

Madurai Station redevelopment work going on at steady pace

Rs.347.47 Crore contract work in progress for Madurai Junction Redevelopment

Façade of revamped Madurai Junction to showcase vernacular architecture

Multi-storey East & West Terminals for hassle-free access of facilities for passengers

Chennai, Dec 30 2022: Southern Railway has taken up Station Redevelopment as one of the key areas for enhancing the passenger experience. Nine stations in Southern Railway are likely to undergo transformational changes as part of Station redevelopment. Of these 9 stations, Madurai junction is also one of the stations where the redevelopment work is progressing at a steady pace.

Works executed so far Preliminary works such as Mapping and Topographical survey, soil investigation, Traffic survey, tree inventory, joint inventory of movable and immovable assets have been completed and validation in progress

Shifting of materials and facilities completed to accommodate the redevelopment works

Construction of offices for contractors in progress

Project management Services have commenced work.

Right of way, which is a legal right to enter and carry out the work, has been provided to the EPC contractor for carrying out the work

A series of meetings are held with the stakeholders of the project

Madurai Junction

Madurai Junction is an NSG-2 category railhead serving the 'Temple Town' Madurai known for the famed Goddess Meenakshi Amman Temple. The station handles 96 trains per day and registers an average daily passenger footfall of 51,296. The station attracts scores of tourists from all over India and abroad.

Award of contract

Southern Railway had awarded the work of Redevelopment of Madurai Junction Railway Station on 22nd Sep, 2022 as EPC contract to M/s P & C Projects Private Limited, Chennai at a cost of Rs. 347.47 Crores, setting a time frame of 36 months for completion of the project. M/s TUV India Private Limited, Mumbai



have been tasked with the work of Project Management services (PMS) at a cost of Rs.10.88 Crore. The PMS consultant is responsible for monitoring the project.

Road map to Redevelopment

Two terminals are proposed to be constructed, one each at the Eastern and Western side. Three Multi-level Parking structures will be built, two buildings on the eastern side and one

on the west. A subway connecting Railway Plot and Periyar Bus Stand, a dedicated FOB for Parcel movement, and two Skywalks connecting the Parking facilities on the eastern side, are also planned.

East Terminal Building

The proposed East Terminal building is a G+2 structure with an area of 22,576 sq.m (excluding concourse area). The entrance façade of the

station building would depict the vernacular architectural character of the region. The ground floor is planned to provide for clutter free movement with a dedicated arrival and departure area equipped with world-class passenger facilities like toilets, cloak room, baby care, feeding room, help desk, commercial outlets and kiosk. The first floor will accommodate the passenger waiting lounges

for the train clubbed with facilities like restaurants, retail commerce and toilets. The second floor of the East terminal building is proposed for commercial activity.

Air Concourse

The main feature of the first floor of East Terminal is the air concourse which would facilitate hassle-free movement of passengers to their respective platforms. For easy accessibility from concourse to respective

platforms, two pairs of escalators, two lifts and four staircases to each platform will be provided. This air concourse is an integral part of the station and interlinks the two terminal buildings approximately 110 m apart thus ensuring seamless movement of passengers. The concourses will accommodate the passenger amenities, waiting area from where passengers would have better visibility of platforms.

West Terminal

The existing secondary West terminal building will be renovated to include the facilities of a world class station. The two-storey building will be developed to include the departure / Arrival forecourt, various railway offices, ticketing counters and other passenger amenities.

Multi-level Parking facilities

In order to cater the existing and future demand for vehicular parking, 3 parking structures are envisaged in the

redevelopment project, which are:

1. East Side Multilevel Car Parking Building-G+2 building-9,430 sq.m
2. East Side Multilevel Two-Wheeler Parking Building-G+3 building-2,822 sq.m
3. West Side Multilevel Car Parking Building- G+1 building-2,580 sq.m

Besides, in order to facilitate safe transfer of passengers to and from the Periyar Bus Terminal, a subway connecting the basement of the bus terminal and the railway premises is envisaged. The main objective is to segregate departure and arrival corridors and to facilitate smooth traffic flow through inter-modal connectivity. Approach roads are planned for better movement of passenger vehicles.

Madurai station redevelopment work, once completed, will place it on the map of world class stations.

Union Minister for Home and Cooperation Amit Shah presided over the Conference of Union Territories

Chennai, Dec 30 2022: In pursuence of the vision of the Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi that Union Territories should become models of good governance and development for the rest of the country, a Conference on Union Territories was organized by the Ministry of Home Affairs in New Delhi under the chairmanship of Home & Cooperation Minister, Shri Amit Shah, in New Delhi today. The Conference has been inspired by the Panch Pranas of Amrit Kaal.

The conference was attended by the Minister of State for Home Affairs Shri Nityanand Rai, the Cabinet Secretary, the Union Home Secretary, the Chief Secretaries/Advisor to the Administrator and other officers of the Union Territories, the Ministry of Home Affairs and senior officers from the concerned Central Ministries.

In his address, the Union Home and Cooperation Minister emphasized on making Union Territories a role model for the country and said that if the potential of Union Territories is fully harnessed, India will be able to achieve the goal of becoming the third largest economy in the world. Shri Amit Shah also directed the Union Territories to prepare their vision for 2047. He said that Union

Territories should take inspiration from the Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi's motto of "vocal for local" and "Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat" while striving to become a hub of tourism, development and welfare.

