

**Press Information Bureau  
Government of India  
Ministry of Commerce & Industry**

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**Major Initiatives and Accomplishments of Department of Commerce(DOC)-2016**

**Exports record a positive growth**

**Government E-Marketplace (GeM) launched in August, 2016 and becomes fully functional by October, 2016.**

**The WTO's Trade Facilitation Agreement in Goods ratified**

**1st BRICS Trade Fair organised in India from October 12-14, 2016**

**Vision and Mission**

The long-term vision of the Department is to make India a major player in the world trade by 2020 and assume a role of leadership in the international trade organizations commensurate with India's growing importance. DOC's goal is to increase India's exports of merchandise and services from the present level of 465.9 billion USD (2013-14) to approximately 900 billion USD by 2019-20 and raise India's share in world exports from present 2% to 3.5%.

**Strategic Initiatives and Priorities**

- Diversification of export product basket
- Diversification into non-traditional markets and conclusion of ongoing FTA negotiations and initiating new FTAs
- Strengthening export related infrastructure
- Enhancing credit flows for exports at lower cost
- Reducing Transaction Costs
- Diversification of Services exports
- Building up a Brand Image of India
- Support to Plantation Sector
- Protection to sensitive domestic industries

**Improved export performance**

- After negative growth for 18 successive months since December 2014, export recorded positive growth in June 2016.
- September, October and November 2016 saw positive growth in exports. Export from April to November 2016 is valued at US \$ 174.9 billion against US \$ 174.7 billion recorded in the corresponding period of 2015.
- With falling international crude prices and import of gold recording a significant decline, trade deficit had been in single digits for all successive months starting from January 2016.



**Government E-Marketplace (GeM)** – was launched in August, 2016 and became fully functional by October, 2016. Presently more than 4000 products in 86 categories and hiring of transport service are available on GeM POC portal. More than 1600 product sellers and service providers and about 1500 Government officials are currently registered on GeM. Transactions for more than Rs45 Crore have already been processed on GeM. Purchases done through GeM so far, have indicated a reduction in prices to the tune of 10-20%, and in some cases even upto 56%. GeM is a tool to promote Maximum Governance Minimum Government, Make in India, Ease of Doing Business and Digital India. By providing timely payment to vendors GeM not only ensures competitive rates but also encourages small business units/individuals to do business with government organizations.



### Trade Facilitation Agreement

- The WTO's Trade Facilitation Agreement represents an important milestone by creating an international framework for reducing trade costs. The Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA) contains provisions for expediting the movement, release and clearance of goods, including goods in transit. It also sets out measures for effective co-operation

between customs and other appropriate authorities on trade facilitation and customs compliance issues. These objectives are in consonance with India's "Ease of Doing Business" initiative.

- As part of Special & Differential Treatment, Developing Countries and least Developed Countries (LDCs) has to categorise all the provisions under Category "A", "B" or "C". Category "A" commitments are those commitments which the notifying Country has to fulfil at the time TFA comes into force. Category "B" are those commitments for which notifying Country can ask for a transition time and for the implementation of category "C" commitments Developing and LDCs are entitled to get Technical assistance.
- After the approval from Cabinet in February 2016, India Notified its category "A" commitments to WTO under the (TFA) in March, 2016 and later on ratified it in April, 2016. Approximately 70% of the total provisions given under TFA has been notified as category "A". India has not categorised any provisions under category "C".
- The Cabinet has also approved the setting up of a National Committee on Trade Facilitation(NCTF) to facilitate both domestic coordination and implementation of the provisions under the Chairpersonship of Cabinet Secretary.

### **Signing of MOU with GSTN on data sharing**

- DGFT on Oct 27, 2016 signed an MOU with the Goods and Services Network (GSTN) for sharing of foreign exchange realisation and Import Export code data. This will strengthen processing of export transactions of taxpayers under GST, increase transparency and reduce human interface.
- DGFT has signed MOUs with 14 state governments 2 central government agencies and GSTN for sharing of the data. At the state level, Commercial Tax Departments of 14 states have signed MoU with DGFT for receiving e-BRC data for VAT refund purposes. These are: (i) Maharashtra, (ii) Delhi, (iii) Andhra Pradesh,(iv) Odisha, (v) Chhattisgarh, (vi) Haryana, (vii) Tamil Nadu, (viii) Karnataka, (ix) Gujarat, (x) Uttar Pradesh, (xi) Madhya Pradesh, (xii) Kerala, (xiii) Goa, (xiv) Bihar.
- In addition, Ministry of Finance, Enforcement Directorate, Agricultural & Processed Food Products Export Development Authority and GSTN have signed MoU.

### **Increased Trade Interaction**

- India organized the 1st BRICS Trade Fair from October 12-14, 2016 at India Trade Promotion Organisation (ITPO), Pragati Maidan, New Delhi.
- There were 397 exhibitors in the BRICS Trade Fair with participation from 14,612 business representatives.
- A number of key sectors such as agriculture and agro processing, auto and auto components, chemicals, green energy, handicrafts, healthcare and pharmaceuticals, high technology, ICT, infrastructure, leather, machine tools, mining and textiles and apparel were represented in the Fair.
- There were 1,601 Business to Business (B2B) meetings held during the BRICS Trade Fair.
- The BRICS Business Forum was also held on the sidelines of the BRICS Trade Fair that discussed pertinent topics like green energy, infrastructure development and finance etc.



- Signing of Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Ministry of Commerce and Industry of the Republic of India and the Ministry of Economic Development of the Russian Federation on expansion of Bilateral Trade and Economic Cooperation (15.10.2016).
- Proposed Agreement on Trade, Commerce and Transit between India and Bhutan signed on 12.11.2016.
- 7th session of India-Greece JEC convened in New Delhi on 23.11.2016. Agreed Minutes of JEC signed by CS & Mr. George Katrougalos, Alternate Minister for Foreign Affairs, Hellenic Republic on 23.11.2016. Deliberations of JEC reflected and reaffirmed cordial relations between two countries.

RCEP under active negotiation. The 15th round was held in October, 2016 at Tianjin, China and 16th RCEP round in December, 2016 at Tangerang, Indonesia. There was an intersessional ministerial held on 03.11.2016 at Cebu, Philippines, wherein, positions on goods, services and investment were clearly articulated by participating countries.

### **INNOPROM - 2016**

INNOPROM is the largest Industrial Trade Fair in Russia held annually in Yekaterinburg. India participated in INNOPROM 2016 held on 11-14 July, 2016 as a “Partner Country”, with 117 Indian Companies. The States of Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh and Jharkhand also participated in the event along with various Ministries / Departments / Public Sector Undertakings of Central Government such as Department of Heavy Industry, Department of Electronics & IT, Ministry of Tourism, National Institute of Design, NTPC, NHPC, NEEPCO and Power Grid Corporation. The Trade Fair was attended by around 700 exhibitors from 95 countries. Participation in INNOPROM 2016 provided opportunities for direct interaction with the global and Russian producers, awareness of best-in-class new manufacturing technologies, international and inter-industrial networking, etc.

. **Board of Trade – re-constituted** on 23rd March, 2016

First meeting held on 6th April, 2016. Participation by various Members of the Board and some special invitees, comprising senior officials from Government and representatives of certain sectors of trade and industry.

Exporters were asked to provide inputs and suggestions on possible trade policy interventions, the institutional framework and possibilities for enhancing trade competitiveness.

. **Global Exhibition on Services (GES)**

Two editions held in April, 2015 and in April, 2016.

Department of Commerce organizes GES, in association with Services Export Promotion Council (SEPC) and Confederation of Indian Industry (CII).

Provides a platform to all the participants from the services industry and other related industry to interact with, and explore new business avenues.

**Standard Conclaves** – held in 2014, 2015 and 2016

Government is committed to transforming India into a manufacturing and exporting hub. This is possible only if India's products are of world class standard.

Department of Commerce in collaboration with trade bodies and knowledge partners organizes National Standards Conclave every year.

Eight Standards Conclaves (three national and five regional) have been already held to generate awareness.

Objective of these Standard Conclaves is to find out gaps in India's preparedness in this matter to address critical issues related to quality control and the vision of zero defect zero effect state of art manufacturing in India.

**Building the India Brand**

A long term branding strategy has been conceptualised to enable India to hold its own in a highly competitive global environment and to ensure that "Brand India" becomes synonymous with high quality. Further, a programme to promote the branding and commercialisation of products registered as Geographical Indications and to promote their exports will be initiated within one year of this policy coming into force.

**Institutional Mechanisms for Trade Promotion**

The schemes for trade promotion under the Department of Commerce, namely, the Market Access Initiative (MAI) Scheme and the Market Development Assistance Scheme will continue. Efforts will be made to support the development of infrastructure for holding conventions in all major tier 1 and tier 2 States. A major convention-cum-exhibition centre will be developed at Pragati Maidan in Delhi replacing the present infrastructure. Export Promotion Councils are being strengthened, both in terms of technical capabilities and management structures.

MJPS



**Press Information Bureau  
Government of India  
Department of Atomic Energy**

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20-December-2016 17:56 IST

**Year End review: Department of Atomic Energy**

Following are the main highlights of the activities of Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) during the year 2016:

- **Unit 1, (1000 MWe) of the Kudankulam Nuclear Power Project (KKNPP) was dedicated to the nation** on August 10, 2016 by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and Russian President Shri Vladimir Putin.
- **Unit 2 (1000 MWe) of the Kudankulam Nuclear Power Project achieves criticality and dedicated to the nation.** Second Nuclear power reactor Unit of 1000 MWe capacity at Kudankulam in Tamil Nadu achieved criticality on 10th July, 2016. This is the second 1,000 MWe pressurised water reactor to go critical in the country. The first unit at Kudankulam went critical in July 2013. The Unit 2 (1000 MWe) of Kudankulam Project was later dedicated to the Indo-Russian Partnership on October 15, 2016 during the BRICS Summit by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and Russian President Mr. Vladimir Putin.
- **Foundation laying of Units 3 & 4 of the Kudankulam Nuclear Power Project.** On October 15, 2016, laying of Foundation Concrete of Units 3&4 of KKNPP was also done by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and Russian President Mr. Vladimir Putin.
- **India-Japan Agreement for Cooperation in Nuclear Energy.** Prime Minister of India Shri Narendra Modi and the Japanese Prime Minister Shri Shinzo Abe, signed the Agreement for Cooperation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy between the two countries, on November 11, 2016, which reflects a new level of mutual confidence and strategic partnership in the cause of clean energy, economic development and a peaceful and secure world.
- **India becomes Associate Member of CERN, Geneva (November 21, 2016).** India and European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN) signed an agreement making India an Associate Member State of CERN. This follows CERN Council's adoption of the resolution to this effect on September 15, 2016. The agreement was signed by Dr. Sekhar Basu, Chairman, Atomic Energy Commission and Secretary, Department of Atomic Energy and CERN Director General Dr. Fabiola Gianotti in Mumbai. Participation in CERN programmes is a success story of scientific collaborations and cooperation where researchers from large number of national Institutes and Universities from India work together in forming active collaborations in the pursuit of fundamental knowledge, achieving scientific and engineering breakthrough as well as training the next generation of scientists.
- **Cabinet grants 'in-principle' approval to the LIGO-India mega science proposal.** The Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has given its 'in principle' approval to the LIGO-India mega science proposal for research on gravitational waves, on February 17, 2016. The proposal, known as LIGO-India project (Laser Interferometer Gravitational-wave Observatory in India) is piloted by Department of Atomic Energy and Department of Science and Technology (DST). The approval coincided with the historic detection of gravitational waves a few days ago that opened up of a new window on the universe to unravel some of its greatest mysteries.
- **India supplied indigenous teletherapy machine Bhabhatron, for cancer treatment to Bougando Medical Centre in Tanzania.** The Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi had earlier announced the donation of the Bhabhatron II Teletherapy machine to the Centre during his visit to Tanzania in July 2016.

- **Novel design of CO<sub>2</sub> sorbents.** Scientists at the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, DAE have developed a novel design of CO<sub>2</sub> sorbents that show superior CO<sub>2</sub> capture capacity and stability over conventional materials.
- **DHRUVA reactor at Trombay,** producing medical isotopes, operated at full power throughout the year and touched its highest ever capacity factor since its commissioning.
- **BARC develops kit for detection of Chromium contamination of water (August 17, 2016).** BARC has developed a simple, user friendly, quick and cost effective kit for onsite determination of Cr (VI), which meets IS10500 as well as EPA criterion. It provides the much needed solution to measure the level of Chromium contamination in drinking water and tap water, lakes, rivers as well as ground water. This is yet another example of BARC's efforts towards 'Make in India' campaign of the Government of India. This kit can be used for detection of carcinogenic Chromium in ground water around the Ganga belt.
- **BARC and Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences & Technology sign MoU for joint development of Deep Brain Stimulator.** As per the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed between BARC & SCTMIST on August 12, 2016, BARC will develop the device as per specifications provided by SCTMIST and SCTMIST will be responsible for clinical trials, testing and qualification. Electronics Division, Reactor Control Division and Centre for Design & Manufacture of BARC will participate in the development of various subsystems. The 1st prototypes are planned to be available in 3 years.
- **Hall of Nuclear Energy inaugurated in Delhi.** The Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER), MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr Jitendra Singh inaugurated the "Hall of Nuclear Power" in New Delhi on January 16, 2016. This is Northern India's first permanent exhibition on nuclear power, built in the national capital at National Science Centre (NSC). The exhibition, titled 'Hall of Nuclear Power – Atoms Serving the Nation' is spread over an area of about 700 sq. m., with over 60 permanent exhibits, covering various aspects of nuclear energy, with prime focus on nuclear power plant safety and applications for human welfare, which include nuclear medicine, food irradiation, as well as several other day-to-day applications of nuclear energy. Scientific information about nuclear power generation, its basics and non-power uses of nuclear and radiation technology has also been showcased at the gallery. The gallery is replete with the state-of-the-art exhibits, interactive kiosks, virtual tour (of a nuclear power plant in a mini theater), glasses-free 3D displays, touch-screen info panels, as well as quiz and interactive Q&A exhibits for the visitors.
- **International Conference on "India's role in Global Nuclear Governance".** A three-day International conference on "India's role in Global Nuclear Governance" was organised in New Delhi from February 24-26, 2016. The conference was organized by the Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses (IDSA). This conference brings together scholars working on global nuclear governance in India and abroad to discuss the challenges and opportunities of the emerging nuclear governance architecture. It focuses on how India can play a more proactive role as a driver of new ideas on the subject.
- **National Symposium on "Public Education on Radiation Safety".** A National Symposium on "Public Education on Radiation Safety" was held in New Delhi on February 16, 2016. A book on "Radiation Safety Management" was also released. MoS Dr Jitendra Singh stressed upon the urgent need to start a country wide awareness campaign to educate the public about the enormous peaceful benefits of nuclear energy and to clear the air about the apprehensions which sometimes come in the way of setting up of new atomic and nuclear plants under the Department of Atomic Energy (DAE).
- **8th Nuclear Energy Conclave.** The 8<sup>th</sup> Nuclear Energy Conclave was organised by India Energy Forum in New Delhi on September 30, 2016. The Theme of the Conference this year was "Meeting the Non-Fossil Energy Targets through Nuclear Power". The Conclave focussed on advanced technologies for safer and cleaner fossil energy

leveraging domestic engineering/manufacturing/construction capabilities, advancement of technology within the country, Safety and Regulation.

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**Press Information Bureau  
Government of India  
Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports**

21-December-2016 11:19 IST

**Department of Sports: Major Achievements during 2016**

## Year End Review

- Rio Paralympics – 2016: India won its highest ever medal tally of 4 medals (2 Gold, 1 Silver and 1 Bronze all in athletics). The athletes are Shri Devendra Jhajharia and Shri Mariappan, Gold medalists, Ms Deepa Malik, Silver medalist and Shri Varun Singh Bhati, Bronze medalist. Cash award distribution function was held for medal winners of Rio Olympics/Paralympics. Prime Minister met medal winners in Paralympics 2016 on 22.9.2016.

Participation of Athletes ensuring and making all arrangements for participation of the largest ever contingent of India in Olympics / Paralympics 2016 in Rio. India won 2 medals in Olympics (1 silver and 1 Bronze in Badminton and wrestling respectively).

- 12<sup>th</sup> South Asian Games were successfully conducted at Guwahati and Shillong in February 2016 India's regional supremacy went unchallenged with a record-breaking haul of 308 medals. India's final tally stood at 188 gold, 99 silver and 30 bronze medals. It was a massive jump in medal count for the Indians, who had won 175, including 90 gold, in the previous edition of the Games in 2010.
- Committees for selection of sports awardees were constituted, sports awards finalized and given away by President of India in Rashtrapati Bhawan on 29th August, 2016. Prime Minister also met the awardees on 28th August, 2016.
- BRICS U-17 Football tournament: First ever U-17 Football tournament among teams of five BRICS countries was organized and successfully held at Goa in October 2016. All the five BRICS countries participated in the same.
- Run for Rio on 31st July, 2016 was organized to create awareness among masses about Rio Olympics and to convey wishes of the country-men to Olympians and Paralympians participating in Rio for 2016. The same was flagged off by Prime Minister.
- Consultation with Elite sports persons: First ever Round Table conference was held with Khel Ratna Awardees, Dronacharya Awardees and other eminent sports personalities/athletes in Vigyan Bhawan on 3rd October, 2016 on the performance of India in Olympics / Paralympics 2016 and action plan for future.
- Indian U-18 Men Hockey Team won gold in 4<sup>th</sup> at Dhaka Asia cup beating Bangladesh in the final at Dhaka.
- "Chintan Workshop" a brain storming session was held with former Olympians, Sports Science Experts, Sr. Beurocrats of Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports on 10.11.2016 at Major Dhyanchand National Stadium.
- National Sports Day was celebrated on 29.08.2016 at Major Dhyanchand National Stadium.
- All India Meeting of grassroots level officers of SAI at different SAI Training Centres spread across India was held on 17<sup>th</sup> October, 2016 to know about the issues relating to the Centres.
- Khelo Football: Subroto Mukerjee Sports Education Society (SMSES) has already organized a pilot programme "#Khelo Football", for development and popularization of football. Through this programme, talents from the remote areas has been scouted and one team each in the Junior Girls and Boys has been formed and given Wild Card Entry in the 57th edition of Subroto Cup Football Tournament 2016. Both teams have undergone training under the supervision of coaches from Delhi Dynamos FC. Also, Football Utsavas and Raahgiri days were conducted to associate general public and educate

them with the awareness of sports oriented lifestyle. Rs. 80 lac was sanctioned by the Ministry for the Khelo Football programme.

- Village level sports competitions in Jammu & Kashmir: Rs. 5 Crores have been released to J&K under Khelo India Scheme for organising village level sports competitions in sports disciplines which are popular in the valley so that young children can be engaged in productive activities.

- Addressing the 64th meeting of the Central Advisory Board of Education (CABE), Minister of State (I/C) emphasized the need to make Sports a Compulsory Subject in Schools and give marks for it, and also that every educational institution should have access to a playfield and basic sports facilities. Such institutions which do not have these facilities should tie up with neighboring institutions. Further, it was also suggested that, physical education teachers should be engaged by every school. Standard guidelines should be framed and issued for admission under sports quota, relaxation to sportspersons from attendance and appearance in examinations.

- MoU between India and New Zealand on cooperation in the field of Youth and Sports: A MoU was signed between the two countries on 28<sup>th</sup> October, 2016 at New Delhi. The MoU envisages cooperation between the two countries in the field of Youth Affairs & Sports and will encourage and promote an exchange of programs, experiences, skills, techniques, information and knowledge.

- MOS (I/C) YA&S chaired a meeting of 46 major Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) and Public Sector Banks (PSBs) on 24.11.16: The meeting was for seeking their cooperation in sports. It emerged that there should be synergy of efforts between organizations for sports development.

- Mission 11 Million Programme: FIFA U-17 World Cup is being looked at as an opportunity to popularize the sport of Football amongst youth. Following the call of Prime Minister, the Department of Sports has taken a series of steps to popularize Football throughout the country. After several rounds of discussion with FIFA, AIFF, KVS, CBSE, Subroto Mukerjee Sports Education Society (SMSES) and other stake-holders a 'Mission 11 Million programme' has been formulated to be launched in collaboration with AIFF and FIFA in about 30 cities across the country. The primary objective of the programme is to engage more than 11 million children in activities relating to Football. The programme is likely to be launched soon. The Ministry has sanctioned Rs. 12.55 crore for the programme.

- Launch of a new scheme 'Khelo India - National Programme for Development of Sports': A new Central Sector Scheme namely 'Khelo India' was launched from the financial year 2016-17 onwards. The scheme has three components viz., competitions from district level upwards, talent nurturing and development of sports infrastructure from Tehsil level onwards and funds have been provided to various states for conducting Sports competitions from district level upwards.

- Conference of the State Ministers and Secretaries for Youth Affairs and Sports was held in Vigyan Bhawan at New Delhi on 15.11.16. It was discussed that state governments will also need to enhance funding for Broad Basing of Sports and Excellence in Sports and provide adequate funds for maintenance of Sports infrastructure already created. It would also be desirable that funding of State and National Sports Federations are tied with measurable outputs and performances.

- Special Certificate Course in Sports Coaching for J&K Sportspersons Started at National Institute of Sports (NIS), Patiala: The Minister of State (I/C) for Youth Affairs and Sports inaugurated Special Certificate Course in Sports Coaching for Jammu and Kashmir sportspersons at Netaji Subhash National Institute of Sports (NSNIS) Patiala.

- Rs. 5 Crores have been released to J&K under Khelo India Scheme for organising village level sports competitions in sports disciplines which are popular in the valley so that young children can be engaged in productive activities.

- National Sports development bill has been sent to Legislative department for approval and is likely to be introduced in Budget session of parliament.
- MoS (I/C) MYAS, has also written to Chairman, DDA, to make necessary policy changes in the allotment policy of land by DDA for the schools for restoration of allotment of land of 4 acres to new Senior Secondary Schools, subject to the condition that a minimum of 2 acres, out of the land is developed as playground/play area, and 2 acres of for new Primary Schools in Delhi, whether they are Government or private.
- Direct Benefit Transfer : Matter has been taken up with all the States with the request to issue requisite instructions to create a DBT portal in the Department of Sports/State Sports Councils of the States/UTs to make payments to the beneficiaries through RTGS/NEFT/PFMS and create a digitization of the beneficiaries database, obtain and seed Aadhar card details of beneficiaries and include the details of payment whether it is in cash or in kind.
- Matter has been taken up and being pursued with Ministry of HRD for integration of sports with education. For realizing full potential of sports, it was suggested that there should be one period every day devoted compulsorily for sports and games upto 12<sup>th</sup> class and twice a week in colleges and institutes of higher education, at least upto 2<sup>nd</sup> year of their college education. Further, it was also suggested sporting activities by students are to be evaluated like academic subjects and to be promoted to the next class only when they have achieved minimum marks, as specified for other subjects.
- India beat Belgium 2-1 to win junior hockey world cup title on 18.12.2016.

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**Press Information Bureau  
Government of India  
Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers**

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**Highest ever urea production of 245 LMT occurred in the country during 2015-16**

Year end review-Department of Fertilizers
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Following are the achievements of Department of Fertilizers, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers during the year:

**Availability of Fertilizers**

- Highest ever urea production of 245 LMT occurred in the country during 2015-16 (period April, 2015 to March, 2016) - an increase of 20 LMT (approximately) in comparison to the previous year.
- Even in the current year, during Kharif 2016 (April to September) the availability of urea was 159.10 LMT against the sales of 144.14 LMT.
- Timely and adequate availability of fertilizers in every part of the country has been ensured through close monitoring and meticulous planning of imports.

**Neem Urea Coated**

Based on the CCEA decision, vide notification dated 25<sup>th</sup> May, 2015 Department of Fertilizers has made it mandatory for all the domestic producers of urea to produce 100% as Neem Coated Urea with an extra MRP of 5% (of Rs. 5360/- per MT) to be charged by the fertilizer manufacturing entities from farmers. Entire quantity of indigenously produced urea and imported urea is being neem coated w.e.f 1<sup>st</sup> September, 2015 respectively. In order to determine the impact, Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers Welfare (DAC & FW) was entrusted to conduct a study. DACFW has submitted an interim report prepared by Agricultural Department and Rural Transformation Centre (ADRTC). The findings of said study are as under:

- Improvement in soil health.
- Reduction in costs with respect to plant protection chemicals
- Reduction in pest and disease attack
- An increase in yield of paddy to an extent of 5.79 per cent.
- An increase in yield of sugarcane to extent of 17.5 per cent.
- An increase in yield of maize to the extent of 7.14 per cent.
- An increase in yield of Soyabean to the extent of 7.4 per cent.
- An increase in yield Tur/Red Gram to the extent of 16.88 per cent.
- Diversion of highly subsidized urea towards non-agricultural purposes negligible among farmers after the introduction of the mandatory policy of production and distribution of only neem coated urea.

**New Urea Policy**

Based on the CCEA decision, vide notification dated 25<sup>th</sup> May, 2015, the New Urea Policy-2015 (NUP-2015) has been notified by Department of Fertilizers, with the objectives of maximizing indigenous urea production; promoting energy efficiency in urea production; and rationalizing subsidy burden on the government. It is expected to prepare the domestic urea sector to become globally competitive in terms of energy efficiency over a period of three years. On the basis of actual energy consumption and pre-set norms, the units have been divided into three groups and revised energy consumption norms have been fixed for next three financial years and target energy norm have been fixed for 2018-19. It will drive urea units to

select better technology and different measure to reduce energy consumption. NUP-2015 is effective from 1<sup>st</sup> June, 2015 to 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2019. NUP-2015 has led to additional production of approximately 20 LMT from the existing plants and the total production of urea during the year 2015-16 was 244.5 LMT, i.e. the highest ever urea production in the country.

### **City Compost**

- The Government of India approved a policy on promotion of City Compost. A notification conveying the approval of the Government has been issued by this Department on 10.2.2016 in which marketing development assistance of Rs. 1500/-MT has been provided for scaling up production and consumption of city compost.
- For co-marketing of City Compost, the tagging of Cities with fertilizer marketing companies for the purpose of proper utilisation of city Compost produced in the cities has been completed as per the list provided by M/o Urban Development.
- Compost producers vide O.M. dated 28.9.2016 issued by the Department of Fertilizers, have been allowed direct sale of city compost to farmers.
- The required software for routing of MDA through FMS and mFMS (now iFMS) is operational.
- A joint Committee of Joint Secretaries of Department of Fertilizers, Ministry of Urban Development, and Department of Agriculture have been set up for coordination.
- The fertilizer Companies have adopted 190 villages for promoting the use of City Compost.
- State level steering Committee has been constituted for promotion of City Compost.
- During April, 2016 to November 2016, 63994 M.T of city Compost has been co-marketed.

### **NBS Scheme for P & K fertilizers**

- Under NBS 2015-16, the condition regarding submission of quality certificate from State Government for the claim of balance payment to the companies has been liberalised. If quality certificate from State Governments is not received within 180 days, it would be considered as deemed receipt of certificate and balance payment if subsidy would be released to the fertilizer companies.
- Applicability of NBS rates on the closing of P&K fertilizers at the end of FY has been streamlined.
- In order to push major policy reforms in the fertilizer sector, Department of Fertilizers, w.e.f 18.3.2016 has removed minimum capacity utilization criteria for the Single Super Phosphate (SSP) units to be eligible for the subsidy under the Nutrient Based Subsidy (NBS) Scheme.

### **Reduction in price of P & K Fertilizers**

The NBS rates are fixed based on international prices of P & K fertilizers under the NBS Scheme. During the year 2016-17, the Government has already reduced the NBS rates taking into consideration the falling international prices of P&K fertilizers. It is observed that international prices of these fertilizers has again fallen down but this time Government has decided not to reduce NBS rates and pass on the benefit of international prices to the farmers. Accordingly, the P&K fertilizer companies have reduced the MRP of MOP, DAP and NPK by Rs. 5000/MT, Rs. 2500/MT and Rs. 1000/MT respectively in the month of June 2016 since the reasonableness of MRP is checked by the Department.

