technique of Lip Sync shows how hard they work at it. Recently, a video of him singing our National Anthem 'Jana Gana Mana' on the



occasion of Republic Day went viral. A few days ago, he also paid a soulful tribute to Lata didi by presenting her song. I really appreciate these two siblings Kili and Nima very much for their wonderful creativity. A few days ago, he has also been honoured at the Indian Embassy in Tanzania. The magic of Indian music is such that it fascinates everyone. I recall, a few years ago, singers-musicians from more than one hundred and fifty countries of the world, in their respective countries, in their respective costumes, made a successful presentation of 'Vaishnav Jan', the beloved bhajan of revered Bapu, the favourite composition of Mahatma Gandhi.

Today, when India is

celebrating the important festival of 75th year of its Independence, similar initiatives can be carried out regarding patriotic songs, wherein foreign nationals or famous singers from abroad are invited to render Indian patriotic songs. Not only this, if Kili and Neema in Tanzania can lip sync the songs of India in this manner, aren't there many types of songs in my country... in many languages of our country... can't any Gujarati children do that with Tamil songs... some children of Kerala could do that with Assamese songs... some Kannada children could do that with songs of Jammu and Kashmir! We can create such an environment in which we will be able to experience 'Ek Bharat-

Shreshtha Bharat'. Not only this, we can definitely celebrate Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav in a novel way. I urge the youth of the country to make videos of the popular songs of Indian languages in their own way... you will become very popular! And the diversity of the country will be introduced to the new generation.

My dear countrymen, just a few days ago, we celebrated International Mother Language Day. Those who are learned can give a lot of academic input about where the word mother tongue came from, how it originated. I would emphasise about mother tongue that as our mother moulds our life, in the same manner, mother tongue also shapes our life. The

mother and mother tongue, both together strengthen the foundation of life; lending it permanence. Just like we cannot abandon our mother, similarly, we cannot leave our mother tongue either. I remember an incident of yesteryears, when I had gone to America, I would get a chance to visit different families. Once I went to a Telugu family and I got to see a very happy scenario there. They told me that they had made a rule in the family that no matter how busy one were to be, if they were not outstation, then all the family members would have dinner sitting at the table together and equally compulsory on the dinner table was conversing in Telugu language only. This was also the rule for the children who were born there. Seeing this love for the mother tongue, I was highly impressed by this family.

Friends, even after 75 years of independence, some people are facing a mental dilemma due to which they have reservations with regard to their language, their dress, their food and drink, whereas, it is not like this anywhere else in the world. It is our mother tongue; we should speak it with pride. And, our India is so rich in terms of languages that it

just cannot be compared. The biggest beauty of our languages is that from Kashmir to Kanyakumari, from Kutch to Kohima, hundreds of languages, thousands of dialects which are different from each other but are mutually integrated... many languages - one expression. For centuries, our languages have been evolving whilst learning from each other and have been refining themselves, developing each other. The world's oldest language Tamil is in India and every Indian should be proud that we have such a significant heritage of the world. In the same way, many ancient scriptures are also there; their expression too is in our Sanskrit language. The people of India are proud to be associated with 121 forms of mother tongues and 14 of these languages are spoken by more than 1 crore people in everyday life. That is, many European countries do not have a total population than the people who are associated with 14 different languages in our country. In the year 2019, Hindi was ranked third among the most spoken languages of the world. Every Indian should be proud of this too. Language is not just a medium of expression, but also serves to preserve the culture and heritage of the society.

Cabinet approves implementation of Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission with a budget of Rs.1,600 crore for five years

Chennai, February 28 2022: The Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has approved the national roll-out of Central Sector Scheme, Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM) of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India, with a budget of Rs.1,600 crore for five

years. The National Health Authority (NHA) will be the implementing agency of Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM).

Digital health solutions across healthcare ecosystem have proven to be of immense benefit over the years, with CoWIN, Arogya Setu and eSanjeevani further

demonstrating the role technology can play in enabling access to healthcare. However, there is a need to integrate such solutions for continuum of care, and effective utilization of resources.

Based on the foundations laid down in the form of Jan Dhan, Aadhaar and Mobile (JAM) trinity and other

digital initiatives of the government, Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM) is creating a seamless online platform through the provision of a wide-range of data, information and infrastructure services, duly leveraging open, interoperable, standards-based digital systems while ensuring the security, confidentiality and privacy of health-

related personal information.

Under the ABDM, citizens will be able to create their ABHA (Ayushman Bharat Health Account) numbers, to which their digital health records can be linked. This will enable creation of longitudinal health records for individuals across various healthcare providers, and improve

clinical decision making by healthcare providers. The mission will improve equitable access to quality healthcare by encouraging use of technologies such as telemedicine and enabling national portability of health services.