The Union Home and Cooperation Minister said that all Union Territories should come together and work synergistically on a common platform to achieve the national objectives and vision and take the country forward in the journey of development. Shri Shah said that Union Territories are small in geographical size and have a relatively simple administrative set up, therefore Union Territories are ideal prototypes to experiment with pilot programmes. These experiments can be tested on a small scale in the Union Territories and then replicated in larger regions and States. He said that the focus should be on cooperatives, especially in the fisheries sector, for development and public participation. At the same time, Union Territories should focus on increasing their manufacturing sector to reduce their dependence on external resources so as to reduce the loss of revenue in the process. Shri Shah said that tourist circuits should be developed in the country to attract more tourists and

reduce the cost of transportation etc.

Shri Amit Shah said that in this Amrit Kaal, all Indians should take a pledge to transform India into "Best India". It is an overall vision year for the year 2047 when India will complete 100 years of Independence. All Union Territories have been given a roadmap for 2047 and an action plan for the next 5 years and the goals set for the next 5 years to be achieved. An annual plan should be drawn up. The implementation and progress of these action plans should also be monitored and reviewed regularly and rigorously to derive maximum benefits.

The Home Minister said that development should reach the grassroots level, the indicator of development cannot be measured only by the rising figures of GDP, but it can be measured only by the positive impact it has on the remotest and most deprived people of the society. He said that Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi has kept the Panch Pranas of Amrit Kaal and every Union Territory Administration should imbibe the spirit of these Panch Pranas in the performance of their duties. The Union Territories should be guided by these five principles: creation of safe and secure Union

Territories; achieving saturation in flagship schemes; Minimum Government, Maximum Governance; zero tolerance towards corruption; and develop best practices for the overall development of the Union Territories.

The Union Home Minister said that primary education is an important medium to ensure that the future generations of the country imbibe these five principles. He said that the inspirational life of Sri Aurobindo has many lessons and meanings for administration. The Union Territories, especially Puducherry, should take the lead in documenting the lessons of his life and spreading awareness about them.

Shri Amit Shah called upon all Union Territories to exchange best practices while stressing on safe Union Territories, completion of flagship schemes, minimum government and maximum governance and zero tolerance against corruption. He said that Union Territories should become models of self-reliance and every Union Territory should be proud of its heritage. The Home Minister also said that immense tourism potential will be developed in Union Territories. Appreciating the progress made by the Union Territories so far, he

also encouraged all the participants to work in synergy to realize the vision of Atmanirbhar Bharat.

The conference provided an opportunity for cross learning and knowledge sharing between Union Territories and other stakeholders, as well as a platform for Union Territories to voice their aspirations, achievements, local priorities and unique challenges. As a preparation for the conference, a brainstorming session was held in Puducherry in November this year in which officials from the Ministry of Home Affairs as well as officials from 8 Union Territories met for two days. The three working areas - economic



development, tourism and flagship plans and best practices were discussed in detail and shaped the agenda of the conference.

The conference began with a welcome address by the Union Home Secretary and presentations on each of the three verticals followed by introduction of the topics of discussion. Each presentation was

followed by in-depth discussions and key findings were outlined. The three sectors discussed the strengths and challenges, uniqueness and potential of each of the Union Territories and how to fully tap them to become engines of growth. The aspirations of the Union Territories for the next 5 years were also highlighted and ways to achieve these

aspirations and goals were put forward. In his address, the Cabinet Secretary congratulated and wished all the participants well for conducting an insightful session on Union Territories. The conference ended with the guidance and way forward given by the Union Home and Cooperation Minister, Shri Amit Shah.

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Union Minister for Chemicals & Fertilizers, Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya virtually interacts with Farmers and Retailers from over 9000 Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samridhi Kendras (PMKSKs) across the country

Chennai, Dec 30 2022: "The Government of India has been taking revolutionary steps in the interest of farmers. In one such significant step, the fertilizer retail shops are being converted into Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samridhi Kendras (PMKSKs). These PMKSKs will act as a nodal point for all agriculture related activities, and disseminate the latest innovations, best practices, knowledge, techniques and tests that will help the farmers to not only increase their productivity but also reduce cost of production. Our aim is to create a vibrant ecosystem for farmers. This step of PMKSKs will make our farmers capable in doubling their income and in turn will act as a significant step in India's food security and growth story". This was stated by Union Minister of Chemical & Fertilizers, Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya as he virtually addressed farmers who gathered at around 9000 PMKSKs across the country. He also interacted with farmers and retailers of PMKSK of six States namely Ramnagar (Uttar Pradesh), Kota (Rajasthan), Dewas (Madhya Pradesh), Vadodra (Gujarat) and Retailers from Eluru (Andhra Pradesh) and Rajapura (Punjab).