### **DBT in Fertilizers**

Direct benefit transfer in modified form is being implemented in fertilizer sector. Department of Fertilizers has chalked out a programme to implement the DBT Pilot Project of the country in the following 16 Districts in Fertilizers Sector:

- i. Bihar - Kishanganj
- ii. West Bengal - Maldah

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|-------|------------------|---|--|
| iii.  | Madhya Pradesh   | - | Hoshangabad                                |
| iv.   | Haryana          | - | Karnal                                     |
| v.    | Haryana          | - | Kurukshetra                                |
| vi.   | Andhra Pradesh   | - | Krishna                                    |
| vii.  | Andhra Pradesh   | - | West Godavari                              |
| viii. | Maharashtra      | - | Nasik                                      |
| ix.   | Himachal Pradesh | - | Una  |
| x.    | Kerala           | - | Kunnur                                     |
| xi.   | Telangana        | - | Rangareddy                                 |
| xii.  | Karnataka        | - | Tumkur                                     |
| xiii. | Maharashtra      | - | Raigarh                                    |
| xiv.  | West Bengal      | - | South 24 Parganas (in plac of Murshidabad) |
| xv.   | Rajasthan        | - | Pali                                       |
| xvi.  | Gujarat          | - | Narmada (in place of chotta Udepur)        |

To implement the DBT Pilot Project in above 16 Districts of the country, a meeting was called with the District Collectors and CMDs of leading Fertilizers companies on 07.09.2016 to chalk out a plan for installation of Standard Operating System (SoP) at retailers point and also sort out the issues pertaining to the implementation of the DBT project. A presentation was also given to them on the sale on point of fertilizers at retailers shops. The fertilizers companies were requested PoS devises as per NIC specification in consultation with all stakeholders for implementation of the DBT in 16 Districts. The fertilizer companies were also asked to prepare a plan for installation of PoS devices at all retailers of the country by 1<sup>st</sup> January, 2017.

Department of Fertilizers has authorized PDIL to recruit personnel for the posts of Project Manager, Technology Consultant, IES & MIS consultant and 16 District Consultant on contract basis for DBT Pilot Project in Fertilizer Sector. Department has already issued orders to M/s. PDIL for appointment of 1 Project Manager, 1 Technology Consultant and 1 IES & MIS consultant 13 District Consultant. M/s. PDIL has appointed 13 District Consultant, 3 District Consultant of Kunnur (Kerala), Tumkur (Karnataka), Raigarh (Maharashtra), Raigarh (Maharashtra) have not been appointed.

Department proposed to use KYC for authentication and collecting demographic data during DBT pilot Project in the country. Department has already made agreement with UIDAI to take services of authentication Service Agency (ASA) which are registered with UIDAI. The agreement has also been made with CSC. All documents as desired by UIDAI have seen sent to them to get on board with UIDAI as KYC User Agency (KUA). UIDAI has provided license key & AUA Pre-production/KUA Pre-Production access to Department of Fertilizers.

It has also been decided that based on the success of pilot Project, DBT in entire country will be rolled out by March 2018 in Phase-wise manner.

### **Formation of Indian Council for Fertilizer and Nutrient Research (ICFNR)**

Indian Council for Fertilizer and Nutrient Research (ICFNR), an Institution exclusively devoted to promotion of research in fertilizer sector under the Department of Fertilizers, has been set up on 16.09.2016. The ICFNR has a Governing Council under the chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister of Chemical & Fertilizers and an Executive Council under the chairmanship of Secretary (Fertilizers). The terms of reference of ICFNR are as under:-

- i. To undertake/promote research in the area of fertilizer manufacturing technology, use of raw material and innovation in fertilizer products through partnership ad collaboration with various research institutions, fertilizer industry and other stakeholders.



- ii. To examine and comprehensively deliberate R&D project proposals submitted by various R&D organizations/Academic institutions, for suitable recommendations for funding.
- iii. To play a supportive role for identifying and formulating long range technology plans and working out suitable mechanism for adoption of indigenous processes.
- iv. To identify and promote eco-friendly micro nutrients and pesticide coated slow release fertilizers and also to ensure reduction of Carbon Footprint of fertilizer sector and energy efficient operation.
- v. To undertake and promote research in bio fertilizer and its derivatives with appropriate coating or blending so as to protect and increase soil fertility.
- vi. To undertake and promote research in organic fertilizer and its derivatives with suitable coating or blending so as to protect and increase the soil fertility.
- vii. To promote dissemination of information on latest developments in Fertilizer sector and also to support new ideas and changes for effecting improvements in fertilizer industry.
- viii. The centre will work in close collaboration with other research institutions/centres/institutes and will also decide and disseminate the research work already undertaken by them.
- ix. To undertake all such activities which will promote the core idea of ICFNR.

**Press Information Bureau  
Government of India  
Ministry of Coal**

22-December-2016 14:06 IST

**Coal Production Reaches 391.10 MTe, 1.6% Overall Growth Recorded During April-November 2016**

**Coal Ministry Gone Fully Digital ; Several it Initiatives Taken to Enhance Transparency & Ease of Doing Business**

**Year End Review –COAL**

The Government has taken several steps to further push the progress made by Coal Ministry in the last year. In line with the Coal mines auctions of 2015, the auction and allotment proceeds from 83 coal mines allocated so far and estimated at more than Rs 3.95 lakh crore over the life of the mine / lease period, which shall be devolving entirely to the coal bearing States. **The actual revenue generated from these coal mines up to Oct'16 is 2,779 crore** (excluding Royalty, Cess and Taxes). **The benefit to consumers in terms of reduction of electricity tariff from auction of 9 coal blocks to 'Power' Sector is likely to be about Rs. 69,310.97 crore.**

The production of raw coal in the country during April-November of 2016-17 was 391.10 Mte compared to 385.11 Mte during the corresponding period of previous year. **The overall growth in Coal production during April- November 2016 was 1.6 %**. Lignite mining capacity of NLCIL is 30.6 Million Tonnes per annum as on 30.11.2016. The company has enhanced its power generating capacity from 4275.50 MW (as on March 2016) to 4293.50 MW inclusive of 10 MW Solar and 43.50 MW wind power.

The Coal Ministry has given special focus to decrease coal imports in the country. **Government has saved about Rs 20,000 crore in the year 2015-16 and about Rs.4,844 crore in the first four months of the current year.** The efforts on this front would lead to a further replacement of 15.37 MT of imported coal quantity by March 2017.

Keeping with the Prime Minister's Digital India Initiative, Coal Ministry has fully implemented e -office application in October 2016 and the entire file work in the Ministry is now being done electronically. Digitization process has brought transparency and efficiency in the working of the Ministry as it would facilitate quick processing and instant movement of files thus enabling seamless and fast decision making. It would also enable quick retrieval of files/records and prevent loss/misplacing of files/records.

During the year under review, several major IT initiatives were taken namely introduction of e-services in CMPFO via Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT), Computerization in CMPFO - e-services (In-House Development), Treating Aadhaar Number as CMPF Account Number, Coverage Of Contract Workers Under CMPF Scheme, Revamping Of Grievance Redress System and Self Certified Life Certificate For Hassle Free Pension.

Several new web portals like **Coal Allocation Monitoring System (CAMS)** for Small and Medium Sector consumers of Coal India Limited (CIL) and **Coal Mitra Web Portal**, a Web portal for flexibility in Utilization of Domestic Coal were launched for ease of business and to bring transparency in distribution of coal to SME sectors.

**The details of important initiatives and achievements of Coal Ministry are as follows :**

**ALLOCATION OF COAL MINES UNDER THE COAL MINES (SPECIAL PROVISIONS) ACT, 2015**

For management and reallocation of 204 coal blocks cancelled / de-allocated by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, Government had enacted 'Coal Mines (Special Provisions) Act, 2015' to ensure smooth transfer of rights, title and interests in the mines/blocks along with its land and other associated mining infrastructure to the new allottees to be selected through an auction or allotment to Government company, as the case may be. The Schedule IV of the Coal Mines (Special Provisions) Act, 2015 also amended the provisions of the Coal Mines (Nationalization) Act, 1973 and the Mines and Minerals (Development & Regulation), 1957 removing the restriction of 'end use' from the eligibility to undertake coal mining except in the case of certain specified coal blocks.



	April	Till May	Till June	Till July	Till August	Till Sep	Till Oct	Nov
2016-17 (Till Nov.)	48.370	100.524	152.723	196.824	236.328	278.761	330.647	391.11
2015-16(Till Nov.)	48.638	98.177	144.862	187.053	230.748	275.804	327.912	385.11

Poor lifting of coal by some of the power utilities, particularly those located far away from the mines, and less demand of higher grade coal at SECL has affected the performance. Due to high growth in production of coal witnessed during 2015-16, the thermal power plants were flushed with a coal stock of 27 days of coal as on 1st April 2016. CIL started the current financial year (2016-17) with an opening stock of 57.7 MT. This has resulted in the problem of accumulation of coal stocks at the pitheads. Special measures such as spot e- auction and linkage rationalization were undertaken to clear the accumulated stock of coal. Thus, during April-Nov. 2016, as against the production of 323.64 MT, 340.03 MT was dispatched by CIL. Sporadic Law & Order problem at MCL & CCL have also affected production and offtake.

This year witnessed a very heavy rainfall in most of the coal mining areas resulting in steep deceleration of growth in the production of coal between June and September.

There are other specific reasons affecting dispatch as enumerated below:

- Many of the cement plants, traditional users of higher grades of coal of Korea-Rewa coalfields of SECL switched over to Pet-coke.
- Less demand of coal at sources with high logistics cost
- Transportation bottleneck in some mines, etc.

#### COAL IMPORTS:

**Month Wise Import of Coal during 2016-17 compared 2015-16 are given as under:**

**(Quantity in Mte & Value in Rs Crore )**

Month	2016-17 (Provisional)		2015-16		Growth% in Qty	Growth% in Value
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value		
April'16	18.63	6882	19.02	9050	-2.04	-23.95
May'16	18.73	7153	19.02	8920	-1.53	-19.81
June'16	18.92	7647	18.14	8245	4.28	-7.26
July '16	16.72	6944	14.77	6935	13.15	0.14
August'16	15.79	6959	14.84	6671	6.44	4.32
September'16	15.05	7065	13.78	6374	9.25	10.84
October'16	15.37	7775	16.63	7321	-7.57	6.20
<b>April-Oct' 16 (Total)</b>	<b>119.22</b>	<b>50425</b>	<b>116.21</b>	<b>53515</b>	<b>2.59</b>	<b>-5.78</b>

**Source : DGCI&S : Provisional and subject to change**

#### COAL IMPORT SUBSTITUTION:

The coal production by the coal companies has grown at a healthy rate of 9% and sufficient coal was available to be self-reliant and save foreign exchange by substituting imported coal with domestic coal. **The country has saved about Rs 20,000 crore in the year 2015-16 and about Rs.4,844 crore in the first four months of the current year.** The efforts on this front would lead to a further replacement of 15.37 MT of imported coal quantity by March 2017.

#### REGULAR ASSESSMENT OF MARKET REQUIREMENT OF COAL ESPECIALLY FOR SMALL USERS

The medium and the small scale industries, whose requirement is less than 4200 tons per annum, are required to take coal through the **State Nominated Agencies under the New Coal Distribution Policy (NCDP), 2007. The same has been amended for upward revision on 27.09.2016 from 4200 tons per annum to 10,000 tons per annum** and the phrase of small and medium sector, as mentioned in NCDP, 2007 has been amended as small, medium and others. An aggregate of eight million ton of coal per annum is earmarked for distribution to small scale, medium scale and other industries and the same has been divided amongst various States/UTs depending on past trends.

## MOVING AHEAD WITH TECHNOLOGY

A new Web Portal related to **Coal Allocation Monitoring System (CAMS)** for Small and Medium Sector consumers of Coal India Limited (CIL) was launched by Hon'ble Minister (I/C) for Coal, Power, New and Renewable Energy on 17th March, 2016 at New Delhi for ease of business and to bring transparency in distribution of coal to SME sectors.

The **Coal Mitra Web Portal** has been designed to bring about flexibility in Utilization of Domestic Coal by transferring the reserves to more cost efficient State/Centre owned or Private sector generating stations, leading to lower generation costs and ultimately lesser cost of electricity for the consumers. The web portal would be used by the State/Central Gencos to display information about normative fixed and variable charges of electricity for the previous month as well as margin available for additional generation so as to enable the utilities identifies stations for transfer of coal. It would host data on Operational and Financial parameters of each coal based station; Quantity and source of supply coal to the power plant; and Distance of Power plant from the Coal mine.

## FURTHER RATIONALIZATION OF COAL LINKAGES AND IMPLEMENTATION OF 3 PHASE PROGRESS

The Inter-Ministerial Task Force, constituted in June, 2014 for a comprehensive review of existing coal sources as also feasibility for rationalization of these sources with a view to optimize transportation cost and that held several rounds of meetings with representatives from Ministry of Coal, Power, Railways, Steel, Shipping, DIPP, CEA, NTPC, CIL, SCCL, Subsidiary coal companies and KPMG.

Coal Linkage rationalization in power sector has resulted in decrease in transportation cost of coal from the mines to the power plants leading to more efficient coal based generation of power. The coal linkages have been allocated as per availability of coal from different mines. As a part of rationalization exercise, 29.818 MT of coal linkages having a potential annual saving of Rs. 1,512.85 crore were rationalized till the year 2015-16. In this year, further rationalization exercise was carried out by CIL with NTPC for rationalization of intra-NTPC plants and its JVs. **This rationalization of ACQ of 8.05 MT from rail fed TPPs to Pithead TPPs resulted in potential annual saving of Rs. 800 crore. 1.459 MT of coal quantity of UP State was rationalized leading to a potential annual saving of Rs. 60.15 crore.** CIL has also rationalized 1 MT coal quantity of three units of Maharashtra State (Mahagenco) resulting in a potential annual saving of Rs. 90.57 crores.

In an innovative move, **the government has allowed public and private power producers to swap their coal supplies with a view to reducing the cost of electricity by ensuring more efficient fuel usage.** It may eventually extend the facility to other coal-consuming industries. Swapping between private and state entities is also aimed at improving the consumption of domestic coal by the industry, mainly the power sector, against the backdrop of high production and tapering demand on the back of reduced traction for power plants.

## TRANSPARENT ALLOCATION OF COAL LINKAGES.

First tranche of auction for linkages of non-regulated sector i.e Sponge-Iron, Cement, CPP and other sectors has been completed. CIL is also doing preparatory work for linkage auction of coking coal.

## ALTERNATIVE DISPUTES RESOLUTION MECHANISM (ADRM)

Ministry of Coal has constituted an Alternative Disputes Resolution Mechanism (ADRM) forum comprising one Joint Secretary of MOC and one Secretary level officer from the concerned State to resolve the disputes between State power utilities and CIL and its subsidiaries.

Since January, 2016, UP, Chhattisgarh, Punjab, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Haryana have participated in the ADRM and the ADRM Committee has resolved a total no. of 58 disputes between State power utilities and CIL /its subsidiaries.

### **COAL MINES PROVIDENT FUND ORGANISATION (CMPFO)**

From January to September 2016, a total of 24928 provident fund claims were settled out of 24976. During the period from 1<sup>st</sup> January, 2016 to 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2016, a total of 25,134 pension claims were settled and disposed of.

**Introduction Of E-Services In CMPFO:** Several technological advances have been made for introducing e-services in CMPFO in line with EPFO like:

#### **A) Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT):**

National Committee on Direct Cash Transfer had decided to rollout Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2013. Keeping this spirit, from 01<sup>st</sup> August 2016 all the of PF and pension payments have been made mandatory to the members' account on line through RTGS/NEFT. Cheque payment system has been totally dispensed with.

#### **B) Computerization In CMPFO - e-services (In-House Development)**

Mobile App - A Mobile App has been developed by CMPFO for its subscribers. Members can view their PF Balances, Claim Status, Grievance status, etc.

#### **C) Treating Aadhaar Number As CMPF Account Number**

For this purpose, CMPFO has executed an agreement with UIDAI as AUA (Authentication user agency) and with NSDL for e-KYC services for verification of Aadhaar number of CMPF members as well as pensioners which will help CMPFO in implementing online payment to the members and direct benefit to CMPF pensioners.

#### **D) Coverage Of Contract Workers Under CMPF Scheme**

Sub- registration of 3317 contractors has been made and now 79579 contract workers stand covered under the CMPF Act & Scheme as on 30.09.2016.

#### **E) Self Certified Life Certificate For Hassle Free Pension**

Revised format of self-certified Life Certificate has been uploaded in the CMPFO web-portal. A pensioner can download the life certificate and submit to the concerned bank by self-attesting the same and need not seek the attestation of a gazetted officer.

#### **F) Revamping Of Grievance Redressal System**

Grievance Redressal and social media Cell has been created directly attached to the commissioner to monitor and expedite the resolution of grievances, Facebook and twitter account. A senior officer of the rank of Regional Commissioner has been posted to head the Grievance and Pension disbursement section. Provisions have been made for registration of grievances and feedback in the website of the organisation.

#### **NLC India Limited (NLCIL):**

Lignite mining capacity of NLCIL as on 30.11.2016 is 30.6 Million Tonnes per annum. It has enhanced its power generating capacity from 4275.50 MW (as on March 2016) to 4293.50 MW inclusive of 10 MW Solar and 43.50 MW wind power.

NLCIL has plans to enhance its Lignite production capacity from 30.60 MTPA to 54.40 MTPA by and has been allocated with two coal blocks of total capacity 31.5 MTPA for its upcoming coal based power projects. NLCIL has set high growth



target to become a 19651 MW power generation company by 2025 with its own fuel security from its Lignite and Coal mines.

### **SKILL DEVELOPMENT IN NLCIL (Jan-Nov 2016)**

NLCIL is committed to implementation of the common norms in the Skill Development. Under apprentice scheme (Apprentices Act,1961) an all-out efforts are being made for upgradation and development of skilled manpower in line with skill India Mission launched by our Hon'ble Prime Minister.

NLCIL has a separate division for Apprenticeship Training Scheme at its training unit, Learning and Development center and runs an ITI at its Barsingsar Unit in Rajasthan. The total strength of apprentices engaged in NLCIL is 1089 which is 3.7% of the 15,668 employee strength and 13,144 contract labour in NLCIL.

In line with the **Skill India Mission** of GOI, NLCIL has started a Diploma Course in Mining Engineering in collaboration with Annamalai University, Chidambaram, Tamilnadu from the academic year 2016-17 with a batch strength of 120 students per year. Among the 120 seats, 60 seats are reserved for the wards of Project Affected Persons of NLCIL.

During January to November-2016, 108 personnel (45 men and 63 women of Project Affected Persons (PAPs) were imparted skill development programme.

### **CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY**

NLCIL has allocated Rs 29.00 Crore from CSR Budget for water resource augmentation works towards flood control and irrigation for carrying out de-silting and widening of "Sengal Odai" and "Middle Paravanar Odai" for a total length of around 15.60 KM which will benefit approximately 8100 Acres of ayacut covering almost 50 villages in the peripheral areas of Neyveli in Cuddalore District. The works are being executed.

NLCIL effectively carried out various CSR activities/programmes insisting Cleanliness, Sanitation, Hygiene in various places including Heritage Sites, factory premises under Swachh Bharath Mission in four Swachh Packwada.

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**RM/PS**

**Press Information Bureau  
Government of India  
Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution**

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23-December-2016 14:53 IST

**Achievements & Initiatives taken by the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution during 2016**

**Completion of implementation of National Food Security Act, 2013 in all States/UTs of the country**

**Major reforms in automation of the Public Distribution System (PDS)**

**Sustained efforts bring the cane price arrears down to Rs. 510 crore**

**New provisions to promote quality products & services and to boost consumer protection**

**Buffer stock of about 6.95 lakh tonnes of pulses built under Price Stabilization Fund (PSF) scheme**

Shri Ram Vilas Paswan, Union Minister for Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution held a Press Conference today to brief about the initiatives and reforms done by his Ministry during the year 2016. Shri Paswan said that the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution achieved significant mile stones during the year 2016.

**Implementation of National Food Security Act (NFSA) & Reforms under TPDS**

Shri Paswan said that the Government of India has been actively pursuing with all the States/UTs for early implementation of National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA). This has yielded results and the Act is now being implemented in all the States/UTs and covers about 80 crore persons for receiving highly subsidized food grains.

Sustained efforts have resulted in significant reforms in TPDS making it more transparent and leak proof with better targeting of food subsidy. As a result thereof, 100% of ration cards have been digitized while 71.13% have been Aadhaar seeded. Online allocation of food grains has started in 29 States/UTs, Supply chain has been computerized in 19 States/UTs and 1,76,834 Fair Price Shops (FPS) have been automated by installing 'Point of Sale' devices. 6 States have now automated all their FPSs.

Shi Paswan informed that Direct Cash Transfer of food subsidy to the beneficiaries has been started in 3 UTs namely Chandigarh, Puducherry w.e.f. 1.9.2015 and in Dadra & Nagar Haveli (in urban areas) w.e.f. 1.3.2016. Total beneficiaries covered under the scheme are 9.14 lakh and total amount of funds transferred is Rs. 11.98 crore per month.

**Supporting the Farmers**

**Procurement Operations:** Shri Paswan highlighted that the main objectives of food management are procurement of food grains from farmers at remunerative prices, distribution of food grains to consumers, particularly the vulnerable sections of society at affordable prices and maintenance of buffer stock for food security and price stability. The Central Government extends price support to paddy, coarse grains and wheat through the FCI and State Agencies. All the food grains conforming to the prescribed specifications offered for sale at specified centres are bought by the public procurement agencies at the Minimum Support Price (MSP) inclusive of bonus announced, if any. The farmers have the option to sell their produce to FCI/State Agencies at MSP or in the open market as is advantageous to them. Procurement at MSP is therefore open ended.

In Rabi Marketing Season (RMS) 2016-17, a quantity of 229.32 Lakh MT of wheat has been procured.

For the Kharif Marketing Season (KMS) 2015-16 (October, 2015-September 2016), 342.19 Lakh tons of paddy in terms of rice has been procured. In KMS 2016-17, 178.29 LMT of paddy in terms of rice has been procured till 13.12.2016.

FCI has started procurement of pulses from farmers at market price under Price Stabilisation Fund operation. FCI, during on-going KMS 2016-17 has procured around 22542.85 MT of Moong and 9183.56 MT of Urad as on 28.11.2016.

### **Sugar Sector**

The condition of sugar sector in terms of its financial health was critical when the present Government took over in May, 2014. The surplus sugar production over the earlier 3 sugar seasons had led to subdued sugar prices; stressing the liquidity position of the industry throughout the country which led to build up of huge cane price arrears. The peak cane price arrears for 2014-15 sugar season on all India level reached at Rs. 22,000 crore in April, 2015. To mitigate the situation, Government took a number of measures like providing financial assistance of Rs. 413 crore through raw sugar export incentive scheme, financial assistance of Rs. 4305 crore under soft loan scheme, facilitating supply of ethanol under Ethanol Blended with Petrol Programme (EBP) by fixing remunerative price, providing performance based production subsidy etc. Due to these measures, 99.33% of cane dues payments of farmers for 2014-15 sugar season and 98% (on FRP-basis) for 2015-16 sugar season have been cleared.

### **Stock Position**

Shri Paswan said that sufficient food grains are available in Central Pool Stocks of FCI. Stocks as on 1.12.2016 are 275.55 lakh MT (LMT), comprising 164.96 LMT wheat and 110.59 LMT rice which is more than adequate for Government welfare schemes as well as needs of PDS and other buffer stocking.

### **Improving Food Grains Management**

To bring all operations of FCI godowns online and to check leakage and automate operations at the depot level, 'Depot Online' system has been launched in 31 Depots on pilot basis across 27 States on 17<sup>th</sup> March 2016. As on 30.11.2016, this system has been implemented in 494 depots.

The Union Minister further stated that FCI has developed a software for Online Procurement Management System (OPMS) which is being used for procurement in the KMS 2016-17. 12 major procuring States are now using OPMS for MSP procurement operations. 3 other States are partially implementing OPMS.

States are being encouraged to take up Decentralized Procurement System (DCP) for food grains. As on date 12 States are fully DCP States.

### **Other Achievements in FCI**

Defined Contribution Pension Scheme and Post Retirement Medical Scheme for serving/retired employees of FCI have been implemented.

The Union Minister further stated that state-wise 5-year Action Plans have been drawn up by FCI with focus on Eastern India (U.P, Bihar, Jharkhand, West Bengal & Assam). FCI started procurement of pulses from farmers at market price under Price Stabilisation Fund operation. To bring all operations of FCI Godowns online and to check leakage and automate operations at the depot level, "Depot Online" system has been implemented in 494 depots across 27 States. Due to sustain efforts to facilitate payment of sugar cane arrears to the farmers came down to Rs. 510 crore as on 03.12.2016 from 2014-15, which was Rs. 21,837 crore at peak in April, 2015.

### **Buffer stock, Price Monitoring & Direct Selling**

Shri Paswan highlighted that buffer stock of about 6.95 lakh tonnes of pulses built under Price Stabilization Fund (PSF) scheme of the Department utilizing budgetary allocation as well as on credit through designated agencies including MMTC, NAFED, FCI, SFAC and STC. Subsidized unmilled pulses from the buffer stock is being offered to States/Agencies for direct distribution to public/consumer at a reasonable rates. 14 new price reporting centres from different States were added to improve the coverage and representativeness of data. An Advisory to State Governments/UTs containing Model Guidelines on Direct Selling was issued on 12<sup>th</sup> September, 2016. Direct Selling entities were asked to submit a declaration to Department of Consumer Affairs in compliance with the guidelines. Department of Consumer Affairs has launched an

Integrated Grievance Redress Mechanism (INGRAM) portal for bringing all stakeholders such as consumers, Central and State Government Agencies, private companies, regulators on to a single platform for implementation in a phased manner.

Sh. C.R. Chaudhary, Minister of State for Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution and Sh. Hem Pande, Secretary, Consumer Affairs including senior officials of the Ministry were also present on this occasion.

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**Press Information Bureau  
Government of India  
Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution**

26-December-2016 17:41 IST

**Achievements & Initiatives taken by the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution during 2016**

**Completion of implementation of National Food Security Act, 2013 in all States/UTs of the country**

**Major reforms in automation of the Distribution System (PDS)**

**Sustained efforts bring the cane price arrears down to Rs. 510 crore**

**New provisions to promote quality products & services and to boost consumer protection**

**Buffer stock of about 6.95 lakh tonnes of pulses under Price Stabilization Fund (PSF) scheme**

**Following are the main highlights of the activities of the Department of Food & Public Distribution during the year 2016:**

**I. National Food Security Act (NFSA), 2013**

The National Food Security Act (NFSA) was enacted in 2013 and was being implemented in only 11 States/UTs in May, 2014. During 2016, special attention was given for its implementation wherein remaining States/UTs were constantly pursued through meetings, conferences, video conferences (VCs), correspondence, visits etc. to expedite implementation of the Act. As a result, 13 more States/UTs joined NFSA during the year and the Act is now being implemented in all the States/UTs and covers about 80 crore persons under the Act.

For the first time under the NFSA, Rs.2200 crore has been released to State Governments as Central assistance to meet the expenditure incurred on intra-State movement of foodgrains and fair price shop dealers' margins. Under erstwhile TPDS, State Governments were required to either meet this expenditure on their own or pass it on to beneficiaries.

The prices of foodgrains specified under NFSA – Rs.3 per kg for rice, Rs.2 per kg for wheat and Re.1 per kg for coarsegrains – which were valid upto July, 2016, have been continued upto March, 2017. The Central Government is thus providing highly subsidized foodgrains to about 80 crore beneficiaries in the country.

Rates of foodgrains for Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) and Mid Day Meal (MDM) schemes were also reduced to rates prescribed under NFSA from April, 2016, much lower than under erstwhile TPDS, i.e. Rs.4.15 per kg for wheat and Rs.5.65 per kg for rice.

**II. Major Reforms in TPDS**

- 627.99 lakh MT of foodgrains have been allocated to States/UTs for distribution under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) and other Welfare Schemes during 2016-17.
- Sustained efforts have resulted in significant reforms in TPDS making it more transparent and leak proof and better targeting of food subsidy. Improvement in main components for this purpose are as follows:-

May, 2014	Dec, 2016 (as on 06.12.2016)
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Fair Price Shops automated	5,835	1,76,835
Digitization of ration cards	75%	100 %
Aadhaar seeding of ration cards	2%	71.13%
On line allocation of foodgrains started	9 States/UTs	29 States/UTs
Supply chain computerised	4 States/UTs	19 States/UTs
Toll free numbers/ online grievance redressal system implemented	25 States/UTs	36 States/UTs
Direct Cast Transfer in PDS launched	Nil	3 UTs

- Cash Transfer for foodgrains under Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) scheme has been implemented in 3 UTs namely Chandigarh, Puducherry w.e.f. 1-9-2015 and in Dadra & Nagar Haveli (in urban areas) w.e.f. 01-03-2016. Total beneficiaries covered under the scheme is 9.14 lakh and total amount of funds transferred is Rs.11.98 crore per month.
- The Department is making all efforts to transit to a Cashless eco-system. Brainstorming sessions have been conducted under the chairmanship of the Hon'ble Minister and Hon'ble MOS on 25.11.2016 and 01.12.2016, on cashless transactions at FPSs. All the relevant stakeholders like State/UT Food Secretaries, UIDAI, Department of Financial Services, NPCI, NIC, CSC have been consulted and letters with detailed instructions have been sent to the States/UTs on 25.11.2016, 28.11.2016 and 08.12.2016. A video Conference chaired by AS & FA was also held on 28.11.2016 wherein all Food Secretaries of the States/UTs were impressed upon and instructed at length about all the 5 methods of rendering cashless transactions at the FPSs.