The pilot of ABDM was completed in the six Union Territories of Ladakh, Chandigarh, Dadra & Nagar Haveli and

Daman & Diu, Puducherry, Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Lakshadweep with successful demonstration of technology platform developed by the NHA. During the pilot, digital sandbox was created in which more than 774 partner solutions are undergoing integration. As on 24th February 2022, 17,33,69,087 Ayushman Bharat Health Accounts

have been created and 10,114 doctors and 17,319 health facilities have been registered in ABDM.

Not only will ABDM facilitate evidence-based decision making for effective public health interventions, but it will also catalyse innovation and generate employment across the healthcare ecosystem.

Cabinet approves offering of coal by coal companies through a common e-auction window instead of sector specific auctions

Chennai, February 28 2022: The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs, chaired by the Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, today approved the following:

i. Offering of all the non-linkage coal by coal companies through one e-auction window of CIL (CIL) / Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL). This e-auction will cater to all the Sectors namely Power Sector and Non Regulated Sector (NRS) including traders and coal would be offered through this auction in place of the present system of sector specific auctions.

ii. The above will be subject to CIL / SCCL meeting the coal linkage requirements against existing linkages and do not impact the current linkages to power and non-power consumers at contracted prices.

iii. Coal offered through the single e-auction window shall be transport mode agnostic with default option being through Rail mode. However, coal may be lifted by the consumers through the road mode/other modes depending upon their choice and suitability without paying any additional charges or

discount to the coal companies.

iv. Long term allotment of coal by CIL/SCCL, without affecting the supplies against existing coal linkages, to their own gasification plants shall be allowed at prices as may be decided by the coal company. However, the taxes, duties, royalty etc shall be paid by the coal companies on the notified prices of coal for power sector.

Major impact, including employment generation potential:

Market distortions would be removed and

single rate for all the consumers will evolve in the e-auction market. It shall increase operational efficiencies and lead to an increase in domestic coal demand by efficiency in domestic coal market. Besides the discretion presently vested in coal companies of allocating coal to different end use sectors will be eliminated. Further the coal companies shall be able to establish coal gasification plants by availing coal from their own mines. It shall help in developing clean coal technology in the country.

Removal of market distortions through offer of coal under a single e-

auction window at the same rate for all the consumers of the economy will attract more consumers towards domestic coal. Thus, the demand of domestic coal is expected to increase. CIL also has ambitious coal production plans for the future with an aim of producing 1 BT (Billion Tonne) coal by 2023-24. Hence, with better availability of domestic coal with better price stability and predictability, the import of coal is expected to come down drastically. This would reduce the dependence on imported coal and would help to make Atmanirbhar

Bharat.

This measure would ensure sustainability and development of the coal gasification technology. Use of clean coal technology like coal gasification would mitigate the adverse environmental impacts of coal usage.

Financial Implications:

Clubbing of the e-auction windows would not involve any additional cost to the coal companies.

Background:

The coal market is segmented and regulated and consequently there are many different market-

discovered rates for same grade of coal in each segment of market. Segmentation with rate differentiation results in coal market distortions. By these reforms in the coal market coal of any particular grade may be sold in the market at one rate (one grade, one rate), with default mode of transport being Railways, through a transparent and objective e-auction mechanism. A single e-auction window would enable the coal companies to sell coal through the market discovered price mechanism to all the consumers. Besides the above, the need of the hour

is to move away from the conventional coal use to clean coal technologies. The coal companies are planning to diversify business via coal gasification route. In coal block allocation mechanism, coal gasification is being encouraged through incentives like rebate in the revenue share. Similar incentivization is necessary to help early establishment of this new use of coal and related technologies. The coal companies would have flexibility to supply coal to their coal gasification projects.

Inclusive, equitable and quality education is every child's right: Vice President

Chennai, February 28 2022: The Vice President, Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu today stressed that inclusive, equitable and quality education is every child's right. He called upon private schools to come up with policies to help underprivileged and needy children. He said that extending a helping hand to the needy and the vulnerable should be accorded priority.

Addressing a gathering after inaugurating the State-of-the-art Indoor Sports Arena and L'atelier:

a dedicated block for Arts, Drama & Music at the Greenwood High International School in Bengaluru today, Shri Naidu emphasised the need to inculcate the spirit of service at a young age. The Vice President said, "Schools must include community service in their curriculum so that children develop an attitude of giving back to society at a young age."