Glimpses of this interaction can be seen from a tweet posted by



Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya. Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Mandaviya said that "Government of India under the visionary leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister is dedicated to taking every measure possible to make our farmers enablers. Be it financial support through programs like PM Kisan Samman Nidhi, or new scientific innovations of Nano Urea and alternative fertilizers, wide range of steps are being taken. The availability of fertilizers which plays a crucial role in farming has been the top priority of the government and despite the global turmoil, government is ensuring availability of fertilizers at highly subsidized rates. We are ensuring that every process in fertilizer availability in the country is streamlined for the farmers."

Highlighting the significance of PMKSKs, he said that "opening PMKSKs is a major step, which will help in catering to a wide variety of needs of the farmers like providing

agri-inputs (fertilizers, seeds & pesticides) and testing facilities for soil, seeds, and fertilizers. They will also generate awareness among farmers, provide information regarding various government schemes and ensure regular capacity building of retailers at block/district level outlets" he further added. Around 2,62,559 active retail shops in the country will be converted into PMKSKs in a phased manner." Dr. Mandaviya said that "this conversion process will ensure that the wide range of products and facilities to be provided at PMKSKs will reach all the farmers of the country. With this the PMKSKs will prove to be a major platform for the farmers in the future that will help in overcoming the daily issues faced by the farmers and address their concerns at the shortest possible time" he further emphasized.

Lauding the contribution of the scientific community, Dr. Mandaviya said that "India is developing several alternative solutions that will not only be pocket friendly

for farmers but will be better in terms of production levels and environment friendly too." He assured that in the coming days approval of Nano DAP will also be given that will be a better alternative than the conventional DAP. He thanked the scientists for these innovations in agriculture sector and requested the farmers to adopt these innovative fertilizers and technology.

The farmers expressed their gratitude on the innovative steps being taken by the government. Furthermore, they conveyed that multiple agri-inputs are now available at one single roof, which is saving farmers time and the farmers are now being able to dedicate more time at their farm land. The farmers highlighted about the availability of crop literature at the PMKSKs, soil testing facilities and information about other government schemes. The retailers informed that more and more farmers are now using drones for the purpose of application of fertilizers and pesticides, which is saving their money and their precious time.

Sh. Arun Singhal, Secretary Dept of Fertilizers, Ms. Neeraja Adidam, Addl. Secretary along with senior officials from Ministry were present during the event.

From 1st January, 2023, National Research Development Corporation will undertake Technology Commercialization for benefit of Start-Ups - Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh

Chennai, Dec 30 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 today said that beginning from 1st January, 2023, National Research Development Corporation (NRDC) will undertake Technology Commercialization for benefit of Start-Ups.



(IOCL) for implementation of their Start-up Scheme from identification of start-ups and hand-holding to product launch.

The Minister also pointed out that NRDC has entered into an MoU with The Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) for mentoring and monitoring export oriented Agri-based Start-ups.

Dr Jitendra Singh also informed that Technology Development, Validation and Commercialization Program (TDVC) program is a Grant-in-Aid Scheme for providing financial support to start-ups, incubatees and MSMEs who focus on problem statements of the Indian society and manufacturing industry in the brick & mortar economy.

Secretary, DSIR Dr N. Kalaiselvi informed Dr Jitendra Singh that the technologies acquired by NRDC from various R&D sources get transformed through value addition and are offered to industries for commercial exploitation. She said that the

technology transfer is facilitated by NRDC and the R&D organization to the industry for a consideration which forms the core revenue stream of NRDC.

Chairman & Managing Director of NRDC, Commodore Amit Rastogi (Retd) pointed out that NRDC provides seed funding against equity to eligible technology-based start-ups incubated in State/Central Government incubators. The start-ups have to demonstrate innovative and technology intensive development with strong commercial value.

NRDC is playing an important role in Nation Building, as it has established wide network of linkages with national and international scientific & technological agencies, industries, industrial associations, state & central Government Departments, STPs and incubators.

NRDC has taken up several initiatives to support and encourage the Start-Ups ecosystem in the Country. With this objective, NRDC has established and has started to manage incubation centers to

nurture technology driven start-ups for maturation into commercial ventures.

NRDC Incubation Centre: The Corporation has created a physical and virtual space for incubating eight start-ups each who are working on novel solutions in the manufacturing industry space. These start-ups are being provided mentoring and hand-holding services, subsidized facilities for testing and fabrication at various networked laboratories, funding against equity, certification of incubation, Office and Conference facilities etc.

mach33.aero: mach33.aero is a highly specialized start-up incubation facility created at CSIR-NAL Campus at Bengaluru in collaboration with CSIR-NAL and Foundation for Innovation and Social Entrepreneurs (FISE), Bengaluru (An initiative supported by Tata Trust) which was established and inaugurated in December 2021. This incubation facility encourages incubation of start-ups in the Aerospace and allied industry sectors.

Innovative Technology Enabling Center (InTEC): InTEC is a start-up incubation facility created at CSRI-IMMT Campus at Bhubaneswar which is now managed by the Corporation. This facility is for encouraging incubation of start-ups working in the area of materials, mining and allied industry sectors.

The export of Processed Food Products has increased from US\$ 8.56 billion in 2020-21 to US\$ 10.42 Billion in 2021-22

Chennai, Dec 30 2022: Food Processing Week 2.0' organized by the Ministry of Food Processing Industries, under the 'Kisan Bhagidari Prathmikta Hamari' Campaign by the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare under the 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' umbrella.