### III. Supporting the Farmer

1. During Rabi Marketing Season (RMS) 2016-17, Govt. agencies have procured 229.32 lakh MT wheat as on 01.12.2016.
2. Enhancing procurement in Eastern India:
  - (a) State-wise 5-year Action Plans have been drawn up by FCI for Uttar Pradesh (with focus on Eastern U.P.), Bihar, Jharkhand, West Bengal & Assam. Procurement in Chhattisgarh and Odisha is already robust. Attempt is to increase procurement of rice from these States and to reach out to all farmers in various paddy growing districts of these States.
  - (b) FCI has opened 232 procurement centres in comparison to only 141 in previous season. Besides Government Agencies, FCI in consultation with States has engaged private parties to expand procurement operations in hitherto poorly covered clusters in Eastern U.P., Jharkhand and West Bengal. A total of 61837 procurement centres have been opened in this Kharif Marketing Season (KMS) 2015-16 in these States by FCI, State Govt. Agencies and private parties.
  - (c) As on 26.09.2016, 70.70 lakh MT of paddy in terms of rice has been procured in these States in this season (KMS 2015-16) compared to only 47.19 lakh MT in season KMS 2014-15 and 34.28 lakh MT in KMS 2013-14.
3. FCI has started procurement of pulses from farmers at market price under Price Stabilisation Fund operation. FCI, during on-going KMS 2016-17 has procured around 22542.85 MT of Moong and 9183.56 MT Urad as on 28.11.2016.

### IV. Improving Foodgrain Management

- 1.

A High Level Expert Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri Shanta Kumar, MP, was constituted to make recommendations on re-structuring of FCI. Based on the recommendations, several measures have been initiated to improve



the functioning of FCI and to bring in cost efficiency in its operations.

2. To bring all operations of FCI Godowns online and to check leakage and automate operations at the depot level, "Depot Online" system has been launched in 31 Depots on pilot basis across 27 States on 17<sup>th</sup> March, 2016. As on 30.11.2016, this system has been implemented in 494 depots.
3. FCI has developed a software for Online Procurement Management System (OPMS) which is being used for procurement in the KMS 2016-17. While FCI will use it for procurement operations in Assam in January, 2017, 12 major procuring States are now using Online Procurement Management System (OPMS) for MSP procurement operations. 3 other States are partially implementing OPMS. 3 States are expected to go online in current KMS 2016-17 by end Dec/Jan in the paddy operations.
4. Besides 15 States/UTs which are already under Decentralized Procurement (DCP), Maharashtra has become a new DCP State for procurement of rice and Jharkhand has also adopted this system partially during KMS 2016-17 to improve the efficiency of foodgrains procurement and distribution operations.
5. Sufficient food grains are available in Central Pool Stocks of FCI. Stocks as on 01.12.2016 are 275.55 lakh MT, comprising 164.96 lakh MT wheat and 110.59 lakh MT rice. Under Open Market Sale Scheme (Domestic) during 2016-17, 33.10 lakh MT of wheat and 1.12 lakh MT of rice have been sold till November, 2016.
6. Under Riverine movement of foodgrains, FCI moved 2267 MT foodgrains to Tripura via Bangladesh during August, 2016 to September, 2016 from Kolkata.
7. Indian Railways is providing wagons to FCI at priority B preference while same preference was not being provided to states food corporations in DCP states, which have taken up the role of FCI in Intra State movement of foodgrains under PDS. On the request this department Ministry of Railways has also extended the preference/facility under priority 'B' to five more States namely, Telangana, Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh Odisha and Tamil Nadu for Public Distribution System or Other Welfare Scheme sponsored by FCI, State Govt. or their agencies.
8. Adequate supply of foodgrains ensured during 2016-17 for States/UTs facing natural calamities such as drought in Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Telangana and Uttar Pradesh and flood in Bihar.
9. A quantity of 20,000 metric tonnes of par-boiled rice has been exported to Egyptian Government on Government to Government basis out of Central Pool Stock. The export was done in the interest of diplomatic gain for India. The Egyptian President had visited India around the time of exports.

## V. Improving Storage

- During 2016-17 (upto October 2016), *storage losses and transit losses have been contained* to (-) 0.14% and 0.39% against the MoU target of 0.15% and 0.42% respectively fixed with FCI.
- New godowns of 2,42,610 MT capacity under Private Entrepreneurs (PEG) Scheme have been completed during 2016 till October, 2016. Further, a capacity of 34,410 MT is under construction under Plan Scheme in North Eastern States. During the year 2015-16, CWC has constructed additional capacity of 1.62 lakh MTs (0.70 lakh MT for FCI under PEG Scheme and 0.92 lakh MT for other depositors).
- A road map for creation of 100 Lakh MT storage capacity in the form of Steel Silos by FCI and other agencies including State Governments on PPP mode for wheat and rice has been approved. The current status is as under:-
  - Food Corporation of India (FCI) has awarded contract for total 2.5 Lakh MT capacity at 6 locations, namely Changsari (Assam), Narela (Delhi), Sahnewal (Punjab), Kotkapura (Punjab), Katihar (Bihar) and Whitefield (Karnataka) in March, 2016.
  - FCI has floated tenders on 7.12.2016 for capacity of 1 Lakh MT (50,000 MT each at Buxar and Kaimur in Bihar) including 25000 MT of Rice Silos on pilot basis.
  - FCI has awarded contract for construction of Silos of capacity of 9.5 Lakh MT at 19 locations on 05.12.2016.

- CWC has initiated construction of Silo of 50000 MT at Nabha in Punjab.

## VI. Reforms in Sugar Sector

- Sustained surplus production over domestic consumption in the past 5 sugar seasons had led to subdued sugar prices, which had stressed the liquidity position of the industry throughout the country leading to build up cane price arrears. Due to the above, the peak cane price arrears for 2014-15 sugar season at all India level reached at Rs.21837 crore as on 15.4.2015.
- To mitigate the situation, Government has taken the following measures:
  - Extended financial assistance of Rs.4305 crore directly credited to farmers account on behalf of sugar mills through banks. About 32 lakh farmers have been benefited (2015&16).
  - Facilitated supply of ethanol under EBP programme by fixing remunerative price and waiving off excise duty on supply of ethanol during sugar season 2015-16 (up to 10<sup>th</sup> August, 2016).
  - A comprehensive performance based production subsidy has been extended @ Rs.4.50 per quintal of cane crushed payable to farmers against their cane dues contingent on mills undertaking export and supplying of ethanol.
- Due to these measures, 99.2% of cane dues payments of farmers for 2014-15 sugar season and 98.5% (on FRP-basis) for 2015-16 sugar season have been cleared already. The cane price arrears of 2014-15, which was Rs. 21,837 crore at peak in April, 2015 have come down to Rs. 510 crore as on 03.12.2016.
- Ethanol Blending Programme (EBP) has achieved historical success as supplies of ethanol during the current year have reached record level of more than 110 crore litres which has never been achieved earlier. During 2014-15 and 2013-14 seasons supplies were 68 crore litres and 37 crore litres respectively.
- In order to check speculative tendencies and possible hoardings, Government has imposed stock holding and turn over limits on stockists/dealers of sugar on 29.04.2016 for six months which has further been extended for another six months i.e. upto April, 2017. Stock holding limits were also imposed on sugar mills for the months of September, 2016 and October, 2016 to remove regional imbalance in supply and availability of sugar and thereby stabilise the domestic sugar prices.
- During current FY 2016-17, as on date Rs. 2482 crores have been released towards reimbursement of sugar subsidy to participating States/UTs so far.
- During the year 2016, 60 cases of loan under SDF were processed involving 6 cases for Sugar Cane Development, 15 cases for Modernization/Rehabilitation, 24 cases for Bagasse Based Cogeneration Power Project, 14 cases for Ethanol & 1 case for Zero Liquid Discharge (ZLD). Out of these 60 cases, 41 cases were approved involving an amount of Rs.801.21 cr.
- During the year, disbursement of Rs.405.68 cr towards approved SDF loan have been made. An amount of Rs.565.63 cr recoveries have also been made against SDF loan during the period.
- Under SEFASU-2014 scheme, about Rs. 6337.00 crores of loans have been disbursed by the banks to various sugar factories for facilitating payment of cane dues of farmers. Under the scheme, the Department has released an amount of Rs.679.95 cr., during 01.01.2016 to 8.12.2016, to the SBI for subvention of interest on the above loan availed by the sugar factories.
- Under SOFT Loan 2015 schemes, about Rs. 4213.00 crores of loans have been directly remitted into the account of farmers for payment of cane dues on behalf of the sugar mills by the banks. Under the scheme, the Department has released an amount of Rs. 288.10 cr., during 01.01.2016 to 8.12.2016, to the SBI for subvention of interest on the above loan.

- Recognising India as a major and leading player in the world sugar sector, the 50<sup>th</sup> Session of the Council Meeting of the International Sugar Organisation (ISO) held in London on 2<sup>nd</sup> Dec, 2016 unanimously decided for India to Chair a Working Group constituted to study, examine and recommend the new role to be played by ISO in the sugar economy keeping in view the current and future sugar scenario. At present, the ISO has 87 countries as members and is in force in terms of the International Sugar Agreement, 1992.

## VII. Maintaining Prices in Edible Oil

- To prevent any shortage and tendency of pushing up of the price, Government has imposed Stock Holding limits on edible oil upto 30.09.2017.
- To maintain balance in the interest of all stake holders i.e. farmers, industry and consumer, Government, vide Notification No. 51/2016- Customs dated 23<sup>rd</sup> September, 2016 has reduced import duty on Crude Palm Oil from 12.5% to 7.5% and on Refined Palm Oil from 20% to 15%. Import duty on other crude and refined oils remained at 12.5% and 20% respectively.

## VIII. Other Achievements in FCI

- **Pension Scheme:** Defined Contribution Pension Scheme for employees of FCI has been approved by Union Cabinet in its meeting on 10.08.2016. Scheme will be effective from 01.12.2008. In pursuance of the decision of the Cabinet, the draft scheme has since been approved by the Department.
- **Post Retirement Medical Scheme :** Post Retirement Medical Scheme (PRMS) for serving/retired employees of FCI has been approved by Union Cabinet in its meeting on 10.08.2016. Scheme will be effective from 01.04.2016. In pursuance of the decision of the Cabinet, the draft scheme has since been approved by the Department.
- **Watch & Ward staff in FCI:** In order to ensure the security and safety of foodgrains kept in godowns of FCI, a proposal for revision of strength of Watch & Ward Staff of FCI has been approved by the Government in May, 2016. This matter was also pending since the year 2010. As a result of this restructuring, revised strength of regular W&W staff in FCI is now 5056. As a follow up of this restructuring, FCI has initiated action for filling up of 3264 vacant posts.
- On the issue of exemption of FCI depots & railheads from provision of Contract Labour (R&A) Act, 1970, decision with regard to the exemption of FCI depots/railheads/godowns for a period of two years under Section 31 of said Act has been taken by M/O Labour & Employment in compliance to the direction No.(i) of Hon'ble Bombay High Court, Nagpur Bench, vide Gazette Notification No.S.O.2327(E) dated 06<sup>th</sup> July, 2016.

## IX. Centre of Excellence for PDS

- The Government of India has signed a letter of intent on 12.01.2016 with World Food Programme (WFP) to prepare a proposal for the establishment of the Centre of Excellence (CENEX). It was decided to prepare the proposal jointly by the Government and the WFP through a Steering Committee and Working Groups. In this regard, Six Members delegation led by Union Minister of CA, F&PD had undertaken a visit to Brazil from 17th August, 2016 to 20th August, 2016 for studying the functioning of CENEX in Brazil and analysing the benefits of establishing the Centre of Excellence in India. The CENEX would inter alia work as a inter-ministerial think tank to advice on challenges of food security before the nation, initiate and execute pilot projects for improvement of food and nutrition security in India, advise on reforming public sector food security system, besides showcasing the progress made by India in food security to other developing and middle income countries. The Working Group led by JS (Impex & IC), D/o F&PD, had prepared a Memorandum of Association (MOA) which was approved by the Steering Committee in its meeting held on 21st November, 2016 and subsequently the matter has been taken up with the Ministry of Law, Department of legal Affairs for vetting of MOA.

## X. Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) & Central Railside Warehouse Company Limited (CRWC)

- **CWC has achieved an all time high turnover of Rs. 1640 crore during the year 2015-16. CWC has paid a dividend of Rs. 32.93 crore (88% of equity) during 2015-16 to the Government of India.**

- **During the year 2015-16, CWC has constructed additional capacity of 1.62 lakh MTs (0.70 lakh MT for FCI under PEG Scheme and 0.92 lakh MT for other depositors).**
- Slogan “Swachh Bharat- Swasth Bharat” were got printed in all the godowns of CWC. Cleanliness drive at Shahpurjat village was carried out by the CWC.
- Under CSR activities, CWC has contributed Rs. 2 crore towards Swachh Bharat Kosh and Rs. 133.25 lakh towards Namami Gange Programme.
- CRWC achieved a turnover of Rs.78 crore in the year 2016 (January-November 2016). CRWC has paid a dividend of Rs.6.08 crore in the year 2015-16.
- Under utilization of its CSR funds, CRWC has made a contribution of Rs. 11.37 lakh towards ‘Swachh Bharat Kosh’ for the FY 2016-17.
- **As a part of its diversification initiatives, a joint venture company named “IFFCO CRWC Logistics Limited (ICLL)” has been formed with IFFCO Kisan SEZ (IKSEZ) and Indian Potash Limited (IPL) for development of Integrated Railside Warehouse Complex and Freight Terminal at Nellore. The phase-I of the project will involve construction of 5000 MT General Warehouse and 2000 MT Cold Storage along with container stacking area, truck parking space, roads, etc. in an area on 10 acres.**
- **CRWC has taken up a road transportation contract for transportation of Manganese Ore for Uranium Corporation of India Ltd. from MOIL mines near Nagpur to their plant at Jhaduguda.**
- **During the year 2016, CRWC has taken up various projects under CSR Activities in the sectors of education, health, protection of national heritage/art, Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, etc. which have really impacted the lives of people in the society at large. An amount of Rs. 11,37,000/- has been contributed directly towards “Swachh Bharat Kosh” under the “Swachh Bharat Abhiyan” a national campaign by Government of India.**

## XI. Winding up HVOC

In order to expedite liquidation of HVOC and relieve all the remaining employees of HVOC with a better compensation package, a proposal was submitted to the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) for offering Improved Voluntary Retirement Schemes (IVRS) at 2007 notional pay scales with a non plan grant of Rs.27.56 crore. The proposal was approved by CCEA on 18.05.2016. Accordingly, IVRS was notified on 16.08.2016. Out of total 83 remaining employees, 82 employees opted for IVRS. One employee has been retrenched.

## XII. WDRA

Achievements of WDRA:

Item	Total upto 30.11.2016	01/01/2016 to 30/11/2016
Number of Registered Warehouses	1,326	373
Negotiable Warehouse Receipts (NWRs) issued	62,364	14826
Value of commodities deposited against NWRs	Rs.4789.91 Crore	Rs. 765.03 Crore
Loan availed against NWRs	Rs. 1516.18 Crore	Rs. 211.04 Crore

- Four Warehousemen training programmes have been conducted and 96 warehousemen have been trained in the warehousing producers and WDRA Act and related activities. 66 Farmer awareness programmes for farmer; traders, millers have been conducted where 3350 participants were made aware about WDRA Act, NWR, scientific storage, pledge etc.
- Guidelines on Repositories and caution and management of electronic negotiable warehouse receipt have been issued by WDRA on 20<sup>th</sup> October, 2016.
- Warehousing Development and Regulatory Authority (Conditions of service of the Officers and other Employees) Regulation, 2016 have been notified on 14.07.2016.

### XIII. NSI, Kanpur

A new course, namely, "Certificate Course in Industrial Instrumentation & Process Instrumentation" was introduced during the current academic session 2016-17 in NSI Kanpur. Conversion of existing class rooms to "Smart Classrooms", setting up of instrumentation and auto-CAD laboratories, Nano-brewery & ethanol unit and extension of better hostel facilities resulted in attracting students of other countries viz. Bhutan, Nepal and Yemen to seek admission in various regular courses and customized training programmes during the current academic year. The institute also conducted many such customized training programmes for the sugar factories in India and Kenya as well.

### XIV. Other Achievements

- In a measure to boost working on e-Office, all the officers/ officials of the Department had been imparted necessary training on e-Office followed by hands-on with the help of NIC and e-Office Support Personnel. Further, necessary equipment for implementation of e-Office has also been provided based on requirement of individuals. During the year considerable progress has been observed in implementation of various components of e-Office. Number of e-files has been increased to 55% during the month of November, 2016 while it was 14% in the month of December, 2015.
- Digital Signature Certificates has been provided to the more than 190 officers/officials of the Department and that for the rest of the employees is being procured.
- A twitter account has been opened for the Department (<https://twitter.com/fooddeptgoi>). Further, a core team has been constituted in the Department under the charge of a Joint Secretary & consisting of 3 Director level officers to deal with Social Media Activities.

### XV. Swachh Bharat Abhiyan

Swachhta Pakhwadas were organised by the Department and its associated organisations on 16.04.2016 to 30.04.2016, 16.06.2016 to 30.06.2016 and 16.10.2016 to 31.10.2016. During the occasions, in order to generate mass awareness various activities such as taking of Swachhta Oath, cleanliness drives/rallies, street plays in public spaces, improvement of hygiene and cleanliness in office spaces, essay/painting competitions, institution of cleanest section award, blood donations camps, felicitation of sanitation workers etc. were organised.

- The Minister of State (CA,F&PD) Shri C.R. Chaudhary participated in the cleanliness drive organized at Ghewara Depot of FCI. Message of Swachhta was delivered by the Hon'ble MOS (CA, F&PD).
- Banners & Stickers advocating swachhta were placed by this Department and its all organizations to create awareness in the public
- Running trophy was given to the most clean Section of the Department by the Minister of State for CA,F&PD.
- Nose mask and caps with swachhta logo were distributed by the Hon'ble MoS for CA,F&PD to the Sanitation workers working in the Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi.
- Drawing competition and essay writing competition were organized by the Department for the wards of the officials of this Department and its organizations and winners of competition were awarded and caps with printed logo were given to the participants by the Minister of State for CA,F&PD.
- A blood donation camp with the help of Red Cross Society was organized in this Department on 27.10.2016.

- Nukkad Nataks were organized by the Department and its organizations on 17.10.2016 and 27.10.2016 at public places for awareness on cleanliness. Video of the same are also available on the you tube.
- Weeding out and recording of old records were carried out including review of recorded files in the record room. Total 946 files were reviewed during the Swachhhta Pakhwada out of them 449 files have been weeded out and 497 files have been retained for further retention.
- Obsolete furniture items were disposed off through tender.
- To improve hygiene in the office spaces, dustbins, oxygen emitting plants have been placed in rooms/ corridors.
- To create awareness on a sustained basis, Swachh Bharat Logo has been printed on stationery items.
- Digital Notice Boards have been installed for continuous display of messages on the importance of swachhhta.
- FCI HQ employees visited Central Park, Connaught Place and carried out a drive for removal of plastic, polythene garbage. Dustbins have been placed in the public places near FCI offices for use by general public.
- Cleanest section was awarded in FCI.
- Talks were organized by FCI on the importance of hygiene and cleanliness for its staff.
- During the pakhwada on 22.10.2016 awareness processions and cleanliness drives in public spaces were carried out by FCI and DFPD officers in Connaught Place.
- All members of DFPD and its associated organisations were exhorted to take up swachhhta activities and create awareness at their individual level in their residential areas. Sh.T.C.Gautam, Manager(A/cs) along with RWA representatives of the colony where he resides in Dwarka have installed 04 dustbins in their Society and also carried out cleanliness drive in the surrounding areas.
- Similar activities were also carried out by some other employees in their residential areas.
- A debate on the topic 'The success of our country clean solely depends on educating the general public' was organized by FCI and winners were felicitated with certificates.
- 10 Best Sanitation workers were felicitated by FCI for their outstanding work.
- A blood donation camp was organized by FCI and NSI, Kanpur.
- Slogan "Swachh Bharat- Swasth Bharat" were got printed in all the godowns of CWC.
- Cleanliness drive at Shahpurjat village was carried out by the CWC.
- Nukkad Nataks were organized by FCI, Delhi and National Sugar Institute, Kanpur.
- Letters were issued by NSI, Kanpur to sugars mills and distilleries to undertake cleanliness drive in and surrounding areas .
- Some of the photographs of the activities undertaken have been uploaded on the SBM portal.

## XVI. Policy Changes

### • Fortification of Staple Food

To address acute malnutrition in the population, a strategy of Fortification in Food has been adopted. As a consequence of inputs and proactive initiatives taken by DFPD in consultation with all Stakeholders, FSSAI has operationalized the standards for fortification of Wheat Flour, and Oil w.e.f. 16<sup>th</sup> October, 2016. Technology & cost for rice fortification are under review.

### • Wheat-Rice Policy

Government of India formulated a wheat-rice policy in June 2016 with an objective that the States, which annually procure more wheat or rice than their present annual entitlement/demand for wheat and rice respectively, will be allocated the preferred foodgrains as per their requirement in the normal NFSA allocation i.e. AAY and Priority category. The allocation in the tide over category will be at the discretion of the Department and subject to availability of food grains in the Central Pool and impact on food subsidy.

- To augment/restrict the stock of wheat in the Central Pool, foodgrains stocking norms that includes strategic reserve of 30 lakh MT of wheat and 20 lakh MT of rice have been revised to 20 lakh MT of wheat and 30 lakh MT of rice with effect from November, 2016 to June, 2017.

## XVII. Budgetary Position

- With respect to MEP (Monthly Expenditure Plan) of **Rs.115687.15 crore**, the Department of Food & PD has achieved an expenditure of **Rs.127050.24 crore** achieving a percentage expenditure of 109.82 % against MEP upto

30<sup>th</sup> November 2016.

- As a consequence of persistent efforts, full release of budget to FCI led to interest savings of about Rs. 512 crore which otherwise would have been borne by FCI.
- A proposal has been moved by Ministry of Finance to grant NSSF loan of Rs. 45,000 crore at a reduced rate of interest to FCI to meet its arrears and interest cost requirements.



Following are the main highlights of the activities of the Department of Consumer Affairs during the year 2016:

#### I. Buffer stock and Price Monitoring :

- Government has approved creation of a buffer stock of upto 20 lakhs tonnes of pulses under **Price Stabilization Fund (PSF)** scheme . Buffer stock of **6.95** lakh tonnes of pulses has already been created utilizing budgetary allocation as well as on credit through designated agencies including MMTC, NAFED, FCI, SFAC and STC at a cost of Rs.4270 crores.
- Subsidized unmilled pulses from the buffer stock are being offered to States/Agencies for direct distribution to public/consumer at reasonable rates as and when required to intervene in the market to stabilize the prices of pulses. So far, 55000 tonnes of pulses have been so released from the buffer.
- During the current year i.e. 2016, 14 new price reporting centres from different States were added to improve the coverage and representativeness of data. The total number of price reporting centres have therefore increased to 99 from 85.
- During 2016, around 40 Inter-Ministerial Committee (IMC) meetings were held on weekly basis under the chairmanship of Secretary (CA) to keep a close watch on prices and to take important policy decisions/recommendations for stabilizing the prices of 22 essential commodities.

#### II. Direct Selling :

- The size of the industry Direct Selling in India is INR 80 billion and it is growing @ 13 % per annum with some years showing more than 20% growth. The direct selling industry had requested the Department to issue guidelines to regulate the sector. An Advisory to State Governments/UTs containing Model Guidelines on Direct Selling was issued on 12<sup>th</sup> September, 2016. Direct Selling entities were asked to submit a declaration to Department of Consumer Affairs in compliance with the guidelines. 75 companies have so far submitted declarations. The date for submission of declaration has been extended to 24<sup>th</sup> Jan 2017.

#### III. Legal Metrology :

- The Legal Metrology (Packaged Commodities) Rules, 2011 have been revised to enable the Competent Authority under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 (10 of 1955) to fix standard quantities and retail sale prices of essential commodities.
- The Legal Metrology (General) Rules, 2011 have been amended on 9.9 2016 to include specifications for Automatic instruments for weighing road vehicles in motion and measuring axle loads. These specifications will help from overloading of trucks to prevent accidents.
- RRSLs, Ahmedabad and Guwahati have been accredited by National Accreditation Board of Laboratories (NABL).
- Two new Regional Reference Standards Laboratories are being established at Varanasi and Nagpur. The land for both the laboratories have already been purchased from the respective State Government. The posts for these two new RRSLs have been created.

#### IV. Consumer Awareness:



- An Exhibition-cum-Seminar titled '**Towards Food Security & Consumer Empowerment**' was organized on 17.5.2016 at Sri Krishna Memorial Hall, Patna to showcase the achievements of the Department of Consumer Affairs. The participants of the Exhibition, were National Test House, Bureau of Indian Standards, National Consumer Helpline, Legal Metrology Division and Voluntary Consumer Organizations like SAVERA, Consumer Online Foundation and CERC etc. The Conference was attended by approx. 3000 people.
- Consumer Mela and Swachhata Pakhwada were organized/observed on 20th October, 2016 at Central Park, Connaught Place, New Delhi to bring consumers, companies, regulators and Department of Consumer Affairs on one platform for Consumer Awareness, grievance redressal and on the spot registration of grievances. At Consumer Mela, the Minister also launched a Consumer Empowerment week to be observed throughout the country. A short film on the Achievements of this Department titled 'BADLAV' was screened during the event apart from the Swachh Bharat Film of the Government of India. In addition to the Mela at Delhi, the Department participated in two month long Melas in Bihar viz. Shravani Mela in July and Sonepur Mela in November.
- Support was extended to Voluntary Consumer Organizations (VCOs) for undertaking Consumer Protection and Awareness Raising e.g. Consumer Online Foundation, Delhi: To protect consumers from spurious or contraband medicines in the country. CONCERT, Chennai: For empowering rural consumer choice through information by conducting training camps. SAVERA, Delhi: For publishing and distributing 'Grameen Upbhokta Magazine' in the state of Bihar. VOICE Society, Delhi: For conducting comparative testing of 15 food products.
- This year, an extensive Outdoor Publicity Plan is being carried out keeping in view the growing population in the urban and semi urban areas. The visibility of 'Jago Grahak Jago' Campaign in Bus-back panels, Railway Stations, Metro trains, Airports, Bus stands, Bus stations etc. has increased manifolds. Joint Publicity Campaign has been carried out in the Print Media with NPPA on Jan Pharma Samadhan.

#### V. Bureau of Indian Standards :

- BIS has published around 19000 Standards till now. Out of these, 110 are mandatory standards and 30 are under Compulsory Registration Scheme of MEITY. With effect from 9<sup>th</sup> June 2016, BIS has extended its simplified procedure for grant of licence under the Product Certification Scheme to include products covered under compulsory certification except for the product requiring approval from other Statutory Bodies. Under the compulsory registration scheme for Electronics & IT products, as on 25th November 2016, a total of 7299 registrations have been granted by BIS to manufacturers located throughout the world. The following MoUs have been entered into :-
  - (a) between BIS and Kenya Bureau of Standards (KEBS)
  - (b) Mutual Recognition Agreement between BIS and *Associacao Brasileira de Normas Tecnicas* (ABNT), Brazil on 24th Oct 2016.
  - (c) Between BIS and Maruti Center for Excellence (MACE) on 18<sup>th</sup> May, 2016 to facilitate vendors of Maruti Suzuki India Ltd (MSIL) in obtaining Management Systems Certification from BIS.

#### VI. Essential Commodities :

- Under the EC Act and PBMMSEC Act, so far 74395 raids conducted, 5800 persons arrested, 3677 persons prosecuted, 217 persons convicted, 145 persons detained and goods of value of Rs.12743.00 lakh have been confiscated.
- Enabling Notifications were issued for imposition of stock limits on Pulses, Oil seeds, Oils and Sugar.
- National consultation meetings with Ministers of the state governments held on 21.05.2016. States were advised to rationalize the stock limits on pulses

#### VII. Consumer Grievances/Disputes :

- Department of Consumer Affairs has launched an Integrated Grievance Redress Mechanism (INGRAM) portal for bringing all stakeholders such as consumers, Central and State Government Agencies, private companies, regulators on to a single platform for implementation in a phased manner.