The Vice President, Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu inaugurating the Indoor Sports Arena at

Greenwood High International School in Bengaluru today. #Sports pic.twitter.com/4rLL7g2N G3

Vice President of India (@VPSecretariat) February 26, 2022

The Vice President urged educational institutions to give equal importance to studies, sports, co-curricular and recreational activities. He said such an approach will lead to the all-round growth of students and make them confident

individuals. He also wanted the educational institutions to involve students in activities such as gardening, tree plantation and water conservation. This will bring children closer to nature, he said and further highlighted the need for water conservation by stressing on 3Rs- Reduce, Reuse and Recycle.

Underlining that NEP-2020 lays emphasis on extracurricular activities, Shri Naidu urged all states to give priority to sports, co-curricular activities and

inculcating ethical values among students.

Expressing his concern over 'erosion of values, the Vice President urged students to imbibe our civilizational values and strive to protect India's glorious cultural heritage. "We must restore values, preserve heritage, promote our culture and feel proud to be a Bharatiya," he said.

Stating that once upon a time, India was known as a 'Vishwa Guru', Shri Naidu pointed out that prolonged colonial rule has

made us forget our glorious past. "India is on the move today and it is time to go back to our roots," he added.

Reiterating his call for promotion and propagation of mother tongue, the Vice President opined that one must learn as many languages as he or she wants but the priority must always be given to learning mother tongue.

Highlighting the importance of physical fitness in our daily lives, Shri Naidu wanted the Fit

India movement reach every school, college, university, panchayat and village.

Describing art as limitless, Shri Naidu said that Art gives form to our imagination and speaks a universal language that has no boundaries. Referring to India's unique and diverse dance forms, Shri Naidu mentioned Bharatnatyam, Kuchipudi, Kathakali and Kuchipudi as some of the many ancient art forms that have been passed on from generation to generation.

He further said, "India's art, music and drama are its greatest gifts to the world and it is the duty of each one of us to protect and promote our rich and diverse art forms."

The Governor of Karnataka, Shri Thawar Chand Gehlot, Karnataka Minister, Shri Munirathna, Chairman of Greenwood High International School, Shri Bijay Agarwal, Principal, Shri Aloysius D Mello, teachers and students were among those present on the occasion.

Timeless management techniques by Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj decoded at this historic musical show 'Sangeet Shivswarajyagatha' in Mumbai 'Abhijat Marathi Rajbhasha Geet' launched at the onset of 'Marathi Bhasha Diwas' to honour 2500 year old Marathi language

Mumbai, February 28, 2022: The audience has witnessed and celebrated the history of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj and the history of the Maratha Empire through various dramas, ballads and films. But, here's 'Sangeet Shivswarajyagatha' which is perhaps the biggest & most-enriching Broadway musical show of the warrior king and his brave soldiers. The Maratha History of the Shivshahi Era was staged post pandemic again this at the maiden edition of prestigious Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Park Art Festival 2022 in Mumbai.

The grand show aimed at nation building in current times highlights the teachings and administrative excellence of the Shivshahi Era emphasizing on Management, Effective leadership skills of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj, Forts and Fortification, importance of having a naval force and lesser known Maratha soldiers & warriors like Bajirabhu Deshpande, Shiva Kashid, Ramaji Pangera, Suryarao Kakade, Firangoji Narsala and more.

"According to the report of the Central Government's Prof. Ranganath Pathare Committee, Marathi language should be given the status of an elite language, because the origin of Marathi language dates back to two and a half thousand years ago. That is why this very ancient Marathi language, which is living up to the standards, should get the status of an elite. With this thought, we are presenting this newly curated song by naming it 'Abhijat Marathi Rajbhasha Geet' this Marathi Bhasha Diwas', shared Anil Nalawade of Saisha Foundation. The song is written and composed by Anil Nalawade and is



sung by Ketan Patwardhan and Deepthi Ambekar.

Conceptualized in 2011 as Shivrudrache Digvijayi Tandav, by Saisha Foundation the show has sensitized and empowered several young minds including students at IIM Ahmedabad. There are total 42 original, well-researched songs in the musical, written and composed by Anil Nalawade, which describes brave adventures of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj's life, his unique battle techniques, his vision of Hindavi Swarajya, and most importantly the dedication and valour with which he as the Leader entrusted faith upon his bravehearts and all of them together as a Team worked towards building a great nation.