Virtual Inauguration of 75 Food Processing Projects by Union Minister for Food Processing Industries, Shri Pashupati Kumar Paras.

B. Creation Infrastructure Facilities

A total of 112 food processing projects were completed/operationalized covering - Mega Food Park:1, ColdChain:15, Units:71, Agro-Processing Clusters(APC):4, Food Testing Laboratories:20, Backward & Forward Linkage projects:1

The 112 completed projects have created additional processing and preservation capacity of agricultural produce of 23.08 lakh MT per annum. 15 cold chain infrastructure projects

created additional milk processing and storage capacity of 23.30 lakh liter per day and 9.25 MT/hour of IQF (Instant Quick Freezing) of fruits and vegetables.

The 112 completed projects leveraged private investment of Rs. 706.04 crore and generated direct and indirect employment for 25293 persons.

C. Approval of New Infrastructure Facilities

A total of 190 food processing projects were sanctioned viz: Agro Processing Clusters:23, Cold Chain:33, Units:120, Food Testing Laboratories:12 and Mega Food Park:2

Aatmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan

Production Linked Incentive Scheme (PLIS) for the Food Processing Industries

As part of Hon'ble Prime Minister's announcement of Aatmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan, the Government, on 31st March, 2021, approved a Central Sector Scheme, namely "Production Linked

Incentive Scheme for Food Processing Industry" with an outlay of INR 10,900 crores to be implemented for a period of seven years from 2021-2022 to 2026-27.

The primary objectives of this scheme are to support creation of global food manufacturing champions; support Indian brands of food products in the international markets; increase employment opportunities of off-farm jobs; and ensure remunerative prices of farm produce and higher income to farmers.

Specific food product segments, having high growth potential have been identified for providing support under the scheme. These include ready to cook/ready to eat (RTC/ RTE) foods including millet based products, processed fruits & vegetables, marine products and mozzarella cheese. Support to innovative and organic products of SMEs for these product segments and overseas Branding & Marketing are also covered under the scheme.

A component for Millet Based Products has subsequently carved out from the scheme, with an outlay of ₹800 Crore, to encourage the use of Millets in RTC/RTE products and incentivising them under the PLI Scheme to promote its value addition and their sale in domestic and export markets.

Under the PLI Scheme for Food Processing Industry, a total of 182 applications have been approved under different categories including 30 applications (8 large entities and 22 SMEs) under the PLI Scheme for Millet Based products.

The implementation of PLI scheme is likely to facilitate expansion of food processing capacity by nearly Rs. 30,000 crore and create additional direct and indirect employment opportunities for about 2.5 lakh persons by the year 2026-27. The investments by the PLI beneficiaries is likely to result in increase in sales and export of food products. A positive stimulus to domestic

industry is expected as the scheme stipulates that in order to get incentive, the entire chain of manufacturing processes, including primary processing of the food products shall take place in India. The scheme will also facilitate promotion of Indian brands abroad.

As per the data being reported by the PLIS beneficiaries, investment of about ₹4900 Crores has been made under the Scheme. Incentives amounting to ₹800 Crores are likely to be disbursed in the current financial year. Sales based incentive of ₹107.3 Crores has been disbursed so far.

Stakeholder consultations are also underway for introducing a PLI Scheme for Nutraceutical sector to enable this sector to reach its potential and find its rightful place.

PM Formalisation of Micro Food Processing Enterprises (PMFME)

The Prime Minister-Formalisation of Micro Food Processing Enterprises (PM-FME)



scheme, aimed at promoting 'vocal for local' in the sector, under the Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan, was launched in June 2020 to support 2 lakh micro food processing units with credit linked subsidy with a total outlay of Rs. 10,000 crores over the period 2020-2025.

The Scheme adopts One District One Product (ODOP) approach to reap the benefit of scale in terms of procurement of inputs, availing common services, and marketing of products. These ODOP has been approved for 713 districts of 35 States/UTs with 137 unique products.

Capacity Building & Training

760 training modules (ODOP) developed containing Presentations, Videos, DPR and Course Content/Handbook and are available on the PMFME website - <https://www.mofpi.gov.in/pmfme/>

486 Master Trainers of 35 States/UTs were trained.

Training of 931 District Level Trainers for EDP and Food Processing concluded in 26 States/UTs and ongoing in other States

10910 Beneficiaries trained in 26 States/UTs.

972 DRPs were trained on EDP & ODOP in 32 State/UTs.

Seed Capital

SHG members engaged in food processing activities are being identified with help of DAY-NRLM under Ministry of Rural Development and DAY-NULM under Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.

Seed Capital amount of Rs. 252.53 Cr. has been released to SRLM for 79,693 SHG members

Seed Capital amount of Rs. 56.06 Cr. released to SULM for 16,159 members.

Garuda Aerospace get DGCA approvals for Type Certification and pilot training will create employment for 1 lakh people

Chennai, Dec 30 2022: India's leading drone manufacturer, Garuda Aerospace creates history by becoming India's first drone startup to receive both Type Certification and RTPO approvals by DGCA for their indigenously designed Kisan Drones. DGCA Type certification is provided on the basis of the quality check of the drones and is issued after a rigorous testing process for the UAVs. The Type certification was introduced by the government of India in August 2021 under Drone Rules and the historic dual DGCA approval validates Garuda's tag of being India's most valuable Drone startup.