- Keeping in view the increasing number of calls to the National Consumer Helpline, the number of desks in the National Consumer Helpline has been increased to sixty.
- As value added services, an easy to remember five-digit short code 14404 has been obtained and will be launched shortly. Similarly, a mobile application that allows a consumer to register and monitor complaints against defective goods/deficient services will also be launched soon.
- New set of Hardware was supplied to 47 districts under the CONFONET scheme. The number of district fora using CONFONET increased to 560. Since inception, 1392482 cases have been reflected on the CONFONET portal. 332 personnel has been trained under CONFONET.
- Two twitter handles (a) @consaff for addressing consumer grievances including e-commerce related and (b) @jagograhakjago for creating awareness amongst consumers were created during the year and are being regularly watched and important information pertaining to consumers disseminated

#### **VIII. National Test House :**

- NTH has conceived to start Testing of Packaged Drinking Water inclusive of Micro-Biological Testing in All Six Regional Centres. Out of these , Jaipur has already achieved the required Accreditation and has started functioning. NTH has started Testing of “IT Hardware Products” at Ghaziabad , Chennai and Kolkata. NTH has also conceived to start Testing of LED Based Luminaires at Kolkata.

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**Press Information Bureau  
Government of India  
Ministry of Corporate Affairs**

27-December-2016 13:01 IST

**Major policy initiatives and achievements of the Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA);  
MCA entrusted with the responsibility to administer the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016 (Code);The  
Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI) established; Stabilization of the Cost Records and Audit Rules**

<b>Year End Review - 2016</b>
<b>Ministry of Corporate Affairs</b>

Following are the major Policy Initiatives and Achievements of the Ministry of Corporate Affairs, Government of India during the Year-2016:

**1. To review the Companies Act, 2013 based on implementation experience in line with changing economic environment and initiatives for addressing all concerns with reference to Companies Act, 2013 and Companies (Amendment) Bill, 2016;**

The Companies (Amendment) Bill, 2016 was introduced in the Lok Sabha on 16<sup>th</sup> March, 2016 proposing to amend Companies Act, 2013[CA-13]. The Bill was subsequently referred to the Parliamentary Committee on Finance and the Committee, after examination, presented its report to both Houses of the Parliament on 7<sup>th</sup> December, 2016. The Bill is likely to be considered and passed by both the Houses of Parliament with or without modifications including through official amendments, if any.

**2. Notifications of remaining Sections of the Companies Act, 2013**

As on 15<sup>th</sup> December, 2016 out of 470 sections, 422 sections of the Companies Act, 2013 have been notified. 39 sections are omitted by Insolvency Banking Code (IBC). Remaining 9 sections would be notified shortly.

**3.** On the request of Gujarat International Finance Tec-City (GIFT CITY), Gandhinagar, where the country's First International Finance Service Centre (IFSC) has been set-up, draft notifications have been laid in the Parliament during Monsoon Session 2016, proposing exceptions from, and modifications and adaptations of various provisions of the Companies Act, 2013 for companies licensed to operate by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) or Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) or Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDA). This will apply to all other IFSC located in an approved multi services special economic zone set-up under Special Economic Zones Act, 2005, which may be set up subsequently.

**4. Stabilization of the Cost Records and Audit Rules:**

The Companies (Cost Records and Audit) Rules, 2014 reviewed so as to make necessary amendments for further improvement and to obviate ambiguities or technical errors, keeping in view the practical difficulties experienced over a period of time and after considering various queries/ representation from the stakeholders. Necessary amendments were notified vide notification dated 14-07-2016.

**5. Improvement in compliance level:**

- Filing of Cost Audit Report: For the Financial Year 2014-15, the compliance level till the prescribed time i.e. October 2015 was 48 per cent. By sustained efforts, the compliance level stood improved to 88 per cent by July 2016.
- Appointment of Cost Auditor: For the period 2015-16, the compliance level with respect to the companies required to approve Cost Auditor also improved by 10 per cent.

## **6. The Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016 (Code):**

The Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016 (Code) was published in the Official Gazette on 28<sup>th</sup> May, 2016 and Government of India (Allocation of Business) Rules, 1961 were amended and notified on 1<sup>st</sup> Aug, 2016 wherein the Ministry of Corporate Affairs was entrusted with the responsibility to administer the Code.

## **7. The Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI) was established vide gazette notification dated 01.10.2016.**

The Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI) was established under the Code and Chairperson of the Board was appointed vide gazette notification dated 01.10.2016. Four ex-officio members of the Board were also appointed vide Order dated 1.10.2016 and selection of whole-time members of the Board is under process.

## **8. Framing of Rules and Regulations and notification of sections under the Code**

MCA was assigned with timeline of 1st December, 2016 to put in place Corporate Insolvency Resolution process as stated under the Code. To achieve the target, following three pillars as envisaged under the Code have been put in place by framing various rules and regulations and notifying relevant sections of the Code:-

- (i) Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India [IBBI]
- (ii) Insolvency Professional Agencies & Insolvency Professionals
- (iii) Adjudicating Authority

Ministry has also successfully operationalized the Code within given timeframe which is likely to improve India's rank in terms of Ease of Doing Business. It will also have desired effect on Start-Up India plan as envisaged by the Government.

## **9. National Company Law Tribunal and National Company Law Appellate Tribunal**

Chapter – XXVII of Companies Act, 2013 deals with formation of National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) and National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCALT). The constitution of NCLT and NCALT have been notified on 01<sup>st</sup> June, 2016. Vide Notification dated 30<sup>th</sup> November, 2016, the Central Government has designated the Benches of NCLT to exercise the jurisdiction, power and authority of Adjudicating Authority conferred by or under part II of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016.

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**Press Information Bureau  
Government of India  
Ministry for Development of North-East Region**

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26-December-2016 17:35 IST

**Year End Review: Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region**

Following are the highlights of the activities of the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region during the year 2016:

- The Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi attended the 65<sup>th</sup> Plenary Session of North Eastern Council (NEC) on 27<sup>th</sup> May, 2016. This is the first time after 40 years that the Prime Minister had attended the Plenary Meeting of North Eastern Council at Shillong which is the headquarters of the Council. The last Prime Minister to do so was Shri Morarji Desai in the year 1977. On this occasion, the Prime Minister announced various initiatives for developing NER.
  - Accordingly, NEC has undertaken several actions during the year 2016. As a step towards linking the NEC with institutes of excellence to make it as a state-of-art resource centre, ‘Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam Center for Policy Research and Analysis’ was formally launched in October 2016 at the Rajiv Gandhi Indian Institute of Management (RGIIM), Shillong. The Centre will provide strategic policy support on livelihood, Act East Policy, Biodiversity, Organic Food Basket, Bamboo Mission and Horticulture. An MoU was also signed between Ministry of DoNER and the Centre for Development of North Eastern Region (CEDNER), RGIIM, Shillong for the purpose of skill gap analysis in NER, reviewing the integrated Tourism Master Plan for NER prepared by TCS for NEC; preparing the approach paper for industrial corridor, North East Civil Aviation Corporation and BPOs in NER.
  - As part of another initiative of the PM, NEC has been conducting Skill Development and employment oriented training programmes for NE youths on fields such as beauty care for Class 8th and above, computer hardware and software, hospitality, etc. The NEC also recently sponsored 80 North East youth for one year course on hospitality and retail at World Class Skill Centre, Vivek Vihar, New Delhi. Trainees are advised and encouraged to set up entrepreneurship units in the region. An “Expression of Interest” floated for empanelment of Agency/Institute for employment oriented training programmes and skill development of NE youths in different sectors. Besides, Institutes such as Regional Institute of Architecture and Planning, Regional Institute of Public Health, Medical, Nursing and Paramedical colleges, Regional Institute of Civil Aviation Training & Development have been identified for setting up in the Region to bridge skill gaps in these areas.
- The Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, on Jan.18, 2016 inaugurated the Sikkim Organic Festival 2016, and addressed the Plenary Session of the National Conference on Sustainable Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, at Gangtok in Sikkim. The Prime Minister digitally launched the logo of “Sikkim Organic.” He launched three new Orchid species developed in Sikkim. The Prime Minister handed over to the Chief Minister of Sikkim, Shri Pawan Chamling, two commendations for its journey towards total organic farming. He also handed over commendations for two districts of Sikkim for achieving 100 percent coverage of soil health cards.
- Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on Jan.19, 2016 unveiled the plaque for the foundation stone of the campus for Indian Institute of Information Technology (IIIT), Guwahati.

- In two historic moves by Indian Railways, Railways Minister Shri Suresh Prabhu on July 30, 2016 laid the foundation stone of the proposed Imphal railway station, and also announced the commencement of work for the longest rail tunnel in India. The overall cost of construction of the Station Building will be roughly Rs 8.7 crore. The longest railway tunnel in India will come up on the Jiribam–Tupul–Imphal new broad gauge railway line. It will be 11.55 km long, more than the famous Pir Panjal tunnel on the Banihal-Qazigund line.
- In a big milestone, Railways Minister Shri Suresh Prabhu, in the company of his Bangladeshi counterpart Mohammed Mazibul Hoque, on July 31, 2016 laid the foundation stone for the Agartala–Akhaura broad gauge line. The 15.06 kilometre line between India's Agartala and Bangladesh's Akhaura is part of the Trans-Asian Railway Network. The new line has the potential of substantially shortening the railway connectivity distance between Tripura and Kolkata. The total anticipated cost of the project is Rs 968 crore. DoNER Ministry provided an amount of Rs.580 crores to Ministry of Railways for Agartala-Akhaura Rail project.
- Referring to fast-track movement of rail expansion in Northeast, Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER), MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space Dr Jitendra Singh said on April 13, 2016, the long-time pending work on the broad-gauge track in the NER was expedited in the last two years and during the year 2015-16, over 500 kilometers of broad-gauge railway track was laid in the region. This includes the broad-gauge track to Agartala which became functional on February 20, 2016 and also Kathakat-Bhairabi in Mizoram.
- Assam Chief Minister Shri Sarbananda Sonowal on Oct. 3, 2016 announced in Guwahati, direct flights introduced by Spicejet airline on the Guwahati-Silchar and Guwahati-Aizwal routes starting Oct. 4, 2016.
- In the Smart City list released on Sep.20, 2016 by Union Minister of Urban Development, Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu, two cities of Northeast namely Kohima in Nagaland and Namchi in Sikkim have found a place.
- Central Monitoring Committee (CMC) on Non Lapsable Central Pool of Resources (NLCPR) Central Scheme accorded in-principle approval to fund Rs.15 crores to the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting towards the Capital Assets Creation for the proposed 'Arun Prabha Project'. The proposed Channel, to provide a platform to the rich cultural and linguistic identity of the North-Eastern parts of the country, was announced by the Finance Minister in his Budget Speech for the FY 2014-15. The work on the channel has already commenced and the same is proposed to be launched by the end of this financial year. The initial expenditure on setting up infrastructure and development of content for launch is expected to be around Rs.25 crores. As per M/o I & B, the proposed 24x7 Arun Prabha Channel will contribute to a large measure to develop content concerning North East that will be continuously used for broadcasting to the rest of the country through the vast network of DD/AIR and is expected to contribute substantially towards integrating this part of the country with the rest of India much more intimately. As the Channel will be completely dedicated to the North Eastern States, Ministry of Information & Broadcasting had requested Ministry of DoNER to provide financial assistance for the above project.
- M/o DoNER has initiated creation of Venture Capital Fund for NER with North East Development Finance Corporation Ltd (NEDFi) to provide capital for start-ups in the NE region and to attract investors from outside NE Region. For this initiative, a fund size of Rs.100 crore has been set up (Rs.45 crore from MDoNER, Rs.30 crore from NEDFi and Rs.25 crore to be underwritten by NEDFi). All the statutory approvals to launch the first dedicated Venture Capital Fund for the North East Region have been put in place. An additional incentive of Venture Capital Fund will be provided to any youngster from any part of India who wishes to set up a "Start-Up" entrepreneurship in the Northeast Region (NER). Speaking at an interactive programme organized by the Northeast MPs' Forum on Dec.15, 2016, Dr Jitendra Singh said, "Startup India, Standup India" is the most unique programme in the world ever started anywhere and it offers unprecedented incentives like 3 years of tax holiday and 3 months of exit period. In addition to the incentives already announced in the programme, Dr Jitendra Singh said, the NEDFi has provision to provide easy loans to set up entrepreneurship. With enormous unexplored avenues including organic farming and manufacturing, he said, Northeast has the capacity to emerge as the favourite destination for young startups from all over India, he added. Dr Jitendra Singh also disclosed that "Northeast Industrial Policy" has also been revived.

- DoNER Ministry organised the Bamboo Summit on September 27-28, 2016 in New Delhi where Bamboo strategy for NER and role of DoNER were discussed. Other topics were GoI Policy support and Vision for Bamboo Development in NER, Role of Cultivation and Harvesting Methods, R&D in Bamboo Production/Development, Best Practices, Upgradation and Innovative Uses of Bamboo, Skilling in Bamboo Craft and scope of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises in Bamboo Products manufacturing, Cluster Development, etc. The Ministry has finalised an Action Plan for Bamboo Development in the NER and is coordinating with Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, as well as the NER states to inter alia establish a regional bamboo development body for NER as well as to facilitate an effective value chain for bamboo and bamboo by-products.
- Ministry of DoNER sanctioned Rs.207 crores in December 2016 for protection of Majuli island from erosion. Majuli, the world's largest river island located in Brahmaputra river in Assam, is the nerve centre of Vaishnavite Cultural Heritage Centre in Assam. Thousands of tourists and devotees visit Majuli due to its unique natural beauty and cultural mooring. The area of the island was 709 sq-km during 1949, which at present has reduced to 524 sq-km as per census 2011 due to flood and erosion.
- The NEC approved formation of the North Eastern Tourism Development Council on a Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode to particularly promote regional tour packages. This is being actively pursued to encourage regional tourist circuits in the NER in the future including collaborations across the border with Myanmar and Thailand.
- From the academic session 2016-17, one seat each for cancer super-specialization in DM (Oncology) and MCh (Oncology) has been introduced in Dr. B. Borooah Cancer Institute, Guwahati. These courses will be conducted under the aegis of Department of Atomic Energy, Government of India, through Tata Memorial Cancer Centre, Mumbai which is a constituent institute of Homi Bhabha National Institute. This was announced by Dr Jitendra Singh on Feb. 11, 2016. From February this year, DoNER Ministry has begun sponsoring short-term cancer medicine and cancer surgery training for doctors from all the eight States of the region in country's reputed Cancer Institutes.
- Dr Jitendra Singh laid the Foundation Stone of a Hostel exclusively for Northeast girl students in Bengaluru on June 6, 2016. The hostel, which is the first of its kind in Bangalore University, will have a capacity to accommodate 269 students and will be constructed at a cost of around Rs. 14 crore. Dr Jitendra Singh disclosed that the next hostel project will shortly be started in the campus of Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), New Delhi, where land has already been acquired by the North Eastern Council (NEC). Since JNU has a larger number of students from the eight North Eastern States compared to several other States of India, it was found appropriate to raise the facility there, he said. Meanwhile, Dr Jitendra Singh informed that negotiations are going on with Vice Chancellor of Delhi University, Prof. Yogesh K Tyagi for suitable land to have a hostel for Northeast students in the South Campus. Following up this initiative, Dr Jitendra Singh said, he is now looking for land in other student hub towns like Pune as well.
- Dr Jitendra Singh on March 3, 2016 hailed the quantum jump in the Budget allocation for North East Region in Union Budget 2016-17. He said that in addition to all other allocations, the single most important announcement of exclusive and unique "Organic Value Chain Development" scheme for Rs. 115 crore will prove to be a game-changer for the entire region. Dr Jitendra Singh said that the Budget for Ministry of DoNER has been increased from Rs 2,334.50 crore to Rs 2,400 crores this year as compared to previous year, The Minister said that the main emphasis of the Budget allocated for North East is on the overall development of the region. The provisions have been made for connectivity in North East Region, skill development and organic value chain development among others. Besides, the Minister said that a budget of Rs 33,097.02 crore has been allocated for the North Eastern Region across 56 ministries. This is 13.75% higher than the BE of Rs 29,087.93 crore for previous year. The Minister also informed that Rs 150 crore have been provided for the newly launched NE Road Sector Development Scheme.

- Due to effective monitoring and recent revision in the guidelines of NLCPR scheme, the unspent balance has reduced from Rs.1,820.67 crore to Rs.1,430.94 crore in a span of only six months from April, 2016. If the releases made during 2015-16 (Rs.606.10 crore) and 2016-17 (430.31 crore upto September, 2016) are deducted, for which Utilization Certificate are due in March, 2017 and March, 2018 respectively, balance from previous year is only to the tune of Rs. 422.53 crore. 108 projects have been completed in the last three years.
- Lauding the innovative and fast track approach adopted by the Ministry of DoNER, Dr Jitendra Singh said in Guwahati on Oct. 3, 2016 that there has been a substantial jump in the release of funds and submission of UCs in the last two-and-a-half years in which a total of Rs.252.54 crores has been released. Citing the figures, he said, in 2014-15, when the present Government took over, a total of Rs. 60.46 crores was released for NLCPR projects in whole of the year while in the current financial year of 2016-17, in the first 6 months itself, Rs. 92.67 crore has already been released.
- Focus of the DoNER Ministry continued on early completion of projects by releasing maximum funds for ongoing projects. During 2016-17, 111 projects have been completed (76 projects under NLCPR Scheme and 35 were completed by NEC). Two pronged strategy has been taken up for quicker processing of proposals under NLCPR Scheme. One, as a part of Business Process Re-engineering (BPR), the guidelines have been revised which incentivize faster completion of the projects taken up under the scheme. Second, the entire process starting from conceptualization of the project till completion of the project has been automated through web-based applications and monitoring through IT tools. The Ministry is now making 'Just in Time' releases under NLCPR scheme, with a token amount of Rs. 10 lakhs released with the sanction order and the regular instalments after work order is issued.
- In order to fast track the development schemes /programmes in NER, a greater synergy is required amongst the Central Ministries who are implementing own schemes. To achieve the best level of synergy, Ministry of DoNER has constituted several Inter-Ministerial Committees (IMC). Currently there are four IMCs on Road sector, Civil Aviation sector, Livelihood Programmes and Tourism sector. Meetings of the IMCs are held regularly and issues settled.
- A DoNER project portal has been launched for online data capture from State Governments, enabling Public Transparency and Social Audit. It will fast track the information dissemination and the follow-up action relating to execution of the projects ultimately leading to proper fund utilization and timely completion of the projects. The features of social audit by allowing the public in general to upload the photographs of different components of the work and comments thereon will strengthen the monitoring mechanism in terms of their quality and quantity. The Ministry is in the process of going for a satellite based monitoring system of the projects lat-long cameras after their geo tagging. Rural Development Ministry is being roped-in for monitoring the execution of the projects by using the services of their National Level Monitors. State Level Empowered Committee (SLEC) also constituted to monitor the progress of the projects being executed in their State. Regular Monitoring of projects is also done by way of visits of Ministry officials of various levels.
- The Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region has gone LIVE on e-office from Sep. 6, 2016. All the officers and the concerned staff were regularly trained in the implementation of e-office in the month of July, 2016. The e-office platform would not only digitize the entire office correspondence and file notings, but also ensure an audit trail of all entries and correspondence, thus providing an unprecedented level of accountability.
- DoNER has embarked upon the agenda of using Geo Spatial, Remote Sensing and GIS technologies as decision support systems for planning. The Ministry has taken up the task of mapping the entire North Eastern Region (NER) with the help of National Centre of Geo Informatics (NCOG), Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology and North Eastern Space Application Centre (NESAC), which is a space application unit of North Eastern Council. The purpose of using space application in mapping is to aggregate all development related data about NER in one place and to be able to use it as map based information and inputs to strategise, plan, implement and monitor various developmental schemes and projects in the area.
- The Ministry is pursuing the digitalisation agenda in all earnest. E-office has been implemented at the Ministry and all payments are being made digitally. In compliance to the Cabinet decision dated February 24, 2016 and directions

of Secretary, Department of Investment and Public Asset Management (DIPAM) to take immediate steps to ensure cashless/digital transactions, the Ministry and NEC are making all transactions without involvement of cash. Ministry has already started e-payments through PFMS. As a part of awareness campaign, officers and staff of this Ministry were sensitised to adopt digital means of transactions. PSUs have also been requested to conduct workshops/programmes highlighting the benefit of digital mode of payments.

- Ministry is monitoring expenditure in NER by non-exempt Ministries under 10% Gross Budgetary Support. There has been a sharp rise in Plan expenditure by Central Ministries in NER by 35% from Rs. 23170 crores in 2013-14 to Rs. 31291 crores (provisional) in 2015-16. In 2015-16, non-exempt Ministries made a total expenditure of Rs.31291 crores against revised allocation of Rs.29669.22 crores or about 105% of the total allocation for NER.
- Dr. Jitendra Singh took two meeting in Guwahati and Imphal in October 2016 to review the progress of projects sanctioned under NLCPR schemes in the States of Assam and Manipur. The Minister appreciated the efforts made by the State Governments for their overall performances, especially submission of Utilisation Certificates of significant amount during the last few months.
- In compliance to the decision taken in the Committee of Secretaries meeting held on September 16, 2016 on convergence of Central Skill Development Schemes/ Programmes/Institutes under the umbrella of M/o Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE), MSDE proposed to transfer the Capacity Building Component of CB & TA scheme of DoNER Ministry to MSDE along with budgetary allocation and physical targets. Accordingly, the proposals received for skill development in this Ministry have been transferred to MSDE.
- DoNER Ministry is implementing World Bank assisted North East Rural Livelihood Project (NERLP) in four States namely Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim and Tripura. A joint mission of the World Bank and the project team of NERLP, which recently took stock of the project, appreciated and commended the efforts of the Ministry and has assured to upgrade the project to the next level.
- Dr Jitendra Singh on Nov. 23, 2016 presented to the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, the first of its kind, Northeast coffee table book prepared by North Eastern Council (NEC). The Secretary, NEC, Shri Ram Muivah was also present. Released on Sep. 21, 2016, the book contains a pictorial depiction of the exclusive features of each of the eight States of Northeast. Briefing about the 108 page volume book, Dr Jitendra Singh said that the book has been titled “A story of sagacity and success” and its creation was possible because of the inspiration and patronage personally provided by Shri Narendra Modi.
- The North East-ASEAN Business Summit was organised during April 7-9, 2016 at Imphal, Manipur. The Summit was attended by participants from North Eastern States, representatives from National and Regional Institutions and concerned Ministries of the Government of India, Ambassadors of ASEAN countries and Commerce & Industry Minister of Bangladesh along with his business delegation.
- A meeting on “Economic Cooperation Dialogue in Eastern South Asia: Transport Corridors and Border Special Development Zones” was jointly organised by UNESCAP, Government of Meghalaya and North Eastern Council at Shillong on April 25-26, 2016. The programme was attended by representatives from neighbouring countries i.e. Bangladesh, Bhutan, Myanmar, Nepal and Vietnam. In the meeting discussion on points such as initiatives taken by this Ministry in filling critical gaps in infrastructure in NER, venture fund through NEDFi, business incubators in remote and border areas, importance of private investment for developing cross-border value chains especially in sectors, such as, Organic Produce, Floriculture, Horticulture, Medicinal Plants, Food Processing, Textiles, Handlooms and Handicrafts and Tourism took place.
- Ministry of DoNER supported the Business Sessions held in Mandalay and Yangon in Myanmar as part of the India Myanmar Thailand (IMT) Car Rally which was held from 13<sup>th</sup> Nov to 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2016. Representatives from DoNER, North Eastern Agricultural Marketing Corporation (NERAMAC) and North Eastern Handicrafts & Handloom Development Corporation (NEHDC) participated in the B2B session on tourism and agri/horti produce which was held with the Myanmar counterparts.



- Senior officials of North Eastern Council, Ministry of DoNER, Govt. of India participated at Stalls in the India Pavilion put up by the Ministry of Tourism at the World Travel Market (WTM), London 2016 during November 7-9, 2016. A total of 11 regional North East India Circuits were marketed. Several tour operators and tourists had visited the NEC stall and had shown keen interest in North East India tourism. This initiative will help in the promotion of tourism in the North Eastern Region.
- The DoNER Ministry organised a mega-event “Destination North East-2016” from February 12-14, 2016 at Pragati Maidan, ITPO, New Delhi to showcase the inherent economic, social and cultural strength, potential and opportunities in the North East Region. Most of the Central Ministries e.g. Railways, Power, Telecommunication along with Tourism, Textile, MSME, Food Processing etc. made their presence in the event by setting up Exhibition Stalls and participation in Business Summit. All the State Governments of North Eastern Region actively participated in Exhibition Stalls, Business Summit and Cultural Programmes. Deliberation were made on investment potential, tourism, IT and ITES, Livelihood and Food Processing, Micro Finance, Skill Development, Handloom and Handicrafts and Start ups, in different sessions of the Business Summit of Destination North East 2016.
- Dr Jitendra Singh inaugurated the "Northeast Textile & Craft Shopping Mela" on Dec.3, 2016, which was jointly organised by the Ministry of DoNER and the Ministry of Textiles. He also confirmed the availability of cashless transaction facility and QR (Quick Response) cash transaction provision at some of the stalls.
- The Secretary, Ministry of Textiles, Smt. Rashmi Verma inaugurated the Purbashree Emporium in New Delhi on June 2, 2016. In order to give a boost to the development and promotion of North-East handicrafts and handlooms products, North Eastern Handicrafts and Handlooms Development Corporation Ltd (NEHHDC) has set up its ‘Purbashree Emporium’ in the Handloom Haat, New Delhi showcasing a wide variety of ethnic and exquisite handlooms products which are eco-friendly and biodegradable.
- Dr Jitendra Singh inaugurated the Purbashree stall at Dilli Haat, INA on May 16, 2016. Later, the Union Minister of Textiles Smt Smriti Irani and Dr. Jitendra Singh formally launched the United Payments Interface (UPI) cashless payments at Purbashree stall at Dilli Haat, INA on Nov.28, 2016.
- Union Minister of State for Textiles (Independent Charge), Shri Santosh Kumar Gangwar and Dr. Jitendra Singh, jointly inaugurated in New Delhi on May 30, 2016 an Exhibition-cum-Sale of Handicraft and Handloom products from the North Eastern States of India. The project, which comes under the North-East Region Textile Promotion Scheme (NERTPS), will develop entrepreneurship through various capacity building measures and also train the people to work efficiently on high-end garment machines. Each Apparel and Garment Making Centre set up under the initiative is estimated to generate direct employment for 1,200 people. It will help develop an ecosystem that will trigger further investments and employment. The Centres in Tripura and Nagaland have already been inaugurated, while work is in progress in the remaining six states.

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**Press Information Bureau  
Government of India  
Ministry of Health and Family Welfare**

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**Initiatives and Achievements of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare: A Year End Review, 2016**

### **1. The Pradhan Mantri Surakshit Matritva Abhiyan (PMSMA)**

Pradhan Mantri Surakshit Matritva Abhiyan (PMSMA) is aimed at reducing maternal and infant mortality rates through safe pregnancies and safe deliveries. The national programme will provide special free antenatal care to about 3 crore pregnant women across the country in order to detect and prevent high risk pregnancies. The nationwide programme will provide fixed day assured, comprehensive and quality antenatal care to pregnant women on the 9th of every month. Pregnant women can now avail of a special antenatal check-up in their second or third trimesters at Government health facilities provided by gynecology specialists/ physicians with support from private sector doctors to supplement the efforts of the Government sector. These services including ultrasound, blood and urine tests will be provided in addition to the routine antenatal check-ups at the identified health facility/outreach in both rural and urban areas. One of the aims is to identify and follow-up on high risk pregnancies in order to reduce MMR and IMR.

### **2. MAA-Mother's Absolute Affection**

A nationwide programme launched in an attempt to bring undiluted focus on promotion of breastfeeding and provision of counselling services for supporting breastfeeding through health systems. The programme has been named 'MAA' to signify the support a lactating mother requires from family members and at health facilities to breastfeed successfully. The chief components of the MAA Programme are Community awareness generation, Strengthening inter personal communication through ASHA, Skilled support for breastfeeding at delivery points in public health facilities, and monitoring and award/recognition.

### **3. Introduction of new vaccines**

- a) **Rota virus vaccine:** In order to prevent the morbidity and mortality in children due to rotavirus, Rotavirus vaccine was introduced in Universal Immunization Programme in a four states initially i.e. Himachal Pradesh, Haryana, Odisha, Andhra Pradesh in April 2016 as recommended by the Expert Committee constituted for the same.
- b) **Adult JE vaccine:** Japanese Encephalitis vaccination was expanded in adult population of districts with high disease burden of adult JE. Recently, 21 high burden districts from Assam, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal have been identified for adult JE vaccination. Adult JE vaccination campaign activity has been completed in 3 districts of Assam (Darrang, Nagaon and Sonitpur) and selected blocks of 3 districts (Darjeeling and Jalpaiguri, Alipurduar) of West Bengal and campaign is ongoing in selected blocks of 6 districts of Uttar Pradesh.