Padmashree Rao, Show Director and Narrator for the musical, Sangeet Shivswarajyagatha shares, "The uniqueness of Sangeet Shivswarajyagatha is that it has songs of real unsung heroes from the Shivshahi Era, the songs are in itself narratives of a glorious past intertwined with emotions and feelings of each youth who yearned for freedom of our country from the invaders in those times. But this musical is not mere historical reference, but also, encourages one to look upto 'Nation First' when it comes to any challenge that we face as a country. So also, it makes us look at Chhatrapati Shivaji

Battle of Nesari, Oath of Hindavi Swarajya, Confrontations with the Mughal, production of 'Rajavyavaharakośa', the thesaurus of state usage by replacing Persian and Arabic terms with their Sanskrit equivalents and more.

Anil Nalawade who has written & composed the songs further adds, 'In



Maharaj not only as a great warrior but also as a great administrator whose timeless management techniques are still applicable today"

Sangeet Shivswarajyagatha touches these topics as well which are written and narrated by keeping in mind today's youth. "We do not preach, but cite examples from history and the present day thus making them think of their individual lives from a broader perspective. In fact, the preludes to the songs are filled with motivating examples of our Indian Defense Forces Martyrs as well as bravehearts. We cite parallels of battles held 350 years ago and today's scenarios. The outcome is that the audience is mesmerized at the same time they take away a motivational thought towards nation building", Padmashri Rao further adds.

The musical focuses on some of the key events in history like Birth of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj, Battle of Pratapgarh, Battle of Salher, Maharaj's visit to Agra, Treaty of Purandar, Battle of Sinhgad, Bajirabhu Deshpande and his 600 Bandal Deshmukhs who braved 2000 enemies in the Battle of Pavankhind,

Sangeet Shivswarajyagatha, I have penned valour with emotions. For example, Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj as a warrior, as a husband, as a father and as a son. This is why the audience till now has loved Sangeet Shivswarajyagatha for its motivational content. All we want is to encourage the youth of today towards positive nation building and overall personality development by citing examples of real super heroes".

The show is a visual treat with traditional folk dances like Gondhal, Koli Geet and more depicting the era and also showcases Weaponry art of Shivkalin era and its importance. Over the last decade and more several like-minded professionals like Doctors, Engineers, Teachers have joined hands with Saisha Foundation Mumbai, the apex organization which presents the show.

The foundation aims to take the illustrious life and battles of valour of the Maratha king not just in the country but across the globe. They have marked off this global journey recently by performing online for audiences in Australia and 11 other countries.

Femina Miss India 2022 exclusively partners with Moj to host digital auditions Aspiring participants to make a Moj profile and upload three short videos - introduction, talent and rampwalk

Chennai, February 28, 2022: Femina Miss India has exclusively partnered with Moj, India's number one short video app, to provide a digital platform for aspirants to showcase their talent and participate in the prestigious contest.

The selection process of the state representatives will entail

an online registration process inviting specific audition video task submissions only via the Moj App. Miss India Organization translates its scouting operations into the digital media space, in pursuit of beauty ambassadors. Powered by a dynamic format, VLCC presents Femina Miss India 2022 is rooted in its vision to empower the youth and represent

the best of Indians talents at international platforms. The pageant in its virtual format for the second time now, has launched a nationwide hunt effective 14th February 2022 to select representatives each from the 28 states and a representative from Delhi, Jammu & Kashmir besides a collective representative from the Union Territories making

for a total of 31 finalists.

To participate, every applicant needs to download the Moj App, create a profile and upload three audition videos that will include an introduction, talent showcase and a rampwalk. Once completed, the applicant will need to log onto www.missindia.com and fill in the requisite details.

Cyber-Security Startup Kapalya Enters India after stints with FBI and NSA in USA

Chennai, February 28, 2022: Cyber-security startup Kapalya Inc. has entered India with the objective of helping governments including central and financial institutions and corporates after having a successful stint with the NSA and FBI in the United States on various issues including security of data in vote banks.

The startup, first launched in 2015 by Mr. Sudesh Kumar, its founder, has successfully managed to successfully launch its own crowd funding investment campaign in the United States through the Start-Engine platform on February 7, 2022, Mr. Kumar announced to the media in India through a zoom conference from Berkely in California.

Founded in 2015, Kapalya's has offices in Berkeley, California and Honolulu, Hawaii in the USA and Bengaluru in India.

The U.S. has experienced thefts ranging from personnel records to military secrets, often traced to hackers from Russia and China. India is all the more vulnerable, given its frosty geopolitical ties with some of its neighbours, said Sudesh Kumar.

Cyber security breaches have increased at an alarming pace in recent years. The Week reported that about 11.5 lakh incidents of cyberattacks were brought to the notice of India's Computer Emergency Response Team (CERTIn) in 2021. Computer systems of Air



India were hacked into, compromising the personal and financial information of 4.5 million customers worldwide, while telecom services provider Airtel Ltd and online grocery store BigBasket too were targets, according to a report published in Money Control website.