The Made in India Kisan drones are particularly developed for agricultural purposes such as reducing crop loss, crop health monitoring, yield measurement, and crop loss mitigation with the latest manufacturing capacities, and strong technology backgrounds. Having been awarded Type Certificate for the GA-AG model, Garuda Kisan Drone is now eligible for Rs.10 lakh unsecured loans from Agri Infrastructure Fund at a 5% interest and 50-100% subsidy from the Government of India. Priced at Rs.4.50 lakhs, Garuda Kisan Drone is India's most affordable advanced automated Agri Drone which has DGCA-approved Type Certification in the



under 25kg small category. ICAR, KVKs, FMTTI, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmer welfare, and several other Government Agriculture bodies will now have an option of procuring high-tech Made in India Drones manufactured by Garuda Aerospace. This will lead to creating job opportunities for the youth in the near future and a vision of training 1 lakh drone pilots in the next 2 years.

Agnishwar Jayaprakash, Founder and CEO, Garuda Aerospace, said, "The exclusive double certification by DGCA for Type and RPTO certification is a testament to our indigenously Made in India Drone manufacturing capacities. We are powered and blessed with strong demands of manufacturing 5000 drones in the next 5 months catering to many opportunities. With receiving approvals we are certain that the necessary utilization of skills with significant sector growth will be seen. Our drones will

further benefit farmers and agri-entrepreneurs by playing a major role in impacting the farmers' lives and building new-age careers for young Indians within the drone industry."

"Ever since Prime Minister Narendra Modi flagged off 100 Kisan drones in 100 villages, our Kisan drones have empowered farmers and entrepreneurs. The certification will also help Garuda Aerospace create new job opportunities, and advanced pilot training for rural youth and also empower economic growth. Recently Union Minister Anurag Thakur flagged off the drone yatra and mentioned that India will require one lakh drone pilots by the next year. My goal for Garuda Aerospace is to impact 1 billion lives positively and not become the 1st ever-Indian Drone Unicorn Startup. Valuations will come when we create genuine value and I believe we will create an immense impact in several Multi-Billion Dollar sectors in the next 12-15 month's time.

With this Garuda Aerospace gets a chance to fulfill the objective of empowering farmers and creating employment. I'm extremely delighted to receive approvals from DGCA on the auspicious occasion of Kisan Diwas which feels like a perfect culmination of all the hardwork and efforts made by using affordable drone technology for the farmers." concluded Agnishwar Jayaprakash.

Garuda Aerospace recently commenced its \$30 million Series A round at a \$250 million valuation. Former Indian cricket team captain Mahendra Singh Dhoni has invested and is also the company's Brand Ambassador. MS Dhoni has recently launched a drone named Droni. Garuda Aerospace boasts of a drone fleet of 400 drones and a well-trained team of over 500 pilots across 26 different cities. Garuda Aerospace has been termed India's most valuable startup and expects to be India's first drone Unicorn startup in the near future.

Shooting of 'Wolf' starring Prabhudeva, directed by Vinoo Venkatesh and bankrolled by Sandesh Productions has been wrapped up



Chennai, Dec 30 2022: Popular Sandalwood production house Sandesh Productions is all set to enter Kollywood with 'Wolf' directed by Vinoo Venkatesh and starring Prabhudeva, Anasuya Bharadwaj, Raai Laxmi, Vashishta Simha, R J Ramesh and Anju Kuriyan in the lead roles. Director Vinoo Venkatesh, a former assistant of S J Suryah and director of Cinderella, said that movie will travel from a historic period to

present."Wolf is a science fiction movie which will also have the concepts of witches and vampires. The film was shot in and around Pondicherry, Chennai, Bengaluru, and Andaman. Shooting has been wrapped up and post-production works are going on in full swing.

We are planning to release the movie by the end of February or by early March 2023," Vinoo said. Talking more about the title of

the film, Vinoo said, "Both the antagonist and protagonist will have the characteristics of wolf. Which wolf triumphs over the other forms the crux of the story."The movie is produced by N Sandesh and presented by Sandesh Nagaraj. Sandesh Nagaraj, an MLC from Karnataka and National Award winning producer, has bankrolled more than 20 films in Kannada including the movies of top stars like Shivaraj Kumar and Puneeth Rajkumar. Music for the

movie is by Amresh Ganesh, Arul Vincent has handled the camera, Lawrence Kishore takes care of the editing and Manimozhayan Ramadhurai is in charge of the art department. The movie will be released in Tamil, Telugu, Kannada and Hindi. Shooting of 'Wolf' produced by Sandesh Productions, directed by Vinoo Venkatesh and starring Prabhudeva in the lead role has been wrapped up.