### **4. Mission Indradhanush**

- Second phase of MI continued in Jan 2016 in 352 districts. Phase III was implemented from April to July 2016 in 216 districts of the country.
- During all the three phases, (as on 1st August 2016, 2.08 crore children have been vaccinated of which 54.5 lakh children have been fully immunized. In addition, 55.4 lakh pregnant women were vaccinated against tetanus toxoid.
- According to Integrated Child Health and Immunization Survey 2016, full immunization coverage has increased by about 5-7% after the launch of mission Indradhanush.

## 5. Family Planning

- Expanding basket of choices: Three new methods have been introduced in the National Family Planning program:
  - Injectable Contraceptive DMPA (Antara) – a 3-monthly injection
  - Centchroman pill (Chhaya) – a non-hormonal once a week pill
  - Progesterone-only pills (POP) – for lactating mothers
- Improved Contraceptive Packaging: The packaging for Condoms, Oral contraceptive pills (OCP) and Emergency Contraceptive Pills (ECP) has now been redesigned and improved so as to increase the demand for these commodities.
- New Family Planning Media Campaign: A 360 degree holistic Family Planning campaign with a new logo has been launched with Shri Amitabh Bachchan as the brand ambassador.

## 6. Intensified Diarrhoea Control Fortnight (IDCF)

The Intensified Diarrhoea Control Fortnight (IDCF) was observed from 11th to 23rd July across the country. The importance of this activity is that ORS will be available in the household when needed at the time of diarrhea. ORS corners which were operational at health facilities continuously demonstrated the way to prepare the ORS mixture. These corners also administer ORS and Zinc to children who are in need of these during diarrhoea. With a sharpened focus on demand generation, an important component of the IDCF is IEC activities that shall not only create awareness but also generate demand. Intensified community awareness campaigns on hygiene and promotion of ORS and Zinc therapy were conducted at the state, district and village levels. There are about 10 crore children below five years of age across the country. During last year, due to the interventions carried out as

part of IDCF, about 6.3 crore children were reached out to. This year in order to expand the cover of this fortnight; the target was to cover all the under-5 children. 21 lakh children could be prevented from hospitalisation and death due to Diarrhoea last year. More than 5 lakh schools participated in the IDCF campaign and more than 3.5 lakh ORS corners were set up in the country.

## **7. National Deworming Day (NDD)**

The National Deworming Day, a flagship initiative of the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, was observed on 10 February 2016. It is the largest ever single-day public health campaign in the world targeting approximately 27 crore children aged 1-19 year throughout the country at risk of parasitic worm infection, through the platform of schools and anganwadi centres. The target population includes 8 crore and 19 crore children in the age group of 1-5 and 6-19 years respectively across 561 districts of the country. Over 900,000 education and health workers administered Albendazole tablet to crores of children in schools and anganwadis across India yesterday. 137 districts in 14 States have been excluded from the deworming initiative this year as they have already covered during Mass Drug Administration in Lymphatic Filariasis program of the Health Ministry.

## **8. Longitudinal Ageing Study in India (LASI)**

LASI is the largest study on older population in the country. The International Institute for Population Sciences (IIPS), Mumbai in collaboration with Harvard School of Public Health (HSPH) and University of Southern California (USC), USA is undertaking the “The Longitudinal Ageing Study in India” under the aegis of the Ministry of Union Health and Family Welfare. LASI is jointly funded by the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, the United States’ National Institute on Ageing, and the United Nations Population Fund-India.

As no sufficiently broad nationally representative dataset on older population is currently available in India, comprehensive new scientific data are needed to conduct analyses of health, economic and social challenges based on population ageing and to formulate mid- and long-term policies and programmes to address these and other challenges presented by population ageing. LASI will contribute greatly to the newly launched the National Programme for Health Care for the Elderly (NPHCE) and the social and economic security programmes planned to be initiated by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (MoSJE). LASI will help in expanding the scope of health and social security policy and programmes for older population.

## **9. Pradhan Mantri National Dialysis Programme**

Under the ‘Pradhan Mantri National Dialysis Programme’, support is being provided to all States for provision of free dialysis services for poor. Guidelines for dialysis services in District Hospitals in PPP mode have been shared with States/UTs on 27 April, 2016. The Guidelines contain model Request for Proposal (RFP). As per the guidelines, the private partner is envisaged to provide medical human resource, dialysis machines along 9 Schemes of Department of Health & Family Welfare with Reverse Osmosis (RO) water plant infrastructure, dialyzer and consumables, while the space, power, and water supply within District Hospitals would be provided by the State Government. All States/UTs were requested to incorporate proposals for roll out of National Dialysis Programme in Programme Implementation Plans (PIPs) for 2016-17. Approval has been accorded to all States for implementing the Pradhan Mantri National Dialysis Programme.

## **10. Centre for Integrative Medicine and Research (CIMR) at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS)**

The Center for Integrative Medicine and Research is a pioneering initiative by AIIMS, New Delhi in the quest for convergence of contemporary medicine with India's ancient and traditional medical practices. It has been envisioned as a "state of the art" research center where top experts from various disciplines of contemporary medicine will collaborate with Yoga and Ayurveda specialists, both for disease treatment, and for preventive healthcare. The Center will seek scientific validation of our ancient medicine systems with a focus on Yoga. It has been designed as a perfect platform for rigorous research to establish the efficacy of our traditional methods of healing, which in turn should pave the way for their greater international scientific acceptability.

## **11. I.T. Initiatives**

**Swasth Bharat Mobile application** - "Swasth Bharat Mobile Application" to empower the citizens to find reliable and relevant health information. The application provides detailed information regarding healthy lifestyle, disease conditions (A-Z), symptoms, treatment options, first aid and public health alerts. The application "Swasth Bharat Mobile Application" is an Android based mobile application, which can be installed on any device with Android OS version 2.3 or above. The application will be launched soon for other popular platforms.

**ANM Online application (ANMOL)**-ANMOL is a tablet-based application that allows ANMs to enter and updated data for beneficiaries of their jurisdiction. This will ensure more prompt entry and updation of data as well as improve the data quality since the data will be entered "at source" by providers of health services themselves. Since the Application is Aadhaar-enabled, it will help in authentication of the records of field workers and beneficiaries.

**E-RaktKosh initiative**- It is an integrated Blood Bank Management Information System that has been conceptualized and developed after multiple consultations with all stakeholders. This web-based mechanism interconnects all the Blood Banks of the State into a single network. The Integrated Blood Bank MIS refers the acquisition, validation, storage and circulation of various live data and information electronically regarding blood donation and transfusion service. Such system is able to assemble heterogeneous data into legible reports to support decision making from effective donor screening to optimal blood dissemination in the field.

**India Fights Dengue-** Launched in 2016, this App empowers the community members how to contribute towards prevention of Dengue.

**Kilkari**, which means ‘a baby’s gurgle’, delivers free, weekly, time-appropriate 72 audio messages about pregnancy, child birth and child care directly to families’ mobile phones from the second trimester of pregnancy until the child is one year old. Kilkari has been launched in Jharkhand, Odisha, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand and High Priority Districts (HPDs) of Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan in the first phase.

**Mobile Academy** is a free audio training course designed to expand and refresh the knowledge base of Accredited Social Health Activists (ASHAs) and improve their communication skills. Mobile Academy offers ASHAs a training opportunity via their mobile phones which is both cost-effective and efficient. It reduces the need to travel – sometimes great distances – and provides them the flexibility they need to learn at their own pace and at times they find convenient. Mobile Academy is being launched in Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Uttarakhand.

**M-Cessation** aims at reaching out to those willing to quit tobacco use and support them towards successful quitting through text messages sent via mobile phones. When offered along with traditional services, M-Cessation has been found to be cost-effective in comparison to traditional options for cessation support. This is first time in the world that such a two way service is being provided as part of any mHealth initiative.

**National Health Portal (NHP)** was launched to provide healthcare related information to the citizens of India and to serve as a single point of access for consolidated health information.

**Online Registration System (ORS):** Online Registration System (ORS) is a framework to link various hospitals across the country for Aadhaar based online registration and appointment system, where counter based OPD registration and appointment system through Hospital Management Information System (HMIS) has been digitalized. The Portal facilitates online appointments with various departments of different hospitals using eKYC data of Aadhaar number, if patient's mobile number is registered with UIDAI.

**National e-Health Authority (NeHA)** will be an integrated health information system. It will help avoid problems arising out of uncoordinated induction of IT systems in hospitals and public health systems. It will also

enforce the laws and regulations relating to the privacy and security of patients' health information and records. There would be a provision of Electronic Health Records (EHR) of patients.

**M-Diabetes initiative** was launched to harnesses the power and potential of the vast mobile telephony network. With a missed call to 011-22901701 the caller can get more information on Diabetes and how to prevent and manage it. One can also log on to [www.mdiabetes.nhp.gov.in](http://www.mdiabetes.nhp.gov.in) for more information.

## 12. DISEASE CONTROL

### (a) Tuberculosis

- **500 Cartridge Based Nucleic Acid Amplification Test (CBNAAT) machines** inducted in the TB programme. The CBNAAT is a revolutionary rapid molecular test which detects Mycobacterium tuberculosis and rifampicin drug resistance, simultaneously. This test is fully automated and provides results within two hours. It is a highly sensitive diagnostic tool and can be used in remote and rural areas without sophisticated infrastructure or specialized training. Until 2015, 121 CBNAAT sites are functional in the country largely providing decentralized testing for detection of DR TB. With the availability of these additional 500 machines, access to rapid quality assured diagnosis of DR TB and TB will be ensured in all the districts of India either directly or through a linkage by specimen transport mechanism. Additionally, the programme will be able to use this highly sensitive state-of-art technology for diagnosis of TB among key populations like children, PLHIV and extra pulmonary TB patients.
- **Bedaquiline** was launched as part of the RNTCP. The drug is a new anti-TB drug for treatment of MDR-TB. This new class of drug is a diarylquinoline that specifically targets Mycobacterial ATP synthase, an enzyme essential for supply of energy to Mycobacterium tuberculosis and most other mycobacteria. This drug is indicated for use in the treatment of drug-resistant TB. Bedaquiline has been introduced at six identified tertiary care centres across India. These sites have advanced facilities for laboratory testing and intensive care for patients. Bedaquiline will be given to multi-drug resistant TB patients with resistance to either all fluoroquinolone and/or all second line injectables and extensive drug resistant TB.

### (b) HIV/AIDS control

**Third line ART programme for People Living with HIV launched** - The life-saving third line ART costs nearly Rs. 1.18 lakh per patient per year. Providing these free would not only save lives

but improve socioeconomic conditions of the patients. This initiative brings India's ART programme at par with programmes in the developed countries.

**(c) Control of Communicable diseases (Malaria, Dengue, Chikungunya, Kala-Azar)**

1. The National Framework for Malaria Elimination (NFME) was launched on 11<sup>th</sup> February 2016. Preventive measures by source reduction, engineering methods, use of Long Lasting Insecticidal Nets (LLIN), Indoor Residual Spray (IRS), repellents, early case detection, complete treatment are part of the strategy.
2. The Ministry provided Technical Guidelines to the States for prevention and control including vector control and also uploaded these guidelines on National Vector Borne Disease Control Programme (NVBDCP) website [www.nvbdc.gov.in](http://www.nvbdc.gov.in).
3. Focused IEC/BCC activities were carried out at National and State level with media mix strategies focusing on source reduction and personal protective measures. A user friendly Dengue App "India Fights Dengue" has been launched on 7th April, 2016.
4. 'National Dengue Day' was observed on 16th May 2016 throughout the country. 'Strategy and Plan of action for Effective Community Participation for Prevention and Control of Dengue' has been shared with the States/UTs uploaded on the NVBDCP website.
5. Accredited Social Health Activists (ASHAs) were involved in source reduction activities (emptying containers to prevent breeding of vector mosquitoes) for Dengue prevention and control. The Ministry also provided funds to the States/UTs for prevention and control of Vector Borne Diseases including Dengue to implement the public health measures.
6. Also Kala-azar is targeted for elimination by 2017 and Lymphatic Filariasis by 2020 and as of now eliminated in 502 out of 625 endemic blocks (80%) in Bihar, Jharkhand, West Bengal and Uttar Pradesh.

**(d) Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs)**

The programme aims at providing early diagnosis and management of common NCDs, build capacity at various levels of health care facilities for prevention, diagnosis and treatment of common NCDs.

- Under national programme for prevention and control of cancer, diabetes, cardiovascular diseases and stroke (NPCDCS), 356 district NCD cells and 356 district NCD clinics have been established.
- 103 cardiac care units, 71 day care centres and 1871 CHC level NCD clinics have been setup.
- The tertiary care cancer centers (TCCC) scheme, 20 state cancer institutes (SCI) and 50 TCCCS envisaged
- So far five (10) TCCC and six (10) SCI have been supported with financial assistance under the scheme.



- AYUSH facilities and methodologies and yoga integrated with NPCDCS services
- Scientific study commissioned to document impact of yoga on diabetes (S-VYASA University and HLL).

### **13. BIG THRUST TO HOSPITALS**

#### **(a) Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana (PMSSY)**

The PMSSY envisages creation of tertiary healthcare capacity in medical education, research and clinical care, in the underserved areas of the country. It aims at correcting regional imbalances in the availability of affordable/reliable tertiary healthcare services and also augmenting facilities for quality medical education in the country.

1. DPR in r/o all the 39 GMCs under Phase –III have been approved. Standard Tender Document for civil work and Standard Contract Agreement for Project Management and Supervision Consultancy services, have been approved. MoU between Executing Agencies i.e HSCC (I) and HITES and MoHFW has been signed. MoU between CPWD and MoHFW has also been signed.
2. Tenders for 38 GMCs have since been floated by concerned Executing agencies.
3. Tender for civil work has been awarded in respect of 33 GMCs
4. Out of 19 State Governments, MoU with 12 State Governments have been signed by MoHFW.
5. Project Funds amounting to Rs 398.6695 crore for civil works have been released to Executing Agencies
6. Foundation stone has been laid by Hon'ble HFM in r/o Assam Medical College, Dibrugarh, Assam, Guwahati Medical College, Guwahati, Assam, Government TD Medical College, Alappuzha, Kerala, Gajra Raja Medical College, Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh, Shyam Shaha Medical College, Rewa, Baba Raghav das Medical College, Gorakhpur and Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Medical College, Jabalpur. Foundation stone for LLRM Medical College, Meerut and MLB Medical College Jhansi and MLN Medical College Allahabad.
7. Work Committee to review the progress of execution of up-gradation work under Phase III has been constituted
8. Cabinet approved establishment of new AIIMS at Gorakhpur in Uttar Pradesh under Phase-IV of PMSSY
9. Cabinet approved establishment of new AIIMS at Bathinda in Punjab under Phase-V of PMSSY
10. Cabinet approved up-gradation of 13 Government Medical Colleges under Phase-IV of PMSSY

### **14. Medical Education**

- ) Grant-in-aid of Rs.400.00 crore has been released to 12 States under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of 'Establishment of New Medical Colleges attached with District/ Referral Hospitals'.
- ) Grant-in-aid of Rs.10.00 crore has been released to 4 States for 4 Government Medical Colleges under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of 'Central Assistance to Government Medical Colleges under the scheme for strengthening and up-gradation of State Government Medical Colleges for increase in PG seats'.
- ) Letter of Permission issued for the establishment of 07 new Medical colleges (total 1050 MBBS seats) for the academic session 2016-17.
- ) Letter of Permission issued to the 2 existing Medical Colleges for increasing of 100 MBBS seats for the academic session 2016-17.
- ) Renewal of permission issued to 07 existing Medical Colleges for the academic session 2016-17 (700 seats)
- ) Letter of Permission issued for the Recognition of 12 Medical Colleges.
- ) Time Schedule for completion of admission of BDS courses for the academic session 2016-17 has been extended up to 7th October, 2016-17, to facilitate filling up of BDS seats in the country.
- ) The orders for allocation of 236 MBBS and 38 BDS Central Pool seats for the year 2016-17 to various beneficiary States/UTs/Government Departments have been issued.
- ) 98 PG medical Courses were recognized under IMC Act, 1956.
- ) 9 MDS courses and 6 BDS degrees were recognised under the Dentist's Act, 1948.
- ) Letter of Permission issued for establishment of 17 new Medical Colleges for the academic session 2016-17. Of these 12 are in the Government and 5 in the private sector. The intake capacity will increase by 2150 MBBS seats.
- ) Letter of Permission issued to 08 Medical Colleges for increase of 595 MBBS seats for the academic session 2016-17.
- ) Letter of Permission issued for increase of 40 Super-Speciality seats for the academic session 2016-17.
- ) In pursuance of Rule 6(i) of Rules and Regulations of the National Board of Examinations, Governing Body of National Board of Examinations has been constituted.
- ) Grant-in-aid of Rs.445.00 crore has been released to 17 States/UT under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of 'Establishment of New Medical Colleges attached with District/ Referral Hospitals'.
- ) Grant-in-aid of Rs.110.00 crore has been released to 8 States for 22 Government Medical Colleges under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of "Upgradation of existing State Government/Central Government Medical College to increase MBBS seats in the country".

### **(q) National Eligibility –Cum Entrance Test (NEET)**

Hon'ble Supreme Court vide its orders dated 28th April, 2016 and 9th May, 2016 in Writ Petition No.261/2016 filed by Sankalp Charitable Trust and others, had directed that NEET [UG] shall come into effect immediately. Purpose of the Ordinances is to provide a firm constitutional status to the concept of Uniform Entrance Examination for all undergraduate and post graduate admissions in Medical/Dental Colleges while providing a relaxation to the State Governments in relation to only UG admissions for this year [2016-17] in view of their difficulties.

The National Eligibility cum Entrance test, NEET-UG for admissions to all medical and dental colleges in the country will be conducted in 6 regional languages besides Hindi and English next year. A direction to this effect was sent to CBSE on 8th December and preparations have already begun for holding the exam.

NEET-UG was organized efficiently by CBSE in 2016. Extensive preparations are being made by CBSE to conduct the examination in 2017 on the basis of parameters which have already been conveyed to them. Consultations with States/UTs would be undertaken again in future before NEET-UG is conducted in future years, i.e., 2018 onwards.

### **15. National Health Protection Scheme (NHPS)**

The Government of India has proposed to launch a new improved health care Scheme viz. National Health Protection Scheme which is under finalization that envisages health cover of up to Rs. 1.0 lakh per family for poor and economically weak families. For senior citizens of aged 60 years and above in this category there is an additional top-up package up to Rs. 30,000. The senior citizen component has been implemented w.e.f. 01.04.2016.

### **16. Organ Transplant**

Government of India has launched National Organ Transplant Programme for carrying out the activities as per Transplantation of Human Organs and Tissues Act, 1994 training of manpower and promotion of organ donation from deceased persons. Under the said programme, an apex level organization, National Organ and Tissue Transplant Organization (NOTTO) has been set-up at Safdarjung Hospital, New Delhi for National networking, National Registry, to provide an online system for procurement and distribution of Organs & Tissues and to promote Deceased Organ and Tissue Donation

- Government has taken various steps to simplify organ donation law/rules and procedures such as Website of National Organ & Tissue Transplant Organisation ([www.notto.nic.in](http://www.notto.nic.in)) provides updated information and online facility for registering pledges for organ donation.
- A 24x7 call centre with toll free helpline number (1800114770) has been established for providing information on organ donation and coordinating matters relating to retrieval and allocation of organs recovered from cadaver donors.
- National Organ and Tissue Donation and Transplant Registry (NOTTR) have been launched. NOTTO has launched National Registry for maintaining National Waiting list of patients who require organs/ tissue.
- The networking of transplant and/or retrieval hospitals has been started initially in Delhi and NCR. Five regional level organizations called Regional Organ and Tissue Transplant Organization (ROTTO) have been identified in the States of Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Assam, West Bengal and UT of Chandigarh for

networking and coordinating procurement and distribution of organs. Operational Guidelines for National Organ transplant Programme has been released.

- Policy and criteria for organ allocation in case of Kidney, Liver, Heart & Lung and Cornea have been approved. Standard Operating Procedures for various vital organs has been approved and uploaded on NOTTO website.
- More than 1 lakh pledges for organ donation received.

#### **. Seventh Session of the Conference of the Parties to the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC):**

India successfully organized the seventh session of the Conference of the Parties to the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control, in November 2016. During the conference, parties renewed their commitment to the Convention, both as a public health treaty and as a Goal under Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development, particularly Goal 3, to ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages. To promote better implementation of the Convention, they stressed the importance of continued research and study by WHO and other stakeholders into the social and economic determinants of tobacco use in all its forms and other products promoting tobacco use as well as the strategies for their control.

Shri C K Mishra, Health Secretary has been chosen as the President of the COP Bureau for the next two years.

#### **. 6<sup>th</sup> BRICS Health Ministers' Meet**

The BRICS countries, represented by the Ministers of Health of the Federative Republic of Brazil, the Russian Federation, Republic of India, People's Republic of China and Republic of South Africa, met in New Delhi on 16 December 2016 at the Sixth BRICS Health Ministers Meeting. The Ministers acknowledged the renewed commitment to health by the BRICS leaders as expressed in the Goa Declaration of October 2016, noted the progress made since the first BRICS Summit and resolved to continue cooperation in the sphere of health through the Technical Working Groups and the "BRICS Framework for Collaboration on Strategic Projects in Health".

The Ministers welcomed the recommendations made in the BRICS workshop on drugs and medical devices in Goa, India in November 2016, including the need for concluding a Memorandum of Understanding on regulatory collaboration with a view to improving the regulatory standards, certification and systems for medical products. They agreed to constitute a working group, to work on strengthening regulatory systems, sharing of information, appropriate regulatory approaches in case of international and national health emergencies and provide recommendations for the promotion of research and development of innovative medical products (drugs, vaccines and medical technologies). The Ministers adopted the BRICS TB Cooperation Plan and supported the recommendations made by the BRICS workshop on HIV and Tuberculosis, held in

Ahmedabad, India in November 2016, including the need for the suggested political, technical and financial actions to address the public health challenges of TB and HIV among BRICS countries. They agreed to set up a BRICS network on TB Research and creation of a research and development consortium on TB, HIV and Malaria. The Ministers agreed to support the Global Ministerial Conference on the fight against TB to be held in Moscow in 2017 and the UN High-Level Meeting on TB at United Nations Headquarters in 2018.

**Biomedical Equipment Management and Maintenance Program (BMMP):**

A massive exercise to map the inventory of all bio-medical equipment was undertaken in the year 2016 including their functionality status. The mapping was successfully completed in 29 States resulting in 7,56,750 numbers of equipment in 29,115 health facilities costing approximately Rs 4564 cr being identified. Equipment in range of 13% to 34% was found to be dysfunctional across states. Cost of dysfunctional equipment is Rs. 1015.74 Cr. The Ministry also prepared comprehensive guidelines along with RFP on Biomedical Equipment Management and Maintenance Program (BMMP), linked with uptime of equipment. Under BMMP, support is being provided to the State governments to outsource medical equipment maintenance comprehensively for all the equipment across all the facilities. Subsequent to inventory mapping, RFPs/tenders were rolled out to award maintenance contract for the respective states.

As a result, eleven States namely Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Rajasthan, Mizoram, Chandigarh, Maharashtra, Sikkim, Madhya Pradesh, Punjab, Jharkhand and Puducherry have outsourced the maintenance. Three states (Tripura, Nagaland, and Arunachal Pradesh) have completed the tendering process and are in the program implementation stage. Five states namely Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Chhattisgarh, Karnataka, Gujarat have released the RFP and are in the process of finalizing the tenders. Other states are yet to issue the RFP. For 12 States where work orders have been issued, the dysfunctional equipment costing Rs 378.11 cr became functional in 4 months of work order. There has been a reduction in dysfunctionality rate of about 25% with downtime of 3-4 months to about 5% with maximum downtime of 7 days.

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**Press Information Bureau  
Government of India  
Ministry of Information & Broadcasting**

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23-December-2016 17:40 IST

**Year End Review- Ministry of I&B**

**Annual Renewal Process for existing TV Channels was simplified to promote Ease of Doing Business**

**New Print Media policy announced to increase Transparency & Accountability in release of Government Ads through DAVP**

**I&B Ministry promotes healthy development of cinema as a medium of communication through various film festivals**

**Ministry to formulate National Information & Communication Policy in consultation with States**

**Akashwani Maitree channel launched for promoting & preserving composite Bengali culture**

Minister for Information & Broadcasting, Shri Venkaiah Naidu announced various initiatives concerning different sectors at the concluding session of the 28<sup>th</sup> SIMCON which was organized by Ministry of I&B after a gap of 7 years. Shri Naidu announced a cash component of **Rs. 1 Crore** in the **Most Film Friendly State Award** to promote **India as a Filming destination**. In a major push to **Community radio Movement** in the Country, I&B Minister announced **increased subsidy** for setting up of Community Radio Stations from 50 % to 90% in the North Eastern States and 75% in other States, subject to a maximum limit of Rs. 7.5 lakhs. He also mentioned that the Ministry would be formulating a **National Information & Communication Policy in consultation with States**.

Ministry of I&B organized a 2 day **State Information Ministers Conference (SIMCON)** in December, 2016 to promote the vision of One Nation & Cooperative Federalism. The spirit & philosophy of **Cooperative Federalism** entails every state as an equal partner and stakeholder in the Nation's development process. The interactive forum involving States was revived after a gap of 7 years, keeping in mind the importance of Communication in Governance. The theme of the conference was **Reform, Perform and Transform: A New Dimension of Communication**.

The initiatives of Ministry in different sectors are mentioned below:

**Broadcast Sector**

- **Simplification of Annual Renewal process for existing TV channels as part of "Ease of Doing Business"**
  - Broadcasters who have been given the permission for Uplinking or Downlinking can continue their operations by simply paying the annual permission fee upto 60 days before the due date, which by itself will be treated as permission for continuation of the channel for a further period of one year.
- A total of **170 channels** have been given licences from Jun 2014 till Dec 2016. Of these, 25 licences are given to News channels and 145 licences have been to non-news channels.
- **Increased reach of FM Radio all over India**- FM Phase 3 auctions first and second batch completed
  - The auctions for the second batch were held recently for 266 channels in 92 cities.
- **Digitization of Cable TV to bring the entire country under Digital Addressable System**
  - The deadline for implementation of Phase III of digitization was 31st December, 2015 while for Phase IV it is by 31st December, 2016. Recently Ministry has extended the cutoff date for Phase IV to 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2017.

- **Akashvani Maitree:** An exclusive service for Bangladesh and Bengali diaspora launched by All India Radio. Baluchi Multimedia website and Mobile App for greater people to people contact also launched
- **Boost to Community Radio movement in the Country:** In a major push to **Community Radio** movement in the country, Ministry has increased the subsidy for setting up of Community Radio Stations from 50 % to 90% in the North Eastern States and 75% in other States, subject to a maximum limit of Rs. 7.5 lakhs.
- **Swachhta Samachar:** Special 5 minutes Bulletin on Swachhta has been started on all weekdays. The Bulletin includes important news stories, people's initiative and feature stories related to Swachh Bharat Abhiyan along with a Swachhta Tip.

## Film Sector

- **Film Promotion Fund**
  - To provide financial assistance for promotional activities to the films which would be selected in any competition section of an International Film Festival or being India's official nomination to the Academy Awards under Foreign Film Category
- **Film Facilitation Office (FFO)**
  - Single window clearance to facilitate film shootings by foreign film makers in India.
  - FFO units set up under NFDC premises in November 2015 at Mumbai, Delhi, Chennai and Kolkata. 66 foreign films given permissions in 2015-16
- **Swachh Bharat Short Film Festival** organized by the NFDC on behalf of the Ministry, has received over 4000 entries from across the country in various Indian languages on the theme of the Swachh Bharat Mission. The key objective of the Festival was to generate awareness, inspire people and include them as stakeholders in the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan. Top 20 films selected were felicitated.
- The Ministry has utilized the **platform of Film Festivals** to promote India's endeavour of being a Filming Destination and Soft Power. Various Country specific Film Festivals have been organised to promote the possibility of collaboration in the Films Sector. Film Festivals like the
  - **Iranian Film Festival** - 14 films of the acclaimed and award winning film makers from Iran were screened.
  - **European Union Film Festival** – A total of 23 movies from the European Union countries were showcased.
  - **The first ever BRICS Film Festival** was held in Delhi – Twenty movies, four each from the five participating countries were selected for the screening competition.
- On the domestic policy front the Ministry organised **Swachh Bharat Short Film Festival, Children's Film Festival and the Patriotic Film Festival with theme Azaadi 70 Saal, Yaad Karo Qurbani**
- **Strengthening of the institutions** to promote healthy development of cinema as a medium of communication through film festivals (Patriotic & Children Film Festivals) across the nation.
- **Shyam Benegal Committee constituted for holistic interpretation of the provisions of the Cinematograph Act/ Rules** has submitted its recommendations to the Ministry which are expected to provide a holistic framework.
- Ministry has also introduced a cash component of **Rs. 1 Crore** in the **Most Film Friendly State Award** to promote **India as a Filming destination.**
- **National Film Heritage Mission (NFHM):** It is a new Plan Scheme to restore, digitize and archive films and filmic material through National Film Archive of India. **National Film Archives of India** in one of its rare discovery, NFAI acquired 20.43 minutes of the Indian Silent Film Bilwamangal (1919), thanks to the wonderful cooperation of the Cinematheque Francaise. It is after 21 years that a silent film has entered NFAI vaults.