A CNBC-TV18.com report said about 27% of Indian firms paid an average \$5,00,000 to cyber-criminals as ransom during 2021. Partnership with NSA Kapalya's mission is to secure data and protect governments and enterprises worldwide against ransomware attacks.

What's Ransomware? Cyber gangs or criminals like drug cartels infiltrate your computer system or hack it and steal all sensitive and secretive information and block you from being able to open it in your own use and then demand a ransom, mainly paid through crypto currency to allow you to reopen your own files supposedly encrypted. Something like locking you in your house electronically by hacking into your surveillance system and then demanding a ransom to be able to open the door of your house to get out.

Says Sudesh Kumar: "The Advanced

Ransomware Countermeasures (ARC) solution is a game changer which is being developed in collaboration with the National Security Agency (NSA) of the U.S., based on patented technology. Kapalya claims that it is the only company that has partnered with the U.S. government's leading digital surveillance organisation for this counter ransomware solution.

NSF grant: The company has been awarded grants by the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the State of Hawaii to develop the solution.

The NSF grant gives Kapalya the unique advantage of selling its product directly to federal, state and local governments, bypassing the bidding process, while the grant from the State of Hawaii makes it the preferred vendor for state government departments and agencies, Sudesh Kumar said.

The new battlefield Ransomware attacks have increased 148% in 2021*, with hackers, many of them state sponsored, targeting crucial sectors. These include organizations' that supply water and energy, provide access to daily necessities such as food, financial services, and healthcare. The

bigger the target, the more the victim is likely to pay. Infiltration also happens by bribing insiders such as users, contractors, vendors, or partners of an organization to install ransomware on its systems.

Says Kapalya Founder/CEO Sudesh Kumar: "Every organization is concerned about ransomware. In one incident in the U.S., patients died when the hospital's systems were breached with ransomware and doctors could not promptly administer medication. This is not just about money, but also about saving innocent lives. Indian enterprises and governments too are under constant cyberattack. Our objective is to help Indian enterprises and governments inoculate against these attacks."

A complete solution Kapalya's comprehensive enterprise-wide Encryption Management Platform (EMP), unlike those of its competitors, offers the most secure end-to-end encrypted file sharing, Sudesh Kumar said adding, In the event of a ransomware attack, all data can be recovered with zero percent data leakage. Kapalya's AI/ML-based counter ransomware solution, which is being developed in cooperation with the U.S. government, will inoculate and remediate ransomware in Realtime across a wide range of platforms such as endpoints, mobile, cloud, servers, databases and networks.

Dulquer Salmaan's Hey Sinamika to be released on March 3

Chennai, February 28, 2022: Dulquer Salmaan is getting ready for his forthcoming Tamil film 'Hey Sinamika.' The film, starring Dulquer Salmaan, Kajal Aggarwal, and Aditi Rao Hydari, is set to be released on March 3. Ranbir Kapoor, a Bollywood actor, recently released a video wishing the 'Hey Sinamika' crew all the luck for the film's premiere. Ranbir Kapoor also stated in the video that he is a tremendous fan of Dulquer Salmaan's work. He has a lot of respect for Dulquer as an actor. Ranbir Kapoor remarked in the video.

Dulquer Salmaan responded to Ranbir Kapoor's show of appreciation by writing, "Thank you so much Ranbir for all the nice comments and your kindness to all of us at #HeySinamika." He's



always been a tremendous fan and is looking forward to seeing #Brahmastra and Ranbir's other upcoming ventures. In the video, Ranbir Kapoor wished Kajal Aggarwal, Aditi Rao Hydari, and Brinda Gopal, the director of 'Hey Sinamika,' well.

Meanwhile, Dulquer Salmaan recently celebrated a decade in the film industry. His first film, 'Second Show,' received a ten, as

did his subsequent career in show business. "He was reborn ten years ago. Art gave birth to her, magicians nourished her, and the oceans raised her. The ocean, which was fathered by the sun, provided me with dirt, rain, and at times, sufficient shade. Along with the rest of the people around me, he continued to develop. He discovered colors and fragrances that were only found in me. The

winds are now dispersing me far and wide. He wishes to flourish in all places. Thank you very much to everyone. But, above all, to the seas. He swayed in the air. #youguysgottacrackmycode #febthethird #tenyears #moviesarelives #thankyou #everyone #every #single #one #of #you #gratitude." Dulquer Salmaan said on Twitter to mark the occasion.