SUCCESSFUL FIRING OF EXTENDED RANGE VERSION OF BRAHMOS AIR LAUNCHED MISSILE AGAINST SHIP TARGET FROM SU-30 MKI AIRCRAFT



Chennai, Dec 30 2022: Indian Air Force today successfully fired the Extended Range Version of Brahmos Air Launched missile against a Ship Target from a SU-30MKI aircraft. The missile achieved the

desired mission objectives in the Bay of Bengal region. With this, IAF has achieved a significant capability boost to carry out precision strikes from SU-30MKI aircraft against land/ sea targets

over very long ranges. The extended range capability of the missile coupled with the high performance of the SU-30MKI aircraft gives the IAF a strategic reach and allows it to dominate the

future battle fields. The dedicated and synergetic efforts of IAF, Indian Navy, DRDO, BAPL and HAL have been instrumental in achieving this feat.

NHA is launching a lightweight HMIS and inviting healthcare providers to participate in its beta-testing

Chennai, Dec 30 2022: The National Health Authority (NHA) is releasing the beta version of a lightweight, robust, and ABDM-compliant Hospital Management Information System (HMIS). This HMIS solution is envisioned to provide a digital platform for healthcare providers, particularly focusing on private clinics and small health facilities.

NHA is the nodal agency for implementing Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM) which aims to develop the backbone for the digital health infrastructure in India. In line with this vision, it is leveraging the

strengths of the CoWIN module to develop a new HMIS solution. This will accelerate the digitization of small clinics and improve the discoverability of healthcare providers in India.

The beta version of this HMIS offers the following features:

- ABDM compliant – Allows doctors to generate and fetch ABHA (Ayushman Bharat Health Account) for their patients.
- Facility Management – Allows doctors to manage their calendar, appointments, and patient details in a single window
- Digital Services –

Allows doctors to view previous health records and prescriptions for registered patients and take video consultations e-prescription Services – Generate and share digital standardized prescriptions using a range of parameters with options to modify/customize the prescription layout

Healthcare providers can now use this new solution, share their valuable feedback, and play a role in shaping India's digital healthcare ecosystem. Feedback from healthcare providers will be incorporated into the ABDM-enabled software to make it more robust. The HMIS can be accessed at

<https://docmitrabetta.abdm.gov.in/>. A user manual for accessing the features and using the HMIS is also available on the same link.

To increase adoption and seek feedback on the HMIS from healthcare providers across the country, NHA will be organizing a virtual beta-testing workshop on 4th January, 2023 wherein healthcare providers will be invited to provide their valuable suggestions and become a part of India's digital health revolution. Interested healthcare professionals can register here for the workshop - <https://abdm.nha.gov.in/docmitra>

Aadhaar based e-KYC transactions jumped 22% in Nov; Aadhaar authentication transactions grew 11%

Chennai, Dec 30 2022: Aadhaar usage by residents is witnessing continued progress across the country. In November alone, 28.75 crore e-KYC transactions were executed using Aadhaar, a 22% growth over the previous month.



By the end of November 2022, the cumulative number of e-KYC transactions has gone up to 1350.24 crore. Aadhaar e-KYC service is increasingly playing a crucial role for banking and non-banking financial services by providing transparent and improved customer experience, and aiding ease of doing business.

An e-KYC transaction is executed, only after the explicit consent of the Aadhaar holder, and eliminates physical paperwork, and

in-person verification requirement for KYC.

Similarly in November, 195.39 crore Aadhaar authentication transactions were carried out, over 11% more than October. A majority of these monthly transactions were carried out by using fingerprint biometric authentication, followed by demographic and OTP authentication.

So far, cumulatively 8621.19 crore Aadhaar authentication transactions have been executed by the end of

November 2022, indicative of how Aadhaar is increasingly playing a role in good governance and aiding welfare delivery to residents.

Whether it is e-KYC for identity verification, AEPS for last mile banking, Aadhaar enabled DBT for direct fund transfer or authentication, Aadhaar, the digital infrastructure of good governance, has been playing a vital role in supporting the Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi's vision of Digital

India, and enabling ease of living for residents.

The Aadhaar Enabled Payment System (AEPS) has been an enabler of financial inclusion for those at the bottom of the income pyramid. Cumulatively, 1591.92 crore of last mile banking transactions have been made possible via the use of AEPS and the network of micro ATMs by the end of November 2022.

More than 1100 government schemes, programs and in the country run by both centre and states have been notified to use Aadhaar. The digital ID is helping various ministries and departments in the centre and at states in improving efficiency, transparency and delivery of welfare services to the targeted beneficiaries.

Nirmala Sitharaman discharged from AIIMS as her health improves

Chennai, Dec 30 2022: Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman was on Thursday discharged from the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) here, a day after she was admitted with symptoms of viral fever and stomach infection. The sources said that the 63-year-old Union Finance Minister is much better



now. The minister was admitted to AIIMS Delhi yesterday with a minor stomach infection and later shifted to a private ward of the hospital.

Nirmala Sitharaman had on Saturday attended the 35th annual convocation of The Tamil Nadu Dr M G R Medical University in Chennai.

It may be noted that the Union Government is in the process of consultations to finalise the Union Budget 2023 to be presented on February 1 next year.