## Information Sector

- **New Print Media Advertisement Policy** for DAVP

- Objective is to promote transparency and accountability in issuing of Government advertisements in print media and weeding out ghost/irregular newspapers.
- Policy introduces a **New Marking System and Circulation Verification Procedure** for empanelment of Newspapers/Journals with DAVP
- **Three member committee to address the issues related to Content Regulation in Government Advertising constituted as per the directions of Hon'ble Supreme Court.** The committee is chaired by Shri B.B. Tandon, Former Chief Election Commissioner of India.
- **New Business Policy for Publication Division:** The objective to streamline business practices in line with the contemporary trends prevailing in publications industry. The policy promotes online readership by pricing the digital version of the publication at 75% the price of printed version. It acknowledges the growing prospects of e-commerce and promotes sale of e- books of the division through online platforms.
- **360 degree Multimedia Campaigns** to give wide publicity to the schemes launched by the Government. The activities range from holding of Press conferences, telecast/broadcast of special programmes on DD and AIR with experts, Multimedia Exhibitions, social media campaigns using Infographics, animations, graphic plates, short videos, live streaming of events /conferences. Some of these initiatives include:
  - **International Yoga Day, Swachh Bharat , Make in India, Skill India, Digital India, Rashtriya Ekta Diwas**
- **Peoples` participation in Government Advertising through Crowd- Sourcing:** The advertisement for important events being designed on the crowd sourcing model. An online contest was also organized by Social Media Cell of the Ministry as a part of 67<sup>th</sup> Republic Day celebrations.
- Publications Division has released the **E-version of the India/ Bharat-2016. Online payment and subscription services** for popular journals and Employment News of Publications Division through **Bharat Kosh Portal** of Ministry of Finance.
- **Release of books on Rashtrapati Bhavan published by the Publications Division.** Some of the books are “Around India’s First Table: Dining and Entertaining at Rashtrapati Bhavan”, “The Arts and Interiors of Rashtrapati Bhavan: Lutyens and Beyond”, “Discover the Magnificent World of Rashtrapati Bhavan”, “A Work of Beauty: The Architecture and Landscape of Rashtrapati Bhavan”, “First Garden of the Republic: Nature in the President’s Estate” among others.
- A book on **Courts of India- Past to Present** published by the Publications Division under the guidance of the Hon’ble Supreme Court was also released.
- **Indian Institute of Mass Communication**
  - The Diploma course in Urdu Journalism upgraded to the level of PG Diploma in Urdu Journalism of nine months duration from the current academic session i.e. 2016-17.
- **Vartalap / Regional Editors Conference**
  - As a new initiative, PIB Regional Units are organizing “**Vartalap**” in various regions across the country with regional media to interact & create awareness about the new developmental initiatives/schemes of the government. Regional Editors Conferences were organized in Jaipur, Chennai & Chandigarh.

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CP/GV



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Government of India  
Ministry of Labour & Employment**

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**Yearend review-2016**

**Achievements and initiatives of the Ministry Of Labour & Employment**

The Government of India is following the approach of 'Reform to Transform' through far-reaching structural reforms. Employment Generation is the first priority for the Government. After going through a decade of jobless growth, the Centre is working on a comprehensive strategy to bring employment to the core of development strategy, promoting industrial activity through Make in India, enhancing employability through Skill India and encouraging innovation and entrepreneurship through Start up India.

The Ministry of Labour and Employment is committed towards job security, wage security and social security for each and every worker. Along with bringing transparency and accountability in enforcement of Labour Laws, the Ministry has taken important initiatives to realize and establish the dignity of every worker through provision of social security, enhancing the avenues and quality of employment.

**A. Legislative Reforms:**

1. **The Payment of Bonus (Amendment) Bill, 2015** passed by the Parliament in the Winter Session has been published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary on 1<sup>st</sup> January, 2016 as Act No. 6 of 2016 to come into force on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of April, 2016.

The Payment of Bonus (Amendment) Act, 2015 envisages enhancement of eligibility limit under section 2(13) from Rs.10,000/- per month to Rs.21,000/- per month and Calculation Ceiling under section 12 from Rs. 3500 to Rs.7000 or the minimum wage for the scheduled employment, as fixed by the appropriate Government, whichever is higher. The Payment of Bonus (Amendment) Act, 2015 also mandates previous publication of draft subordinate legislations, framed under the enabling provisions under the said Act, in the Official Gazette for inviting objections and suggestions before their final notification.

2. **The Maternity Benefit (Amendment) Bill, 2016** passed by Rajya Sabha on 11th August, 2016 which inter-alia includes increasing maternity benefit to woman covered under the Maternity Benefit Act, 1961 from 12 weeks to 26 weeks up to two surviving children allowing the mother to take care of the child during his/her most formative stage, providing maternity benefit of 12 weeks to Commissioning mother (in case of surrogate child) and Adopting mother (in case of adoption), facilitating "work from home" to a mother with mutual consent of the employee and the employer, making mandatory in respect of establishment having fifty or more employees, to have the facility of crèche either individually or as a shared common facility within such distance as may be prescribed by rules & also to allow four visits to the crèche by the woman daily, including the interval for rest allowed to her and every establishment to intimate in writing and electronically to every woman at the time of her initial appointment about the benefits available under the Act.

3. **The Employees' Compensation (Amendment) Bill, 2016** was passed in Lok Sabha on 9<sup>th</sup> August, 2016 to modify the provisions of Employees' Compensation Act, 1923 to rationalize the penalties and strengthen the rights of the worker under the Act.

4. **The Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Amendment Bill, 2016**, passed by the Parliament on 26th July, 2016. This Amendment Bill clearly stipulates total and complete prohibition on employment of children below 14 years and proposes more stringent punishments for violations. Amendment bill seeks to ensure the Right of Children to schooling and learning

However, children are allowed to help in their family enterprises only in non-hazardous occupations and that too **only after school hours or during vacations**. Amendment also prohibits Adolescents in the age group of 14-18 years of their employment in hazardous occupations and permits their engagement in only certain occupations to be specified in due course.

5. Cabinet in its meeting held on 29th June,2016 **considered the Model Shops and Establishment (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Bill,2016**. The Model Bill is a suggestive piece of legislation and has been finalized keeping in view the spirit of cooperative federalism. This gives liberty to States for fine tuning the Model bill to suit their requirement. This Model Bill applies to shops and establishments employing ten or more workers except manufacturing units. This Model bill gives freedom to operate 365 days in a year and opening/closing time of establishment, women to be permitted during night shift, if the provision of shelter, rest room, ladies toilets, adequate protection of their dignity and transportation etc., exists.

### **Labour Codes:**

6. The 2<sup>nd</sup> National Commission on Labour had recommended codification of Labour Laws in to 4-5 Groups on functional basis. At present, Ministry of Labour & Employment is working to rationalize the provisions of the 43 Labour Laws in 4 Labour Codes viz.

- Labour Code on Wages -.
- Labour Code on Industrial Relations -
- Labour Code on Social Security & Welfare -.
- Labour Code on Safety & Working Conditions –

### **B. Administrative Initiatives / Decisions:**

1. The government has announced more than 42% increase in the minimum wages for all sectors in the central sphere. For the first time minimum wages for all sectors; agricultural, non-Agricultural, Construction etc. have been increased simultaneously. Minimum wage (per day) for non-agricultural worker in the 'C' area category increased from Rs. 246/- to Rs 350/-,Rs 437/- in 'B' area category and Rs. 523/- in 'A' area category.
  2. ESI coverage on Wage ceiling has been increased from Rs.15000/- to Rs.21,000/-.
  3. Minimum pension under EPS has been revised to Rs.1000/- in perpetuity per month in April 2015.
  4. Bonus ceiling has been enhanced from Rs.3500/- to Rs.7000/- and the eligibility limit has been raised from Rs.10000/- to Rs.21000/-
  5. EDLI Benefit increased from 3.6 Lakh (max) to 6.0 Lakh(max)
  6. Time limit reduced to 20 days from 30 days for EPF claim settlements.
  7. Optional Deferment of age for drawing Pension from 58 year to 60 year with 4% per year incentive.
7. Revised scheme for the rehabilitation of Bonded Labour with the quantum of financial assistance increased from the symbolic level of Rs 20 thousand to an amount of Rs 3 lakhs. While the most deprived and marginalized like the disabled female and children rescued from trafficking, sexual exploitation and transgender will get Rs 3 lakhs, the next in order is the special category comprising of females and the minors who will now get Rs 2 lakhs. A normal adult male bonded labour will get Rs. 1 lakh.
8. Extending coverage of ESI Scheme for extending its social security net to the whole country.
- I. The Government has issued coverage Notifications covering 165 districts in whole where the ESI Scheme was earlier implemented in part.
    1. Decision taken to enhance the maternity benefits under ESIC from existing 12 weeks to 26 weeks. Adopting and commissioning mothers also to get maternity benefits. Intention notification sent for legal vetting.

2. It is decided to reduce the employees' and employers contribution under ESI Act from existing 1.75 and 4.75% to 1% and 3%, respectively for two years in new implemented areas of districts where ESI scheme is partly implemented. Intention notification published on 25.7.2016

II. ESI Coverage has been extended to Construction workers in the implemented area. Construction site Workers have been covered to avail benefits under the ESI Scheme w.e.f. 1<sup>st</sup> August, 2015.

III. Extending the social security benefits of ESI Scheme in the remaining North-East States Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram, Manipur and Andaman & Nicobar Island. It has been implemented in Mizoram w.e.f. 1.12.2015 and in Port Blair w.e.f. 01.01.2016.

### **C. Governance Reforms through Technology**

#### **1. Ease of compliance & better enforcement of Labour Laws**

##### **Shram Suvidha Portal in the Central Sphere**

A unified Web Portal 'Shram Suvidha Portal' launched on 16.10.2014 to bring transparency and accountability in enforcement of labour laws and ease complexity of compliance. Main features of this portal included

- Unique Labour Identification Number (LIN) is allotted to Units. 13.19 Lakh LIN allotted as on 09.09.2016.
- Filing of self-certified and simplified Single Online Common Annual Return by the establishments. Units will only file a single consolidated Return online instead of filing separate Returns under 9 Labour Acts.
- Transparent Labour Inspection Scheme through computerized system. Total 2,37,579 inspections have been assigned and out of that 2,20,945 inspections have been uploaded as on 09.09.2016.
- Establishment can now submit monthly contribution return for ESIC and EPFO using this portal
- Multilingual Shram Suvidha Portal-with options in 11 languages.

##### **Recent initiatives on Shram Suvidha Portal.**

- Common Electronic Challan Cum Return (ECR) facility for EPFO and ESIC.
- Common Registration under 5 Central Labour Acts, by integration with DIPP's E-Biz Portal.
- Facility of return submission under Mines Act for DGMS, on Shram Suvidha Portal.

#### **2. Better Delivery of Service:**

##### **Employees Provident Fund Organisation**

##### **1. Universal Account Number (UAN) :**

- Universal Account Number(UAN) programme launched on 16<sup>th</sup> October 2014 is designed to act as an umbrella for the multiple Member IDs allotted to same individual.
- As on 31.08.2016, EPFO has allotted around 8.11 crore UAN to its members and around 2.82 crore of these members have activated using their Mobile number and enjoying various related services.

##### **2. Online Registration of Establishments (OLRE):**

- As part of the commitment of Government to ease of doing business, on 30<sup>th</sup> June 2014, EPFO launched the facility for the establishments to apply online for allotment of PF Code Number.
- Employers now apply online PF code number and upload the digitally signed documents at the time of application itself (from December 2015) and obtain on the spot code number immediately.

- As on 31.08.2016, around 1.36 Lakhs establishments have already obtained online registration on OLRE portal till date.

### 3. **Online Facilities to Members:**

- In September 2015, EPFO moved from e-governance to m-governance and launched a mobile application. So far over 11.08 lakhs members have downloaded the Mobile App.
- Through Missed Call service at 01122901406, at no cost to the member, member is provided with all the envisaged details.
- As on 09.09.2016, around 3.12 crores missed calls have been received since 16<sup>th</sup> September 2015.
- The members who have activated their UAN receives regular SMS regarding their deposit of monthly PF contribution in their account. A SMS message is also being sent to employers that they have not deposited the monthly contribution or non-deposit of returns.

### 4. **Exempted Establishments Brought on E-Portal**

- The exempted establishments are a big part of the EPFO compliance system and managing huge funds to the tune of approximately 3 lacs crores.
- EPFO launched the facility of online submission of monthly return of contributions, investments and other activities.

### 5. **Inoperative Accounts Helpdesk:**

- An online help desk created to assist the members in tracing their inoperative accounts and withdrawing or merging them with the present account (UAN) has helped in 65 thousand cases so far.

### 6. **Updation of Accounts:**

- A new mechanism to credit the interest in members' accounts has been developed for auto-updation of members accounts at the end of the financial year, updating with interest, more than 15 crore accounts.

### 7. **Facilities to International Workers :**

- To ensure social security not only to persons working within India but also to those coming to India and going abroad, a facility was launched for the international workers for online fillable form seeking certificate of coverage (COC).

### 8. **Global Network Operations Centre (g-NOC) :**

- EPFO has started its Network Operation Centre at National Data Centre monitoring the IT functioning of the EPFO. It shall be nodal point for handling troubleshooting as well as detecting and preventing all external threats.

### 9. **Compliance Analysis & Monitoring System of EPFO :**

- This software was launched on 16.02.2016
- Principal employers, registered with EPFO & Government Department which are not registered with EPFO will upload details of contract awarded with due details – which will be available to EPFO for checking.

## 10. SOCIAL MEDIA

- Members can find EPFO on the social networking platform at [www.facebook.com/socialepfo](http://www.facebook.com/socialepfo) and [www.twitter.com/socialepfo](http://www.twitter.com/socialepfo).

### **Employees State Insurance Corporation:**

**ESI Scheme** - The Employees' State Insurance Corporation- ESIC (Ministry of Labour & Employment) is a social security organisation that provides comprehensive medical care and cash benefits in the contingencies of Sickness, Maternity, Disablement, death due to employment injury and Unemployment to beneficiaries i.e the organized

sector working class in the lower wage bracket of the society. The total number of Insured Persons covered (as on 31.03.2015) are 2.03 **crore** and number of beneficiaries (as on 31.03.2015) **7.89 crore** .

7. ESIC Medical College, Coimbatore has been handed over to the State Government of Tamil Nadu on 02.02.2016.

ii. ESIC has now resolved to adopt two Model Hospitals, in each State.

iii Providing appropriate cancer detection/treatment facilities, cardiology treatment facilities, dialysis facilities on PPI Model at different levels of hospitals.

iv. For facilitating the practice of **telemedicine**, the RFP for pilot run has already been floated and the project is expected to go live in the next three months.

v. Special focus has been paid for upgradation of Dispensaries, 24 Dispensaries in ESIC buildings have been identified for upgradation to 30 bedded set up to provide 24x7 services.

**vi. Pathological & X-ray facilities will be provided on PPP model** in all the dispensaries in phases. Pathological services in all dispensaries of Delhi has been started from 30th November, 2015. Laboratory and ECG Services has been started in ES Dispensary of Delhi/Noida area.

**vii. Mother and Child Care Hospital in every State:** ESIC has constituted a committee to prepare the norms for setting up Mother and Child Care Hospital in every State.

**D. AYUSH:** Besides Allopathic treatment, ESIC hospitals also provide treatment under AYUSH (Ayurveda, Yoga, Unani Siddha and Homeopathy).

## **E. Transforming Public Employment Services**

### **Activities and achievements of DGE for the year 2016**

a. National Career Service (NCS) –Public Employment Service Platform

The Ministry is implementing the National Career Service (NCS) Project as a vibrant platform for transforming and strengthening the public employment services in the country. The NCS Portal ([www.ncs.gov.in](http://www.ncs.gov.in)) brings together job seekers employers and other stakeholders on a common platform using information technology to provide a variety of employment related services like job matching, career counselling and information on skill development courses, apprenticeships, etc. It has rich repository of career content on over 3600 occupations across 52 sectors. Over 3.71 crore candidates, 14.8 lakh establishments are registered on the NCS Portal and it has mobilised over 3.25 lakh vacancies. To enhance the reach and enrich the employment opportunities available to youth, strategic MOUs have been signed with leading job portals, placement organisations and institutions of repute. Government of India has recently made it mandatory for government vacancies to be posted on the NCS Portal. The NCS project also involves setting up of 100 Model Career Centres to deliver quality employment services and these centres are being set up in collaboration with States and Institutions. All the employment exchanges are being linked up with the NCS Portal and job fairs are being organised on a regular basis.

b. Enhancing Employability of the workforce

DGE runs 24 National Career Service Centres for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (NCSC SC/STs) for providing vocational guidance and counselling services and also training in computer courses. In the last 2 years, around 3.8 lakh SC/ST candidates were provided vocational guidance and counselling, 33 thousand candidates pursued secretarial practice (shorthand/typing) for enhancing employability, 4,300 candidates pursued the special coaching scheme course and 7,800 candidates pursued the computer courses. The 24 (NCSC SC/STs) have been integrated with the NCS Project.

In addition, 21 National Career Service Centres for Differently Abled (NCSCDA) provide training and guidance. In the last 2 years, around 69 thousand persons with disabilities were helped and around 24 thousand were rehabilitate with various organisations.

c. Pradhan Mantri Rojgar Protsahan Yojana (PMRPY)scheme

The Ministry is implementing the Pradhan Mantri Rojgar Protsahan Yojana (PMRPY) scheme to incentivize employer registered with the Employees Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) for new employment. Under the Scheme, Government will be paying the 8.33% EPS contribution for these new employment for a period of 3 years. For the textile (garmenting) sector Government will also pay the 3.67% EPF contribution of employers for these new employees.

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**F. Opening Bank Accounts for Cashless transaction of wages.**

The huge efforts of Labour and Employment Ministry have succeeded in bringing over thirty lakhs forty thousand workers into banking fold within one month of launching a campaign on 26th November for ensuring cashless transaction of wages. It may be noted that already 25.68 crore Jandhan Accounts are existing and all the left over workers are being covered. Till last evening (26 December, 2016) , 38,40, 863 (thirty eight lakh forty thousand eight hundred and sixty three) bank accounts were opened by organizing 1,08,179 (one lakh eight thousand one hundred and seventy nine) camps for this purpose.

**F. Workers' Education**

The workers education scheme is itself a welfare scheme being run by the Ministry through the Dattapan Thengadi National Board for Workers Education & Development (renaming of CBWE). The CBWE has implemented D.B.T. w.e.f. 1/1/2015 as per the directives of the Ministry. This is one of the remarkable achievement of the Board w.e.f. 1.1.2015 onwards.

The Board has achieved the target during year 2016 ,upto November 2016 of the year 2016-17

Workers Education Scheme Sector wise	No.of Preprogrammes conducted	Workers Trained upto November, 2016
Organised	1453	33858
Unorganised	3648	140760
Rural including MGNREGA	921	36963

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**Press Information Bureau  
Government of India  
Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises**

22-December-2016 11:19 IST

**Ministry of MSME Year End Review**

<b>Year End Review 2016</b>
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**Cabinet approves creation of 'Indian Enterprise Development Service (IEDS)' in the Office of Development Commissioner (MSME) under the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises**

The Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has given its approval to the Cadre review and formation of a new service in the name of 'Indian Enterprise Development Service (IEDS)' in the Office of Development Commissioner (MSME), Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME). The creation of the new cadre and change in structure will not only strengthen the organization but will also help to achieve the vision of "Startup India", "Stand-up India" and "Make in India". The measure will enhance the capacity and efficiency of the organization and also help in achieving growth in MSME sector through a focussed and dedicated cadre of technical officers.

**Foundation Stone Laying Ceremony of MSME Technology Centre at Greater Noida, Uttar Pradesh under Technology Centre Systems Programme (TCSP) & National Vendor Development Programme**

This Technology Centre is one of the 15 new Technology Centres that are being established in the country by Ministry of MSME. This Centre will provide support to Electronics Systems Design & Manufacturing (ESDM) and automotive electronics sector particularly Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises towards their technological and skilled manpower requirements. The Programme would be implemented at an estimated cost of Rs. 2,200 crore including World Bank loan assistance of US \$ 200 million. For the Technology Centre, Greater Noida, Government of India would be investing more than Rs.145 crore for creating facilities towards plant & machinery, development of civil and associate infrastructure.

**MSME EXPO 2016 At Pragati Maidan New Delhi**

MSME Expo 2016 was organized by Ministry of MSME in the 36th IITF 2016. Over 80 enterprises have showcased their range of products during the trade fair. The theme of the fair is "Quality Manufacturing and Inclusive Growth of MSMEs" which includes Zero Defect, Zero Effect (ZED) Certification Scheme, SC/ST Hub & National Award.

The participants have a diverse profile such as women entrepreneurs, SC/ST and Entrepreneurs from North Eastern States & Minorities. There are 50 Women, 14 SC/ST and 09 from North Eastern Region, 03 Minorities and others. The event also provides opportunities for creating sustainable business alliances. Wide range of products which includes Engineering, Food, Chemical, Cosmetics, Herbal products, Handicraft, Textile/Hosiery, Electrical/Electronic Appliances, Auto Components, Readymade Garments, Gems & Jewellery, and other products are being displayed in the MSME Expo, 2016.

**National SC/ST Hub launched on 8th October 2016 in Ludhiana**

Ministry of MSME has made an initial allotment of allocation of Rs. 490 crore for the period 2016-2020 for the National SC/ST Hub. The Hub would primarily aid in strengthening market access/linkage, monitoring, capacity building, leveraging financial support schemes and sharing industry best practices etc. The hub would operate from National Small Industries Corporation (NSIC) Headquarters in Delhi, supported by a special cell created for this purpose.

**Backgrounder:**

The public procurement order mandates 4% annual procurement by Central Ministries/ Departments and Public Sector Undertakings from SC/ST enterprises w.e.f 01.04.2015. It has been reported that at present the Government of India procurement from SC/ST enterprises is less than 1% due to low participation of the community. This needs to be scaled up to meet the procurement target for SC/ST.

In the past, there has been some increase in the number of SC/ST owned enterprises but this number needs to increase substantially to enable the socio-economic empowerment of SC/ST communities. In this direction, the National SC/ST Hub in an initiative of the Government of India targeted towards developing a supportive ecosystem towards SC/ST entrepreneurs.

After the announcement of creating National SC/ST Hub was made, MSME Ministry consulted the stakeholders including DICCI, Industry Association, Banks and relevant Ministries to suggest concrete steps to the proposed SC/ST Hub. Based on inputs received from the stakeholders a draft scheme for the proposed Hub was prepared and shared with CEO Niti Aayog as directed by PMO. Subsequently CEO Niti Aayog has called a meeting with all stakeholders. Based on the decisions taken in the meeting a draft SFC note was prepared and circulated to all concerned Ministries for comment. The SFC Committee approved the proposal on 14.7.2016. The final guidelines of the scheme were circulated on 25<sup>th</sup> July, 2016.

### **MSME Databank and Finance Facilitation Launched at 14<sup>th</sup> Meeting of National Board Online Census of MSMEs and Finance Facilitation Centres Launched**

Ministry of MSME launched two new initiatives viz., MSME Databank Portal and Online Finance Facilitation Web Portal on the sidelines of 14<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the National Board of MSME.

Ministry of MSME has made online Census of the MSMEs in the country for the first time by launching a comprehensive databank on <http://www.msmedatabank.in> This will not only save the efforts and money required for physical Census but will also enable the MSME units and the various Associations to furnish data on click of the button and sitting in their units. The MIS dashboard of the databank will provide real time information on various types of the MSMEs registered on the databank. The databank will eventually will be used for public procurement purposes and the PSUs will make use of the data for procuring from MSMEs. MSME Development (Furnishing of Information) Rules, 2016 have also been notified making it compulsory for MSMEs to give the required information.

The objective of the databank is to have one-stop source of information of MSMEs of India, including their credit and technology, requirement in terms of raw material and marketing, etc. A decision has also been taken that no grant or subsidy will be given to any MSMEs unless the data is captured on the MSME Databank.

The NSIC, which provides suitable credit support to the various MSME units for purchase of raw material, has started an online Finance Facilitation Centre on <http://www.nsicffonline.in> To start with, the Finance Facilitation Centres will become operational at Jalandhar, Peenya, Ludhiana, Guwahati, Lucknow and Delhi from today onwards. The portal will allow the MSMEs to apply for loans from the various banks on the NSIC portal itself. NSIC has also signed MoUs with 33 banks, 14 of whom have agreed to associate with online Finance Facilitation Web Portal.

### **Giant Charkha unveiled at IGI Airport, Delhi 42 carpenters from Ahmedabad built the Charkha in 55 days**

World's largest Charkha (spinning wheels) was unveiled at the Terminal 3 of IGI Airport Delhi. The idea behind displaying the world's biggest charkha at the country's "busiest airport" is to highlight India's quest to foster an egalitarian society as demonstrated by Mahatma Gandhi, the father of the nation.

Installation of the iconic Charkha at the departure forecourt would carry forward the legacy of promoting India's rich cultural heritage through different artworks at the terminal. All the existing artworks at the terminal - Mudras, Regal procession, Elephant statues, Surya Sculpture, Suryanamaskar and Worli Art among others - depict and showcase Indian heritage globally.

The four-tones Charkha made from high-quality Burma teak wood is estimated to last for over 50 years. It is 9 ft wide, 17 ft tall and 30 ft long. It was built in 55 days by a team of 42 highly skilled carpenters hailing from Ahmedabad.

### **Incubation cell at IIFT Delhi Launched**

Incubation Cell at IIFT Delhi launched. The cell would enable young entrepreneurs to get all the expert advice and technical guidance at one point. The cell has been designed to provide export start-ups with necessary hand holding support towards expanding their existing domestic business to foreign markets, he added

The initiative is named as "KITTES (Knowledge for Innovation in Trade & Technology for Entrepreneurial Start-ups), a dynamic business incubation cell dedicated to startups in the domain of international business. Run by the Centre of MSME Studies at IIFT (Delhi), the aim of KITTES is to provide hand holding support for MSME start-ups right from ideation stage to their internationalization towards taking a final leap into foreign markets.

Incubation cell will be supported by an advisory body consisting of industrialists, venture capitalists, technical specialists and managers established to help entrepreneurs realize their dreams through a range of infrastructure, business advisory, mentoring and financial services. IIFT will facilitate mobilising of loans for export purpose, build awareness on export financing and insurance schemes and export promotion measures.



**38 Psus Achieved the Target of 20% Public Procurement from MSME**

Thirty Eight CPSUs have achieved the target of 20% public procurement from MSMEs in the just concluded financial year. Ministry of MSME had also issued a circular dated 10th March 2016 that allows Central PSUs to relax the norms of 'prior experience and prior turnover' for those MSMEs who can deliver the goods as per prescribed technical & quality specifications.

**MSME Procurement Policy reviewed**

Public Procurement Policy by all the Central Government Departments and Central Public Sector Undertakings, was reviewed. It was found that the share of MSME procurement is less than 10% against a mandatory 20% and that of SC/ST entrepreneurship share is less than 0.2% against a mandatory 4%.

Direction was issued to identify top 50 CPSUs and get a meeting organized at Ministers level so that concerned CPSUs can be sensitized towards meeting the requirement of Public Procurement Policy of MSMEs, which has already become binding from 1st April 2015 under the MSME Development Act 2015.

21-January, 2016 15:33 IST

**Mauritius to exclusively offer Biofarming Technology to India****Various areas of cooperation in MSME Sector between both the countries discussed**

First Joint Committee Meeting between India and Mauritius for the cooperation in MSME sector was held successfully on 21<sup>st</sup> January 2016. The possible areas of cooperation were identified. These areas are inline with the MoU signed between the two countries on 13<sup>th</sup> December 2015. The issues discussed for cooperation were in the areas of capacity building through training of trainers, surveys on potential areas, managerial and technical skills, marketing, exhibitions & trade fairs exchange of business missions, setting up of business incubators, easy access to finance, clusters initiative, etc.