Union Home and Cooperation Minister Amit Shah launched the Border Security Force (BSF) mobile app 'Prahari' and revised version of 13 manuals in New Delhi

Chennai, Dec 30 2022: Union Home and Cooperation Minister Shri Amit Shah launched the Mobile App 'Prahari' and Manual of Border Security Force (BSF) in New Delhi today. Union Minister of State for Home Affairs Shri Nityanand Rai, Union Home Secretary, Director General of BSF, Chief Secretaries of Union Territories and several senior officers of the Ministry of Home Affairs, Union Territories and BSF were also present on the occasion.



In his address, the Union Home and Cooperation Minister said that the BSF 'Prahari' app is a great example of Proactive Governance. Now jawans can get personal information and information related to accommodation, Ayushman-CAPF and leaves on their mobiles. Be it GPF, Bio Data or grievance redressal on "Centralized Public Grievance Redress and Monitoring System" (CP-GRAMS) or information on various welfare schemes, now Jawans can get all this information through the app and this app will also connect them with the portal of the Ministry of Home Affairs. Along with this, he congratulated the BSF Director General Shri Pankaj Kumar and his entire team for the awaited revision and update in 13 manuals which will increase the understanding of operations, administration and speed up the work. Shri Shah said that he is sure that this will facilitate the work of all ranks of BSF Jawans and officers. He said that these new initiatives will bring ease and convenience in the work of BSF.

The Home Minister said that the Border Security Force guards the most difficult border of the country. After Atal ji conceptualized 'One Border One Force', the responsibility of our borders with Pakistan and Bangladesh has come under the

responsibility of BSF and the brave soldiers of BSF are manning these borders with great vigilance, strength and promptness as well as consistent efforts. He said that the security of the borders of the country cannot be ensured by pillars or fencing, but only by the bravery, patriotism and alertness of the soldiers standing on that border. On the occasion, Shri Shah said that being the Home Minister of the country, he would like to praise the bravery, vigilance and alertness of all the BSF personnels.

Shri Amit Shah said that Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has recently started the Vibrant Village programme. He urged all the Border Security Forces that through the Vibrant Village program, they should make efforts towards increasing tourism in the village, making the village self-sufficient with complete facilities. Shri Shah said that the security of the border can be ensured only when the border villages are populated. Along with the deployment of Jawans on the borders, only the patriotic citizens living in the village can provide permanent security and all the border guarding forces should strengthen it.

The Union Home and Cooperation Minister said that the Border Security Force has a long history and has been honored with numerous gallantry awards including one Mahavir Chakra, 4 Kirti Chakras, 13 Vir Chakras and 13 Shaurya chakras. BSF has fought so many

battles with such valour that a book could be written on each war. The Home Minister said that in the last 3 years, 26,000 kg of narcotics and 2,500 arms & ammunition were seized through BSF. He said that although the anti-drone technology on the border is still at the experimental stage, it has been successful to a great extent. Within the last 6 months BSF has shot down 22 drones on the western border, which is a huge achievement. Success is also being achieved against the drones carrying weapons to spread narcotics and terrorism with nefarious intentions. The Union Home Minister said that a "BSF Drone/UAV and Cyber Forensic Lab" has been set up in Noida, through which captured drones have been thoroughly mapped for their linkages and locations across the border.

Shri Amit Shah said that fencing could not be done at some places on the border due to difficult topography. BSF has developed in-house technology for electronic surveillance there, the cost of which is very low and its efficiency is very high. Shri Shah said that BSF personnel have been able to secure the border with continuous vigilance. Construction of 140 km of fencing and about 400 km of roads has been completed in difficult places. Along with this, more than 120 border out-posts have been constructed. The Home Minister said that the Modi government takes care of the family of the Jawans with the same vigil with which

BSF Jawans protect the country at the border by standing in temperatures ranging from -40 degree to 46 degree. Shri Shah said that a new app has been created for housing and within 2 months of its launch, the housing satisfaction ratio has increased by 10%, which is a huge achievement. He said that this is also a great example of proactive governance.

The Union Home and Cooperation Minister said that the government has worked for the development of Border India. 9 Integrated Check Posts have been developed and 14 more are in the process of being built. The Home Minister told all the senior officers of BSF that it is necessary that in the border districts all the welfare programs run by the Government of India and State Governments be 100% implemented with the help of the District Collector. He said that if we equip those people, who are leaving the border villages, with the Pradhan Mantri Ayushman Bharat Yojana, then they get a reason to stay in the village. Along with this, if they are provided with the facilities of gas, electricity and drinking water, then they will also feel that someone is taking care of them and they should stay here. The Home Minister said that the initiatives taken by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi to make the country self-reliant should be implemented with priority in the border areas, and in this the security forces deployed on the country's borders, especially the BSF, have an important role.

A 25-year old entrepreneur from India receives a rare international honour in Europe Overcomes supply chain issues during the COVID lockdowns to make quality video gaming equipment affordable to customers in 43 countries

Chennai, Dec 30 2022: Niranjan Ovhal, has won a top global entrepreneur award in The Netherlands for making quality simulated racing/PC gaming equipment affordable for many in developing countries. His award, given at The Hague, is an international honour for India and a global recognition for Bharatiya Yuva Shakti Trust (BYST), a socio-economic initiative that mentors budding grassroots entrepreneurs like him from vulnerable backgrounds.