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**Press Information Bureau  
Government of India  
Ministry of New and Renewable Energy**

18-December-2016 09:44 IST

**A new dawn in Renewable Energy- India attains 4th position in global wind power installed capacity; 46.33 GW grid-interactive power; 7,518 MW of grid-connected power; 1502 MW Wind power capacity added; Small hydro power capacity reaches 4323 MW, 92305 Solar Pumps installed, 38,000 crore Green Energy Corridor is being set up; Surya Mitra” mobile App launched , Solar Tariff as low as Rs 3/unit**

**Year End Review –MNRE**

The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) has taken several steps to fructify Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's dream of clean energy. The largest renewable capacity expansion programme in the world is being taken up by India. The government is aiming to increase share of clean energy through massive thrust in renewables. Core drivers for development and deployment of new and renewable energy in India have been Energy security, Electricity shortages, Energy Access, Climate change etc.

A capacity addition of 14.30 GW of renewable energy has been reported during the last two and half years under Grid Connected Renewable Power, which include 5.8 GW from Solar Power, 7.04 GW from Wind Power, 0.53 from Small Hydro Power and 0.93 from Bio-power. Confident by the growth rate in clean energy sector, the Government of India in its submission to the United Nations Frame Work Convention on Climate Change on Intended Nationally Determined Contribution (INDC) has stated that India will achieve 40% cumulative Electric power capacity from non-fossil fuel based energy resources by 2030 with the help of transfer of technology and low cost International Finance including from Green Climate Fund. As on 31<sup>st</sup> October, 2016, Solar Energy Projects with an aggregate capacity of over 8727.62 MW has been installed in the country.

The government is playing an active role in promoting the adoption of renewable energy resources by offering various incentives, such as generation-based incentives (GBIs), capital and interest subsidies, viability gap funding, concessional finance, fiscal incentives etc. The National Solar Mission aims to promote the development and use of solar energy for power generation and other uses, with the ultimate objective of making solar energy compete with fossil-based energy options. The objective of the National Solar Mission is to reduce the cost of solar power generation in the country through long-term policy, large scale deployment goals, aggressive R&D and the domestic production of critical raw materials, components and products. Renewable energy is becoming increasingly cost-competitive as compared to fossil fuel-based generation.

In order to achieve the renewable energy target of 175 GW by the year 2022, the major programmes/ schemes on implementation of Solar Park, Solar Defence Scheme, Solar scheme for CPUs Solar PV power plants on Canal Bank and Canal Tops, Solar Pump, Solar Rooftop etc have been launched during the last two years.

Various policy measures have been initiated and special steps taken in addition to providing financial support to various schemes being implemented by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) for achieving the target of renewable energy capacity to 175 GW by the year 2022. These include, inter alia, suitable amendments to the Electricity Act and Tariff Policy for strong enforcement of Renewable Purchase Obligation (RPO) and for providing Renewable Generation Obligation (RGO); setting up of exclusive solar parks; development of power transmission network through Green Energy Corridor project; identification of large government complexes/ buildings for rooftop projects; provision of roof top solar and 10 percent renewable energy as mandatory under Mission Statement and Guidelines for development of smart cities; amendments in building bye-laws for mandatory provision of roof top solar for new construction or higher Floor Area Ratio; infrastructure status for solar projects; raising tax free solar bonds; providing long tenor loans; making roof top solar as a part of housing loan by banks/ NHB; incorporating measures in Integrated Power Development Scheme (IPDS) for encouraging distribution companies and making net-metering compulsory and raising funds from bilateral and international donors as also the Green Climate Fund to achieve the target.

**ESTIMATED POTENTIAL OF RENEWABLE ENERGY**

The increased use of indigenous renewable resources is expected to reduce India's dependence on expensive imported fossil fuels. India has an estimated renewable energy potential of about 900 GW from commercially exploitable sources viz. Wind – 102 GW (at 80 meter mast height); Small Hydro – 20 GW; Bio-energy – 25 GW; and 750 GW solar power, assuming 3% wasteland

## TARGETS

The Government of India has set a target of 175 GW renewable power installed capacity by the end of 2022. This includes 60 GW from wind power, 100 GW from solar power, 10 GW from biomass power and 5 GW from small hydro power. A target of 16660 MW grid renewable power (wind 4000 MW, solar 12000 MW, small hydro power 250 MW, bio-power 400 MW and waste to power 10 MW), has been set for 2016-17. Besides, under off-grid renewable system, targets of 15 MW eq. waste to energy, 60 MW eq. biomass non-bagasse cogeneration, 10 MW eq. biomass gasifiers, 1.0 MW eq. small wind/hybrid systems, 100 MW eq. solar photovoltaic systems, 1.0 MW eq. micro hydel and 100,000 nos. family size biogas plants have been set for 2016-17.

**The target set for the various renewable energy sources for the next three years are:**

Source	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
<b>Solar Power</b>	<b>12,000</b>	<b>15,000</b>	<b>16,000</b>
<b>Wind</b>	4000	4600	5200
<b>Biomass</b>	500	750	850
<b>SHP</b>	225	100	100
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>16725*</b>	<b>20450*</b>	<b>22150*</b>

\*(Capacities in MW)

## SHARE OF RENEWABLE POWER IN TOTAL INSTALLED CAPACITY

Economic growth, increasing prosperity, a growing rate of urbanisation and rising per capita energy consumption has increases the energy demand of the country. In order to meet the energy demand, India has total installed power generation capacity of 307.27 GW as on 31.10.2016 from all resources. With 46.33 GW installed renewable power capacity, the renewable power has a share of about 15% to the total installed capacity.

## ACHIEVEMENTS

**The details of year round initiatives and achievements of the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy are as follows:**

### Green Power Capacity Addition

A total of 7,518 MW of grid-connected power generation capacity from renewable energy sources has been added so far this year (January 2016 to October 2016) in the country.

A total of 7060 MW of grid-connected power generation capacity from renewable energy sources like solar (3019 MW) and wind (3423 MW), Small Hydro Power (218 MW), Bio-Power (400 MW) has been added during 2015-16 in the country against target of 4,460 MW. During 2016-17, a total 3575 MW capacity has been added till 31.10.2016, making cumulative achievement 46,327 MW.

### Sector-wise highlights of achievements

- Largest ever wind power capacity addition of 3423 MW in 2015-16 exceeding target by 43%. During 2016-17, a total 1502 MW capacity has been added till 31.10.2016, making cumulative achievement 28,279 MW. Now, in terms of wind power installed capacity India is globally placed at 4<sup>th</sup> position after China, USA and Germany.
- Biggest ever solar power capacity addition of 3,019 MW in 2015-16 exceeding target by 116%. During 2016-17, a total 1750 MW capacity has been added till 31.10.2016, making cumulative achievement 8728 MW.

- 31,472 Solar Pumps installed in 2015-16, higher than total number of pumps installed during last 24 years i.e. since beginning of the programme in 1991. So far, 92305 Solar Pump have been installed in the Country as on 31.10.2016.
- Solar projects of capacity 20,904 MW were tendered in 2015-16. Of these, 11,209 MW capacity already awarded.
- A capacity addition of 0.53 GW has been added under Grid Connected Renewable Power since last two and half years from Small Hydro Power plants.
- Biomass power includes installations from biomass combustion, biomass gasification and bagasse co-generation. During 2016-17, against a target of 400 MW, 51 MW installations of biomass power plants has been achieved making a cumulative achievement to 4882 MW.
- Family Type Biogas Plants mainly for rural and semi-urban households are set up under the National Biogas and Manure Management Programme (NBMMP). During 2016-17, against a target of 1.00 lakh biogas plants, 0.26 lakh biogas plants installations has been achieved making a cumulative achievement to 49.35 lakh biogas plants as on 31.10.2016.

The sector wise achievements from January 2016 to October are as follows:

#### Programme/ Scheme wise Achievements in Year 2016 (January- October 2016)

Sector	Achievement (January-October 2016)	Cumulative Achievements as on 31.10.2016
<b>I. GRID-INTERACTIVE POWER (CAPACITIES IN MW)</b>		
<i>Wind Power</i>	3191.21	28279.40
<i>Solar Power</i>	3848.77	8727.64
<i>Small Hydro Power</i>	146.47	4323.37
<i>BioPower (Biomass &amp; Gasification and Bagasse Cogeneration)</i>	331.78	4882.33
<i>Waste to Power</i>	7.50	114.08
<b>Total</b>	<b>7525.73</b>	<b>46326.82</b>
<b>II. OFF-GRID/ CAPTIVE POWER (CAPACITIES IN MW<sub>EQ</sub>)</b>		
<i>Waste to Energy</i>	14.61	161.12
<i>Biomass(non-bagasse) Cogeneration</i>	49.54	651.91
<i>Biomass Gasifiers</i>	0.19	18.34
-Rural		
-Industrial	15.58	176.30
<i>Aero-Genrators/Hybrid systems</i>	0.26	2.93
<i>SPV Systems</i>	84.98	373.99
<i>Water mills/micro hydel</i>	1.60	18.81
<b>Total</b>	<b>166.80</b>	<b>1403.40</b>
<b>III. OTHER RENEWABLE ENERGY SYSTEMS</b>		
<i>Family Biogas Plants (in Lakhs)</i>	1.014	49.354

### Major Initiatives taken by Ministry

#### Solar Power

- Under National Solar Mission, the target for setting up solar capacity increased from 20 GW to 100 GW by 2021-22. Target of 10,500 MW, set for 2016-17 which will take the cumulative capacity to 17 GW till 31st March 2017.

- As on date, 19,276 MW has been tendered out, of which LOI issued for 13,910 MW/PPA signed for 10,824 MW.
- 34 Solar Parks of capacity 20,000 MW in 21 states have been sanctioned which are under various stages of execution.
- As on 31.10.2016, a total of 90,710 solar pumps have been installed throughout the country.
- Also, A total amount of Rs. 67.01 crore has been sanctioned for preparation of master plans, solar city cells, promotional activities and installation of renewable energy projects and an amount of Rs. 24.16 crore has been released, so far, under **Solar City Programme**.
- Various departments and ministries under central government have collectively committed to **deploying 5,938 MW of rooftop solar capacity** for their internal power consumption. SECI is aggregating demand for a part of this requirement and helping in procuring rooftop solar systems. **SECI has issued a tender for development of 1,000 MW rooftop solar capacity on pre-identified central government/department owned buildings**. It is the largest such tender in India's fledgling rooftop solar market.
- Several schemes namely (i) Defence scheme (ii) Central Public Sector Undertakings (CPSUs) scheme (iii) Bundling scheme (iv) Canal Bank/ Canal Top scheme (v) VGF Scheme (vi) Solar Park scheme (vii) Solar rooftops, have been initiated/launched by the Ministry under National Solar Mission which are under implementation.
- Under **Defence scheme** against a target of 300 MW, 347 MW sanctioned, under **Central Public Sector Undertakings (CPSUs) scheme** against a target of 1000 MW, all capacity sanctioned, under **3000 MW Bundling scheme**, Tranch-I: 3000 MW has been tendered, under **100 MW Canal Bank/ Canal Top scheme**, all capacity sanctioned, under **2000 MW & 5000 MW VGF Scheme**, tenders issued for 4785 MW, and under **20,000 MW Solar Park scheme**, 34 Solar parks have been approved in 21 States with aggregate capacity of 20,000 MW.

### Solar Rooftop

- A target of 40 GW grid connected solar rooftops to be achieved by 2022 has been set. So far, about 500 MW have been installed and about 3,000 MW has been sanctioned which is under installation. All major sectors i.e. Railways, Airports, Hospitals, Educational Institutions, Government Buildings of Central/State/PSUs are being targeted besides, the private sector.
- A massive Grid Connected Solar Rooftop Programme launched with 40 GW target. State Electricity Regulatory Commissions of **30 States/UTs notified regulations** for net-metering/feed-in-tariff mechanism. **Rs.5000 crore approved for solar rooftops. About 500 MW solar rooftop capacity** installed till 30.09.2016.
- A total sanction of 1300 million dollars has been received from World Bank, KFW, ADB and NDB through which the SBI, PNB, Canara Bank and IREDA will be in the position to fund at the rate of less than 10%.
- Ministry has tied up with ISRO for Geo tagging of all the Rooftop plants using ISRO's VEDAS Portal.

### Wind Power

- During the year 2015-16, wind power capacity addition of 3.42 GW was made, which is highest ever wind power capacity addition in the country during a single year. The present wind power installed capacity in the

country is around 28.28 GW. Now, in terms of wind power installed capacity India is globally placed at 4<sup>th</sup> position after China, USA and Germany.

- India has a strong manufacturing base of wind power equipment in the country. Presently, there are 20 approved manufacturers with 53 models of wind turbines in the country up to a capacity of 3.00 MW single turbines. Wind turbines being manufactured in India are of international quality standards and cost-wise amongst the lowest in the world being exported to Europe, USA and other countries.
- The wind power potential of the country has been reassessed by the National Institute for Wind Energy (NIWE), it has been estimated to be 302 GW at 100 meter hub-height. Online wind atlas is available on NIWE website. This will create new dimension to the wind power development in the country.
- India has long coastline where there is a good possibility for developing offshore wind power projects. The cabinet has cleared the National Offshore Wind Energy Policy and the same has been notified on 6<sup>th</sup> October 2015. Certain blocks near Gujarat and Tamil Nadu coast line have been identified. NIWE is in process of doing the wind resource assessment in these coastal areas.
- Comprehensive Guidelines for Development of On-shore Wind Power Projects in the country have been formulated and issued on 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2016.
- Guidelines for implementation of “**Scheme for Setting up of 1000 MW Inter-State Transmission System (ISTS) - connected Wind Power Projects**” issued on 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2016.
- The Policy for Repowering of the Wind Power Projects has been released on 5<sup>th</sup> August, 2016 to promote optimum utilization of wind energy resources by creating facilitative framework for repowering.

### **Small Hydro Power**

A capacity addition of 14.30 GW of renewable energy has been reported during the last two and half years under Grid Connected Renewable Power, 0.53 GW from Small Hydro Power.

### **Biomass Power**

Biomass power includes installations from biomass combustion, biomass gasification and bagasse co-generation. During 2016-17, against a target of 400 MW, 51 MW installations of biomass power plants has been achieved making a cumulative achievement to 4882.33 MW.

### **Family Size Biogas Plants**

Family Size Biogas Plants mainly for rural and semi-urban households are set up under the National Biogas and Manure Management Programme (NBMMP). During 2016-17, against a target of 1.00 lakh biogas plants, 0.26 lakh biogas plants installations has been achieved making a cumulative achievement to 49.35 lakh biogas plants.

## Off-Grid Solar Applications

A special programme for **1,00,000 solar pumps launched** of which 31,472 Solar Pumps installed in 2015-16, higher than total number of pumps installed during last 24 years i.e. since beginning of the programme in 1991.

## Amendments in Tariff Policy to promote Renewable Energy

- Enhancement in Solar RPO to 8% by March 2022.
- Introduction of RGO for New coal/lignite based thermal plants after specified date.
- Ensuring affordable renewable power through bundling of renewable power.
- No inter-state transmission charges and losses to be levied for solar and wind power.
- Further, pursuant to the revised tariff policy, the Ministry of Power on 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2016 has notified the long term growth trajectory of RPO for solar and non-solar energy for next 3 years 2016-17, 2017-18 and 2018-19 as under:-

Long term trajectory	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
Non-solar	8.75%	9.50%	10.25%
Solar	2.75%	4.75%	6.75%
Total	11.50%	14.25%	17.00%

## IREDA

Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA) has been awarded Mini Ratna Status and the authorised capital of IREDA is increased from Rs.1000 Cr. to Rs.6000 Cr.

## New Office Building of MNRE

Foundation Stone Laying Ceremony of '**Atal Akshay Urja Bhawan**', an integrated headquarters building for the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy was held on

19<sup>th</sup> October, 2016. The Foundation Stone was laid by **Shri Piyush Goyal, Hon'ble Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Power, Coal, New and Renewable Energy and Mines.**

## Installation of 200 MW or more Capacity Solar Power Plant at the Central State Farm at Jetsar, Rajasthan

The Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has given its approval for utilization of 400 hectares of un-cultivable farm land at the Central State Farm (CSF), Jetsar in Sri Ganganagar District, Rajasthan for setting up of a solar Power Plant of capacity exceeding 200 MW. The land is presently in possession of National Seeds Corporation (NSC), a Central Public Sector Enterprise (CPSE) under the administrative control of the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare. The Solar Power Plant will be set up by a CPSE, which would be selected through negotiation. The Project, by utilizing un-cultivable land for a Solar Power Project, will yield revenue for NSC and will also generate clean energy for the nation

## Green Energy Corridor

Rs.38,000 crore Green Energy Corridor is being set up to ensure evacuation of Renewable Energy. Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (PGCIL) has sought a Loan assistance of US\$ 1,000 million from the Asian Development Bank (ADB) comprising of Sovereign guaranteed loan of US\$ 500 million and Non-Sovereign loan of US\$ 500 million. the Loan would be utilized for funding of the following transmission projects including a project under Green Energy Corridor projects in next 3-4 years:

- (i) HVDC Bipole link between Western Region (Raigarh, Chhattisgarh) and Southern Region (Pugalur, Tamil Nadu) - North Trichur (Kerala)- Scheme 1: Raigarh-Pugalur 6000 MW HVDC System.

- (ii) HVDC Bipole link between Western Region (Raigarh, Chhattisgarh) and Southern Region (Pugalur, Tamil Nadu) - North Trichur (Kerala)- Scheme 3: Pugalur- Trichur 2000 MW VSC based HVDC System.
- (iii) Real Time Measurement/ monitoring scheme.
- (iv) Inter State Transmission System (ISTS) associated with Green Energy Corridor as under:
  - a) Ajmer(New) – Bikaner (New) 765 kV D/c
  - b) Bikaner(New) – Moga (PG) 765 kV D/c
  - c) LILO of one circuit of 400kV Bhadla- Bikaner (RVPN) line at Bikaner(New)
  - d) Establishment of 2x1500 MVA, 765/400 kV S/s at Bikaner (New)

### Enhancement of Budget

Ministry's budget enhanced from Rs.1500 crore to Rs.9,000 crore (Rs.5,000 crore gross budgetary support + Rs.4,000 crore in way of bonds to be raised by IREDA) by 2016-17.

### LOWEST SOLAR TARIFFS

Solar tariffs have fallen to an unprecedented low of Rs. 4.34 / kWh through reverse auction for one of six projects of 70 MW each to be put up in Rajasthan under the National Solar Mission. NTPC on 18.01.2016 conducted the reverse bidding for 420 MW solar power projects. However, the tariff had further fallen to Rs 3 per unit, which was quoted by Amplus Energy Solutions in an auction for rooftop solar power conducted by Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI).

### SKILL DEVELOPMENT

Surya Mitra Scheme has been launched for creating 50,000 trained solar photovoltaic technicians by march 2020. A total number of 5492 Surya Mitra's have been trained as on 30.09.2016 and more than 3000 are undergoing training. A network of over 150 Institutions, spread all over the country, have been created for implementing Surya Mitra scheme.

In addition, short term training programmes for small hydro, entrepreneurship development, operation & maintenance of solar energy devices and boiler operations in co-generation plants, have been organised.

About 7800 persons have been trained through these short term training programmes during the last two years.

Shri Piyush Goyal, Minister of State (IC) for Power, Coal and New & Renewable Energy launched “**Surya Mitra**” **mobile App** at National Workshop on Rooftop Solar Power on 07.06.2016. The GPS based mobile app has been developed by National Institute of Solar Energy (NISE) which is an autonomous institution of Ministry of New & Renewable Energy (MNRE). The Surya Mitra Mobile App is currently available in Google play store, which can be downloaded and used across India. This App is a high end technology platform which can handle thousands of calls simultaneously and can efficiently monitor all visits of Suryamitra's. The trained Suryamitra's who opts for entrepreneurship have joined in the Mobile App in several states. These Suryamitras are once again sensitized by NISE on soft skills Customer Relations Management, Punctuality and are now ready to deliver the services.

### Other Initiatives

- **International Solar Alliance** was launched as a special platform for mutual cooperation among 121 solar resource rich countries lying fully or partially between Tropic of Cancer and Tropic of Capricorn at COP21 in Paris on 30th November, 2015 to develop and promote solar energy, with its headquarter in India. On 25<sup>th</sup> January, 2016, the Foundation Stone for the proposed Headquarters of the ISA was laid at Gurgaon, Haryana (India) and its interim Secretariat was inaugurated. The International Steering Committee (ISC) of the ISA has held four meetings so far.



The Framework Agreement of ISA has been finalized after discussions with various stakeholders. It was presented in the fourth meeting of the ISC of ISA. **The Framework Agreement of ISA has been signed by 20 member countries including India, France, Brazil and others on 15<sup>th</sup> November, 2016 at Marrakech, Morocco on the side-lines of COP-22.**

- **Bank loans up to a limit of Rs.15 crores** will be given to borrowers for purposes like solar based power generators, biomass based power generators, wind power systems, micro-hydel plants and for renewable energy based public utilities viz. Street lighting systems, and remote village electrification. For individual households, the loan limit will be **Rs.10 lakh per borrower**.
- Coal cess has been increased 8 times from Rs.50 to Rs.400/ton in last two years (2014-15) which will make available around Rs.40,000 crore/year for supporting and incentivizing development of Clean Energy projects in the country.
- Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) up to 100% is permitted under the automatic route for renewable energy generation and distribution projects subject to provisions of The Electricity Act, 2003.

In order to achieve the targets, various initiatives have been taken by the Government which interalia include:

- amendments in the Tariff Policy for strong enforcement of Renewable Purchase Obligation (RPO) and for providing Renewable Generation Obligation (RGO);
- setting up of exclusive solar parks;
- development of power transmission network through Green Energy Corridor project;
- identification of large government complexes/ buildings for rooftop projects;
- provision of roof top solar and 10 percent renewable energy as mandatory under Mission Statement and Guidelines for development of smart cities;
- amendments in building bye-laws for mandatory provision of roof top solar for new construction or higher FAR;
- infrastructure status for solar projects;
- raising tax free solar bonds;
- making roof top solar a part of housing loan by banks/NHB;
- incorporating measures in Integrated Power Development Scheme (IPDS) for encouraging distribution companies and making net-metering compulsory
- raising funds from bilateral and international donors as also from the Green Climate Fund to achieve the target. and
- creation of Surya Mitras for installation and maintenance of the Solar Projects.

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RM/PS

**Press Information Bureau  
Government of India  
Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas**

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**More than 1.22 crore new LPG connections released to BPL women under Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana**

**Increased emphasis on Bio-fuels**

**Hydrocarbon Exploration and Licensing Policy (HELP) announced for award of hydrocarbon acreages**

**134 e-Bids received for the 34 contract areas under the Discovered small fields**

A large number of important policies, activities, decisions and initiatives were undertaken by the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas in last one year. The achievements were in downstream, midstream as well as upstream sectors. The year was declared as the year and saw launch of a number of people-oriented initiatives.

**1. Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY)**

Government has approved Rs. 8000 crore under the Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) for release of 5 crore deposit free new LPG connections to Women of BPL families over three years, i.e. FY 2016-17, 2017-18 and 2018-19. The scheme will provide an initial cost of Rs. 1600/- for providing LPG connection to poor households in the name of women of the household. The Prime Minister launched the scheme on 01.05.2016 at Balia, Uttar Pradesh.

LPG connection to BPL families is being provided to the BPL family access to clean cooking fuel. The provision of LPG as a cooking fuel helps in addressing health problems caused by use of traditional sources of cooking fuel such as fire wood, coal, cowdung, etc. This will in turn enhance productivity of woman, raise their quality of life by removing drudgery associated with collection of wood and ensure them against non-availability of cooking fuel, at times.

Under the scheme, the Government of India provides deposit free LPG connection of BPL families identified through the Socio-Economic Caste Census 2011 data, which includes security of one cylinder, pressure regulator, hose pipe, installation charges and DGCC Book. The consumer has to purchase ISI standard gas stove, which is optional. Further, Oil Marketing Companies are also financing purchase of LPG stove and 1<sup>st</sup> refill to BPL customers on instalment basis, if they so desire.

To ensure smooth supply chain of LPG cylinders to meet the demand, Government is in process of setting up of 10,000 new distributorships. Majority of these distributorships will come in rural areas to cater to unserved consumers.

As on 09.12.2016, Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) have released 12288517 new LPG connections under Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY).

**2. Direct Benefit Transfer in PDS Kerosene Scheme (DBTK)**

Jharkhand has become first State in the country to implement DBTK and others have been requested to join the Scheme. Under the Scheme, the Kerosene is being sold at non-subsidised price and subsidy, as admissible, is being transferred to consumers directly into his/her bank account. The States would be given cash incentive of 75% of subsidy savings during the first two years, 50% in the third year and 25% in the fourth year. In case the States voluntarily agree to undertake cuts in kerosene allocation, beyond the savings due to DBT, a similar incentive would be given to those States/UTs. The initiative of the Government is aimed at rationalizing subsidies based on approach to cut subsidy leakages, but not subsidies themselves. The scheme will also stop diversion of Kerosene.

State Government of Karnataka had volunteered to undertake cut in Kerosene allocation and the similar proposal has also been received from Government of Haryana and Government of Telangana.

Further, Government of Haryana has requested to make the State Kerosene free by 31.03.2017.

**3. Kerosene Free Delhi and Chandigarh**

NCT of Delhi and UT of Chandigarh have been declared Kerosene Free cities effective 1<sup>st</sup> October, 2013 and 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2016 respectively and hence no PDS SKO allocation is made to them.

**4. PAHAL: World's largest Direct Benefit Transfer Scheme**

PAHAL (Pratyaksh Hasthantarit Labh) is the world's largest Direct Benefit Transfer Scheme. Through PAHAL, subsidy given to consumers is directly transferred to the registered account of the consumer without involving any intermediary. More than 16.99 crore consumers are registered to avail subsidy as on 28.11.2016. PAHAL Scheme has been acknowledged by the Guinness Book of World Records as the largest cash transfer programme (households). More than Rs. 38,276 crore of subsidy has been transferred to the LPG consumers through 204 crore transactions since inception of the Scheme.

An intensive exercise was carried out for identifying duplicate / fake / ghost / inactive domestic LPG connections and, as of 01/04/2015, 3.34 crore such connections were identified. As a result of implementation of DBTL (PAHAL) mechanism, it became possible to block these 3.34 crore LPG connections as the subsidy was transferred in the accounts of only those consumers who had registered under PAHAL and who have been cleared after de-duplication exercise. For the financial year 2014-15, for 3.34 crore consumers outside the PAHAL net, the estimated savings would be 3.34 crore x 12 cylinders x Rs.369.72 (average subsidy per cylinder for FY 2014-15) equal to Rs.14,818.4 crore. Following a similar principle, the savings estimated for FY 2015-16 is Rs.6,443 crore and total savings for both the years works out to Rs.21,261 crore.

## 5. Giveitup and Giveback

Till date, around 105 lakh households have voluntarily given up their LPG subsidy, Nearly 63 lakh new LPG connections have been released to BPL families in Financial Year 2015-16 linked to Giveback campaign utilizing CSR funds of OMCs.

## 6. Production of Crude oil and Natural Gas

Crude oil production during the year 2015-16 is at 36.950 Million Metric Tonnes (MMT) as against production of 37.461 MMT in 2014-15, showing a decline of 1.36%. Production of natural gas during the year 2015-16 is at 32.249 Billion Cubic Meters (BCM) which is 4.18% lower than production of 33.657 BCM during 2014-15. Crude oil production was mainly affected due to various reasons, including inter alia, less than envisaged production, natural decline due to mature fields and reservoir issues in some of the fields, rise of water cut, restricted bowser movement due to Assam bandh and power supply failure. Natural Gas production was affected due to natural decline in some of the fields, underperformance of wells, closure of wells for maintenance activities, less off-take by potential consumers etc.

## 7. Refining Capacity and Production

There has been considerable increase in refining capacity in the country over the years. During 2015-16, there was capacity expansion by 15 Million Metric Tonnes Per Annum (MMTPA) with the commissioning of Paradip Refinery. With this increase, the refining capacity has now reached at 230.066 MMTPA. Refinery Crude throughput (Crude Oil Processed) during 2015-16 was 232.854 MMT.

## 8. Emphasis on Bio-fuels

### Ethanol Blended Petrol Programme

The Government, through Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs), is implementing Ethanol Blended Petrol (EBP) Programme under which, OMCs sell ethanol blended petrol with percentage of ethanol upto 10%. In order to improve the availability of ethanol, the Government on 10.12.2014, inter-alia, decided to fix the delivered price of ethanol in the range of Rs. 48.50 per litre to 49.50 per litre, depending upon the distance of distillery from the depot/installation of the OMCs. Further, ethanol produced from other non-food feedstocks besides molasses, like cellulosic and lingo-cellulosic materials including petrochemical route, has also been allowed to be procured. Due to these efforts, for the sugar year 2014-15, a quantity of 67.42 crore litre has been procured, almost doubling the supply of ethanol as compared to previous sugar year. For Sugar year 2015-16, Oil Marketing Companies have contracted 130 crore litres of ethanol till 26.7.2016.