Ovhal, 25, from Pune, who owns Simforge Engineering, India's first and only sim racing gear manufacturer, exports his products to 43 countries. He won the Youth Business International Global Young Entrepreneur of the Year 2022 Award in the COVID Resilience category.

"BYST is proud to have mentored and supported Niranjan Ovhal. By manufacturing and selling



global standard sim racing gear at affordable price points, he has created new sim racing communities across 43 countries. Ovhal turned the pandemic and all the challenges it brought with it, into growth opportunities. Helping entrepreneurs build risk-proof and sustainable businesses has always been our goal. I'd like to express my gratitude to YBI for

recognizing grassroots entrepreneurs on their credible platform and giving them much needed motivation." Ms. Lakshmi Venkataraman Venkatesan, Founding and Managing Trustee, BYST, said while she accepted the honour on behalf of Ovhal.

Ovhal's Simforge Engineering, a start-up based out of Pune, has now

been put on the global map and emerged as an international brand, making India proud, true to its vision of self-reliance.

"Under the guidance of BYST mentors, I was able to successfully navigate many practical problems that threatened my business continuity. During the pandemic, more people were stuck at home wanting to play video games, but many quality auto racing games were unaffordable. This inspired me to build an India solution affordable to many," Ovhal said in a statement.

Ovhal's mission is to start manufacturing the entire Sim Racing ecosystem, and he plans to set up offices in North America, South America, Europe, and Asia. His vision is to see a sim racing setup in every home in India. He hopes to see more international motorsport drivers emerge from developing countries.

TRAI releases Recommendations on "Renewal of Multi-System Operators (MSOs) Registration"

Chennai, Dec 30 2022: The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has today issued its recommendations on "Renewal of Multi-System Operators (MSOs) Registration".

Digitalization of the Indian broadcasting sector began in year 2012 and was completed across the country by March 2017. Ministry of Information & Broadcasting (MIB) issued first of new registrations to Multi System Operators (MSOs) during the DAS implementation in June 2012, which became due for renewal/extension in June 2022. The Cable Television Networks Rules, 1994, however, do not mention provision about renewal of MSO registrations. In view of this, the Authority has received a reference from MIB seeking recommendations on the issues pertaining to MSO Renewal procedure.

In this regard, TRAI had issued consultation paper on 'Renewal of Multi-System Operators (MSOs) Registration' on 20th July 2022 for seeking comments of all the stakeholders. The last date of submission of comments was 10th August 2022 and counter-comments was 17th August 2022, which were extended up to 24th August 2022 and 31st August 2022 respectively, on request of some stakeholders. TRAI received comments on consultation paper from 10 stakeholders and no counter comment has been received. These comments are available on TRAI website. In this regard, an Open House Discussion was also held on 19th October 2022 through online mode.

After considering all comments/counter-comments received from stakeholders during consultation process and further analysis of the issues, the Authority has finalised its



recommendations. The salient features of the recommendations are given below:

The renewal of MSO registration should be done for a period of 10 years.

The Authority recommends that at the time of renewal, the processing fee should be kept as Rs. 1 Lakh.

The Authority recommends that:

Window for applying for renewal of registrations should open not earlier than 7 months from the date of expiry and not later than 2 months prior to the date of expiry.

MIB should maintain the list of MSOs with due date of expiry on its website starting from the latest due date.

An automated communication, as a reminder of due date of expiry, should be sent by MIB at least 7 months prior to the date of expiry to the respective MSOs.

In case, the applicant applies within two months of impending expiry, MIB may decide whether to entertain such application for renewal on consideration of cause of such delayed application.

No application for renewal may be entertained by MIB if made on or after the date of expiry of existing registration.

The Authority recommends that all such registrations, which have either expired or about to expire within the next 8 months from the date of implementation of decision

All the documents enlisted on the Broadcast Seva Portal which are necessary for registration as an MSO shall also be required for renewal of such registration.

While applying for renewal, an MSO should inform the area of operations (state-wise and district-wise within the states). This will enable the licensor/regulator to have exact information of the area of operation of an MSO at the time of renewal.

Self-declaration shall be submitted certifying that the concerned MSO is complying to the orders and regulations stipulated by the Authority and that the MSO has got its systems audited as per extant regulations up to the previous year.

Every renewal application shall be referred to the Authority for confirmation to compliance of extant rules and regulations. The process of seeking confirmation of compliance may be online through Broadcast Seva portal. The Authority will provide explicit instances of non-compliance, if such is the case, within fifteen days of online referral. For the purposes of transparency and clarity, TRAI shall release a detailed circular on its website which shall contain the specifics of the review process and grounds of such review by TRAI. If the Authority does not respond within fifteen days of such referral, then the compliance from regulator may be considered as deemed confirmation.

Full text of the recommendations is available on the TRAI's website www.trai.gov.in.

For any clarification/information, Shri Anil Kumar Bhardwaj, Advisor (B&CS) may be contacted at Tel. No.: +91-11-23237922.

The registration status of such MSO shall be deemed to be cancelled, post the expiry date.

The application process for renewal shall be made end-to-end online with facility to upload all the documents in digital mode via single point facility i.e., Broadcast Seva Portal.