### Bio-diesel Programme

On 10<sup>th</sup> August, 2015, the Government has issued notification to allow the sale of Bio-diesel (B100) by private manufacturers to bulk consumers like Railways, State Transport Corporations and other bulk consumers. Also, retailing of bio-diesel blended diesel by Oil Marketing Companies has started on the same day. As on 1.7.2016, 1.32 Cr Litre biodiesel (B100) has been procured by OMCs.

### Second Generation Ethanol

In furtherance of the decision of the Government to allow procurement of ethanol produced from cellulosic and ligno-cellulosic feedstock, Numaligarh Refinery Limited (NRL) has completed the Detailed Feasibility Report (DFR) for a

project to set up a bio-refinery for production of 49 TMT of bio-ethanol per annum from bamboo, in collaboration with M/s Chempolis Oy, Finland, at a project cost of Rs. 950 crores.

## 9. Auto Fuels

Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas vide order dated 19.01.2015 has notified the implementation of BS-IV auto fuels in the entire country w.e.f 01.04.2017 in a phased manner. It has been decided that the country will leapfrog directly from BS-IV to BS-VI fuel standards and BS-VI standards will be implemented in the country w.e.f 01.04.2020.

## 10. Gas pipeline in eastern India

The eastern India gas corridor i.e. Jagdishpur-Haldia pipeline (JHPL) project of 1847 Km is being implemented by GAIL. The design capacity of JHPL is 16 MMSCMD. JHPL project is considered for meeting the energy and feed stock needs of various industries (viz. Fertilizer Plants, Power Plants, City Gas Distribution etc.) en-route the Pipeline in Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand and West Bengals. GAIL is implementing the JHPL in a phased manner at the total cost of about Rs. 13000 crore. Survey work for the entire project has been completed. GAIL has started work on execution of Phase-I of JHPL Trunk line of 341 Km from Phulpur (U.P.) to Gaya (Bihar) along with Spur-lines (414 Km) to Varanasi, Gorakhpur, Patna and Barauni at the cost of about Rs 4000 crore. GAIL has opened the pipeline construction office at Patna (Bihar). The activities related to acquisition of Right of User (RoU) for pipeline laying has been commenced. The construction work on pipeline sections of 236 Km in Bihar (Patna and Barauni) has been commenced on September 15, 2015. Further, GAIL has taken steps to procure Line pipe for mainline from Phulpur to Dobhi (316 Km) and work is in progress. Phase-I of JHPL project is expected to be completed by 2018-19 in synchronization of anchor gas customer and gas sources. The matter was considered in PIB meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> July, 2016 and it was agreed to provide 40% monetary support of the capital cost to GAIL from Government Budget.

## 11. Make in India

All Oil PSUs have formulated INDEG (Indigenisation Group) to increase the domestic component in all kinds of procurements. MoUs have been signed with research and academic institutions to develop indigenous technologies. The work on the feasibility for establishing a Petroleum Economic Zone is in an advanced stage. A concept note on use of OIIB funds for Make in India has been sent to Min. of Finance and Niti Aayog for comments.

## 12. Indian Strategic Storage Programme for storage of crude oil by Indian Strategic Petroleum Reserves Limited (ISPRL).

Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, in pursuance to the decision of the Union Cabinet on 7<sup>th</sup> January, 2004, through Indian Strategic Petroleum Reserves Limited (ISPRL), has constructed Strategic Crude Oil Reserves with storage capacity of 5.33 Million Metric Tonnes (MMT) at three locations viz. Visakhapatnam (storage capacity: 1.33 MMT), Mangalore (storage capacity: 1.5 MMT) and Padur (storage capacity: 2.5 MMT) to enhance the energy security of the country. The reserves are being created by the Government so that the crude oil will address the oil needs of the country, in the event of a national calamity, disruption of supplies, unforeseen global event leading to scarcity of supplies/abnormal spike in prices etc. Indian Strategic Petroleum Reserves Limited is a Special Purpose Vehicle, which is a wholly owned subsidiary of Oil Industry Development Board (OIDB). The crude oil storages are in underground rock caverns and are located on the east and west coasts so that they are readily accessible to the refining sector.

The capital cost of the three storages, namely, Visakhapatnam, Mangalore and Padur is Rs 4098.35 crore.

As regards filling of crude oil in these caverns, the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA), in its meeting held on 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2015 decided that the cost for filling crude oil in Visakhapatnam cavern will be met by the Government of India against the 12th Plan outlay of Rs. 4948 crore under the GBS Scheme of Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas for the Indian Strategic Storage Programme for storage of crude oil by ISPRL and the remaining amount would be used for filling up the strategic part of the caverns which are being constructed at Mangalore and Padur. Besides, Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas would continue to explore alternative models for filling part of the reserves in respect of Mangalore and Padur caverns including commercial utilization by other interested parties.

The Vishakhapatnam and Mangalore storage facilities have already been commissioned. The facility at Vishakhapatnam has already been filled up and nearly one fourth of Mangalore storage facility has also been filled. The storage facility at Padur has also been completed.

### **13. Production and Consumption of Petroleum products**

The production of petroleum products is at 231.924 MMT in year 2015-16 as against 221.136 MMT achieved in 2014-15, showing an increase of 4.88%. During the year 2015-16, the consumption of petroleum products in India was 183.495 MMT with a growth of 10.86% as compared to consumption of 165.520 MMT during 2014-15.

### **14. Import of Crude oil**

Import of crude oil during 2015-16 was 202.851 MMT valued at Rs. 4,16,361 crore which marked an increase of 7.08% in quantity terms and 39.43% decrease in value terms over import of 189.435 MMT valued at Rs. 6,87,416 crore during 2014-15. The decline in value terms is related to reduction in average crude oil price from 84.2 US\$/bbl in 2014-15 to 46.17 US\$/bbl in 2015-16.

### **15. Import and Export of Petroleum Products**

During the year 2015-16 imports of petroleum products were 28.302 MMT valued at Rs. 65,803 crore which shows an increase of 32.87% in quantity terms and 11.84% decrease in value terms against imports of 21.301 MMT valued at Rs. 74,644 crore during 2014-15.

During the year 2015-16, exports of petroleum products were 60.536 MMT valued at Rs. 1,76,733 crore which shows a decrease of 5.31% and 38.74% decrease in quantity and value terms against the exports of 63,932 MMT valued at Rs. 2,88,580 crore for the corresponding period of last year.

### **16. Swachh Bharat Mission**

The Oil & Gas Central Public Sector Enterprises and its Joint Ventures (CPSEs/JVs) under the administrative control of Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas have under Swachh Bharat Abhiyaan, completed construction of 20,186 school toilets with a total cost of Rs. 355.85 crore, providing services to more than 5.5 lakh girl students. Also Oil Marketing Companies have provided clean toilets in 51,846 Retail Outlets (ROs). Out of these, 21,750 ROs are having separate facilities for men/women as on 30.06.2016.

### **17. Policy for Discovered Small Field**

Cabinet on 02.09.2015 approved Discovered Small Field Policy for monetization of 69 hydrocarbon discoveries made by National Oil Companies ONGC and OIL which could not be monetized for many years due to various reasons such as isolated locations, small size of the reserves, high development costs, technological constraints, fiscal regime etc. Policy notifications were issued. In addition, notifications for royalty and exemption of cess and customs duty were issued. MoP&NG decided to defer auctioning of two fields in Nagaland. The Ministry launched the bid on 15/07/2016. National and International Road Shows were held at various places. 134 e-Bids for the 34 contract areas under the Discovered Small Fields (DSF) Bid Round 2016 were received by the deadline of 1200 Hours on 21<sup>st</sup> November 2016. The bid round took place in a challenging global market environment when the oil & gas prices have been volatile and the investment in the exploration & production sector has seen substantial decline. Out of the total 134 e-bids received, 120 e-bids were received for onland areas and 14 e-bids were received for offshore areas. As many as 42 companies (Individually or as member of the bidding consortium) participated in the bid round.

### **18. Hydrocarbon Exploration Licensing Policy (HELP)**

Cabinet on 10.3.2016 has approved Hydrocarbon Exploration and Licensing Policy (HELP) for award of hydrocarbon acreages. The salient features are (a) Single License for exploration and production of conventional as well as non-conventional hydrocarbon resources; (b) Open Acreage Policy-option to select the exploration blocks without waiting for formal bid round; (c) Revenue Sharing Model – simple, easy to administer – no cost recovery – no micromanagement by the Government – operational freedom to the operator; and (d) Pricing and Marketing Freedom – a major incentive for investment.

DGH has initiated the process of preparation of various documents such as Notice Inviting Offer and Model Revenue Sharing Contract etc. and to operationalise the Open Acreage Policy. On completion of preparatory work, launch of bidding round can take place.

### **19. Appraisal of Sedimentary Basin**

This is a crucial step towards increasing India's Hydrocarbon Production. Ministry has approved a project to appraise about 1.5 Million Sq. Km in 24 Indian sedimentary basins where no/scanty geo-scientific data is available. Under

the project, 2D seismic surveys are to be conducted apart from drilling of parametric Wells. The acquired database will enable understanding of the geology and hydrocarbon prospectively of the areas for carving out and offering blocks for exploration. About 48,243 Line KM of 2D seismic data shall be acquired in onland area along with 4 parametric wells at a cost of approximately Rs. 5100 crore through the ONGC and OIL India Ltd. under the supervision of DGH. The project duration will be for five years (2015-2020).

## **20. Marketing including Pricing freedom from the gas to be produced from the discoveries in High Pressure-High Temperature**

CCEA has approved a proposal to grant marketing including pricing freedom for the gas produced from High Pressure, High Temperature, Deepwater and Ultra Deepwater areas. The marketing freedom so granted would be capped by a ceiling price arrived at on the basis of landed price of alternative fuels. This initiative is expected to incentivize gas production in the country.

## **21. Skill Development Initiatives**

Under the Skill Development Initiative of the Government of India, Oil & Gas PSUs under MoPNG are setting up 6 Skill Development Institutes (SDIs) in the country.

IOCL SDI at Bhuvaneshwar, Odisha was inaugurated by Hon'ble MoS (IC) PNG, Shri Dharmendra Pradhan on 09<sup>th</sup> May, 2016. Pending allotment of land for a full-fledged Institute, the SDI has been established by refurbishing four sheds leased to Oil India Limited by Odisha Industrial Development Corporation.

The first batch comprising 45 students each in Industrial Welding and Electrician was started on 30.06.2016. The students on successful completion of the 6 months course will be issued certificates aligned to National Skills Qualification Framework (NSQF) of the Government of India. For Industrial Welding the certification will be through the Mining Sector Skill Council and for Electrician through the Capital Goods Sector Council.

Nettur Technical Training Foundation (NTTF) has been engaged as Training Partner. NTTF is providing faculty support and will also provide placement support.

The students are charged a subsidized fee of Rs. 5000 each, while IOCL will incur an expenditure of Rs. 1 lakh on each student. Free hostel accommodation (lodging & boarding facility) has been arranged in the rented premises in the vicinity of the Institute for the students.

## **22. Start-Up**

All Oil PSUs have been requested to prepare their Action Plan to facilitate "Start-Ups" in oil and gas sector.

## **23. Indian Institute of Petroleum and Energy (IPE), Visakhapatnam**

As per 13<sup>th</sup> Schedule of Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2014, Indian Institute of Petroleum and Energy (IPE) has been set up with the objective to meet the quantitative and qualitative gap in the supply of skilled manpower for the petroleum sector and to promote research activities needed for the growth of the sector. The Government of Andhra Pradesh has made available an area measuring about 200 acres of land in Visakhapatnam District for the Institute which is free of cost. IPE Society has been registered on 18.04.2016. College of Engineering (Autonomous) situated in Andhra University at Visakhapatnam has provided the resources to start the IPE sessions during the academic year 2016-17 in two B.Tech. Programmes, viz., Petroleum Engineering and Chemical Engineering. Rank list from JEE-Advanced, 2016 (IIT-Guwahati) has been received and Rank holders have been invited to apply for admission to IPE. About 100 students have got admission in these two programmes. IIT-Kharapur has been roped in to act as a Mentor Institution for starting the academic session.

The capital expenditure for the project is estimated to be around Rs.655.46 crore (Rs.432.37 crore for the 1<sup>st</sup> Phase and Rs.223.09 crore for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Phase). Deficit funding against recurring Expenses for 2016/17 to 2014/25 period would be Rs.334.84 crore. The source of funding for the proposal would be through Gross Budgetary Support (GBS). Foundation stone of the Institute has been laid by Hon'ble MoS (IC), PNG on 20.10.2016.

## **24. Rajiv Gandhi Institute of Petroleum Technology**

Permanent Campus of RGIPT has been inaugurated at Jais, Amethi, Uttar Pradesh by Minister of State (IC), Petroleum & Natural Gas on 22.10.2016 in presence of Minister of HRD and Minister of Textiles.

## 25. Consumer –Centric Initiatives

MoPNG has launched a number of consumers empowering initiatives such as MyLPG.in providing online information to LPG consumers, rating of distributors based on delivery performance, SMS/IVR system to facilitate refill booking, E-SV (Sahaj) which is electronic subscription voucher released to consumer, LPG emergency help line No.1906, online payment facility for new connections and online portal to PNG customers for making bill payments.

## 26. Acquisition of stake in Vankorneft oil block OVL /Indian Consortium

With the approval of CCEA in December 2015, ONGC Videsh Ltd acquired 15% stake in Vankorneft, a 100% subsidiary of Rosneft (Russia's National Oil Company) at a cost of US \$ 1268 million and completed all related formalities on 31 May 2016. The acquisition provides 4.53 MMTOE of hydrocarbon resources. OVL is presently negotiating acquisition of additional stake of 11% in Vankorneft and is expected to add 3.32 MMTOE of hydrocarbon resources.

An Indian Consortium comprising Oil India Ltd (OIL), Indian Oil Corporation Ltd (IOCL) and Bharat Petro Resources Ltd (BPRL), a wholly owned subsidiary of Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd (BPCL), signed Share Sale Agreement (SSA) on 16 March 2016 in New Delhi for acquisition of 23.9% stake by the Consortium in Vankorneft from Rosneft. This acquisition is equivalent to 7.22 MMTOE of hydrocarbon resources. Presently, a draft ECS note is being processed for obtaining requisite approvals. Once all acquisition formalities are completed i.r.o. 11% by OVL and 23.9% by the Indian Consortium, Indian public sector oil companies will have total 49.9% stake in Vankorneft and over 15.09 MMTOE of hydrocarbon resources will be added to India's energy security.

## 27. Hydrocarbon Vision 2030 for North East India

In tune with the Government of India's act east policy, the Ministry of Petroleum and natural Gas has prepared a hydrocarbon vision 2030 for the north east India which was released on 9<sup>th</sup> February, 2016 in Guwahati. The document has been prepared in consultation with all stakeholders including the state governments.

The Vision aims at doubling Oil & Gas production by 2030, making clean fuels accessible, fast tracking projects, generating employment opportunities and promoting cooperation with neighbouring countries. These synchronized goals and action plans emanate from the Vision to develop North East Region as a dominant hydrocarbon hub at the forefront of India's energy economy and a step towards realizing our Prime Minister's vision to develop the North East India in a mission mode. The Vision rests on five pillars: People, Policy, Partnership, Projects and Production. The document, not only envisages doubling the oil and gas production, but it also chalks out an action plan to double the availability of petroleum products such as petrol, diesel and LPG by the year 2030. It proposes for expansion of Guwahati, Bongaigaon and Numaligarh refineries, establishment of bio-refinery at Numaligarh and development of network of natural gas, POL and LPG pipelines in the state.

The Hydrocarbon Vision Document 2030 provides for an investment to the tune of Rs. 1.3 lakh Cr by the year 2030 in oil and gas sector in NE. Meanwhile we have already started implementing the action plan envisaged in the vision document. On 17<sup>th</sup> March the MOS(IC) PNG flagged off a rake containing NRL products for transporting to Bangladesh. NRL has done all the prep work for establishment of its bamboo refinery. For Siliguri-Parbatpur pipeline, NRL has entered into MOU with Bangladesh Petroleum and route survey and DFR has been completed. Guwahati Indmax has been commissioned in April 2016. For BGR Indmax project has been approved and will be completed by the year 2019.

Augmentation of Gopnari bottling plant has been completed. Additional LPG tankage at Silchar, Manipur and Nagaland has been completed. In order to address the serious LPG shortage issues, IOCL has planned for the LPG terminal at Chittagong and laying LPG pipeline to Agartala. IOCL has signed an MOU with M/S Premium LPG in May 2016.

## 28. Petrotech 2016

**PETROTECH-2016**, the 12<sup>th</sup> International Oil & Gas Conference & Exhibition, organised under the aegis of the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas, Government of India, was inaugurated by Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, at Vigyan Bhawan on December 5, 2016. Shri Dharmendra Pradhan, Minister of State (Independent Charge), Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas, inaugurated the PETROTECH-2016 Exhibition at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi the previous evening on December 4, 2016. As the prime showcase of India's hydrocarbon sector, the three-day mega event saw participation of over 100 eminent speakers and 6,000 delegates from 68 countries, including technologists, scientists, planners and policy-makers, management experts, entrepreneurs, service-providers and vendors. During the events, 11 MoUs relating to the sector were signed.

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**YKB**



**Press Information Bureau  
Government of India  
Ministry of Power**

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**Year-End Review - Ministry of Power**

**"24x7 Power for All": State specific Plans for 34 States/UTs under implementation;  
National Energy Shortage reduces to 0.7%; 3.5% in North East  
National Peak Power Deficit halved at 1.6%; 0.5% in North East  
Free Electricity Connections to 2.5 crore (62%) BPL households released**

In view of the growing need of the Indian Economy, Government of India has embarked upon a massive programme to provide **24x7 power across the country by 2019**. After the completion of half of its term, the Government has achieved many important milestones in the Power sector. Special focus has also been given to North East by giving approval to the North Eastern power system improvement project and comprehensive scheme for strengthening of transmission and distribution in the North Eastern States.

Several landmark decisions have already been taken in thermal power generation, hydel and more importantly in solar, wind and other green energy, besides strengthening of transmission and distribution, separation of feeder and metering of power to consumers. These also include not only achievements in capacity addition but also important reforms being undertaken on increasing energy efficiency of the present infrastructure and thereby reducing power losses.

During the **12th Plan period (2012-17)**, a **capacity addition of about 88928.2 MW** against the target of 88537 MW from **conventional sources** have been achieved till 31<sup>st</sup> October, 2016 and about **21,128 MW** against the target of 30000 MW from **renewable sources** have been achieved till 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2016.

Due to large generation capacity addition, the electricity **energy shortage** in the country has reduced to **0.7% during the current year 2016-17 (up to October, 2016) from 8.7%** during the year 2012-13. **Adequate supply of the domestic coal to power plants** has been ensured. The growth of domestic coal supply to power plants has been around **6.2% during 2015-16**.

During the **12<sup>th</sup> Plan period (2012-17)**, **1,00,468 ckm** against the target of **1,07,440 ckm** of transmission lines and **2,88,458 MVA** against the target of **2,82,750 MVA** of transformation capacity have been completed till 31<sup>st</sup> October, 2016.

The government has launched a scheme by providing support from **Power System Development Fund (PSDF) for operationalization of stranded gas based generation**. The outlay for the support from PSDF has been fixed at Rs. 3500 crores and Rs. 4000 crores for FY 2015-16 and FY 2016-17 respectively.

Under the '**24x7 Power for All**' initiative, **State specific Plans for 34 out of 36 States/UTs, have already been prepared and are under implementation**. In these documents, an assessment of energy required to provide '24x7 Power for All' for connected and unconnected consumers, adequacy of power to the State from various generating sources, inter-state transmission system, intra-state transmission system and distribution to ensure 24X7 power supply has been made. **The concurrence for the signing '24x7 Power for All' documents for 2 States viz., Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh is awaited.**

**Progress under Specific Schemes is given as under:**

**Rural Electrification**

**Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Gram Jyoti Yojana (DDUGJY)**

Under DDUGJY, projects with total cost of **Rs. 42392.46 Crore** for 29 States/UTs have been sanctioned.

**Status of implementation of RE Component**

Cumulatively (as on 30.11.2016), **electrification works in 1,16,680 (96%) un-electrified villages, intensive electrification in 3,99,829 (67%) villages** has been completed. Under DDUGJY, Government of India is providing **free electricity connection to Below Poverty Line (BPL) households**. Out of **total 4.27 crore connections sanctioned**, free electricity connections to **2.4 crore BPL households** have been provided as on **31.10.2016** under the scheme.

**The State-wise data on Rural Electrification, as on 23.12.16:**

State	Total UE Villages	Electrified	Visits
Arunachal Pradesh	1578	348	1608
Assam	2892	1808	9613
Bihar	2747	2111	11695
Chhattisgarh	1080	553	3187
Himachal Pradesh	35	28	77
Jammu & Kashmir	134	32	112
Jharkhand	2525	1397	7227
Karnataka	39	7	48
Madhya Pradesh	472	358	2909
Manipur	276	185	406
Meghalaya	912	670	1409
Mizoram	58	39	57
Nagaland	82	28	118
Odisha	3474	1908	6283
Rajasthan	495	400	3958
Tripura	26	15	95
Uttar Pradesh	1529	1459	9858
Uttarakhand	76	7	105
West Bengal	22	10	25
<b>G-Total</b>	<b>18452</b>	<b>11363</b>	<b>58790</b>

**Penalty** is imposed by the respective implementing agencies on the contractors, if the delay is attributable to the contractors as per extant rules. **Multilevel monitoring mechanism** has been developed at Central and State level.

#### **Remote Village Electrification Programme (RVEP)**

Government has implemented RVEP under the Ministry of New & Renewable Energy (MNRE) in various States to provide basic lighting through Renewable Energy Sources in un-electrified villages and hamlets of electrified census villages. **MNRE has covered 9006 villages and 2329 hamlets under RVEP so far.**

#### **Integrated Power Development Scheme (IPDS)**

A scheme to provide **quality and reliable 24x7 power supply in the urban area**. A total of **4041 towns have been found eligible under IPDS** across the States, as on 24.11.16. The scheme provides to **complete the projects within a period of 24 months** from the date of issue of Letter of Award. **The IT and technical intervention** will help in improvement in billing and collection efficiency which will ultimately result in **reduction in Aggregate Technical and Commercial (AT&C) losses**. So far, **20 out of 21 Data Centres have been commissioned and 1246 towns have been declared 'Go-Live'**. All India Short Code '1912' for Consumer Connect adopted in 44/51 Discoms in India.

#### **Energy Efficiency Schemes**

A number of initiatives have been taken up by the Government to ensure promotion of energy efficiency in the country like **Standards & Labelling programme for appliances by the Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE), Perform Achieve and Trade (PAT) Scheme, Energy Conservation Building Codes (ECBC), Unnat Jyoti by Affordable LEDs for All (UJALA) & Street Lighting National Programme (SLNP), Promotion of Energy Efficient Fans and Agriculture pump sets**, among others.

#### **National LED Programme**

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi launched the National LED Programme in 100 cities, on 5th March, 2015. This programme has two components viz., **Domestic Efficient Lighting Programme (DELP) and Street Lighting National Programme (SLNP)**.

#### **Domestic Efficient Lighting Programme (DELP)**

The **Unnat Jyoti by affordable LEDs for All (UJALA) scheme** was launched to provide LED bulbs to domestic consumers aiming to replace 77 crore incandescent bulbs with LED bulbs. The e-procurement of LED bulbs through a transparent and competitive bidding process under UJALA has resulted in **reduction of approximately 88% in procurement prices of LED bulbs** from Rs.310 in February, 2014 to **Rs.38** in August 2016, the retail price being reduced from Rs.550 to Rs.65, which is passed on to the consumers. A total of **5.96 crore of dwelling units** have been provided LED bulbs under the UJALA scheme, as on 20.11.16.

The **Street Lighting National Programme (SLNP)** aims to replace **3.5 crore conventional street light** with smart and energy efficient LED street lights by March, 2019.

Progress of National LED Programme as on **23.12.2016** is given below: -

Parameters	Domestic Efficient Lighting Programme (DELP)	Street Lighting National Programme (SLNP)
<b>Total number of bulbs/street lights replaced</b>	18.68 crores	15.01 lakhs
<b>Avoided Peak Demand</b>	4,858 MW	49.56 MW
<b>Energy saved</b>	24.26 billion kWh/year	5,45,208 kWh/day
<b>Reduction in carbon footprint</b>	19.65 million tonnes CO <sub>2</sub> /year	452.52 tonnes CO <sub>2</sub> /day

Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL) has issued **Secured, Redeemable, Taxable, Non-Cumulative, Non-Convertible Bonds in the nature of Debentures in dematerialized form of Rs. 500 Crores** in the month of September, 2016 for the purpose of financing the various energy efficiency projects, which was fully subscribed. These Bonds are listed with Bombay Stock Exchange.

During the course of PAT Cycle – II, **621 units have been assigned specific energy consumption (SEC) reduction targets covering 11 sectors with projected savings of 8.869 MTOE**. In the PAT – II cycle three more sectors have been included namely **Railways, DISCOMs and Refineries**.

### **Power Generation**

Power Generation during **2016-17 (April-November, 2016)** is **777.506 Billion Units**, showing a growth rate of **4.99%** over the same period in previous year. **Coal based power generation** during the current year is **595.124 BU**, showing a growth rate of **5.92%** over the same period in the previous year.

Till September, 2016, a total of **3000 MW of inefficient thermal generating capacity has been retired**. Measures initiated for reducing the generation cost of coal based power projects: Increasing supply of domestic coal; Coal usage flexibility; Rationalisation of coal linkages.

The **Coal Mitra Web Portal**, launched by Shri Piyush Goyal on 21<sup>st</sup> December, 2016, has been designed to bring about **flexibility in Utilization of Domestic Coal** by transferring the reserves to more cost efficient State/Centre owned or Private sector generating stations, leading to **lower generation costs and ultimately lesser cost of electricity for the consumers**.

During the year 2016-17, 29 **thermal stations**, having total installed capacity of 13440.5 MW, are likely to be commissioned, out of which **9 projects with installed capacity of 3608.5 MW have already been commissioned till 31.10.2016**. In-principle has been clearance given to **replace 11000 MW Thermal Power Plants, older than 25 years, with Energy Efficient Super Critical Plants** in about five years, with an investment of around **Rs. 50,000 crores**.

In Hydro power sector, 13 **hydro stations**, having total installed capacity of 1949 MW, are likely to be commissioned, out of which **5 projects with installed capacity of 320 MW have already been commissioned till 31.10.2016**. Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) of 12 Hydroelectric Projects, with an aggregate installed capacity of 7,165 MW are under examination in CEA. The **total power generated by hydro power projects** in the country from 1st April, 2016 to 31st October, 2016 is **88306.78 MU** (excluding power imported from Bhutan which is 4908.67 MU).

### **Power Availability Position in India**

**Increase in electricity generation** from 967 BU in 2013-14 to 1048 BU in 2014-15 and 1107 BU in 2015-16 resulting in **lowest ever energy deficit of 2.1% in 2015-16, which has further lowered to 0.7% (April-Oct, 2016)** from 2.1% (2015-16). The **National Peak Power Deficit is down to half at 1.6%** in the same period as compared to 2015-16.

### **Power Situation of North East Regions**

As per information given by States / UTs to Central Electricity Authority (CEA), during the current year 2016-17 (April, 2016 to Oct., 2016), **the peak power shortage** in North Eastern Region (NER) has reduced to **0.5% from 8.4%** during the corresponding period last year. Similarly, **the energy shortage** during current year has reduced to **3.5% from 6.9%** during the corresponding period last year.

**Six thermal power units/modules** aggregating to **1103.1 MW** have been commissioned during the **12th Plan** period in the North-Eastern States. Further, five thermal units/modules aggregating to **625.5 MW** are **presently under construction in the North-Eastern States** for benefits during 12th Plan period and beyond.

### **Scheme of Utilization of Gas based power generation capacity**

The government has sanctioned a scheme for **importing spot Re-gasified Liquefied Natural Gas (RLNG)** in 2015-16 and 2016-17 for the stranded gas based power plants as well as for plants receiving domestic gas up to the target Plant Load Factor (PLF) selected through a **Reverse e-bidding process**. The scheme provides for financial support from **PSDF (Power System Development Fund)**. **The outlay for the support from PSDF has been fixed at Rs. 7500 crores** (Rs. 3500 crores and Rs. 4,000 crores for the year 2015-16 and 2016-17 respectively).

### **Foreign Direct Investment**

The existing **(FDI) policy notified in June 2016** by DIPP for FDI in Power Sector provides for **100% FDI under automatic route** for projects of power generation (except atomic energy), transmission, distribution and trading. Government of India has also allowed **the FDI up to 49% in Power Exchanges** registered under the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Power Market) Regulations, 2010, under the automatic route, subject to certain conditions, as laid down in the policy.

### **Power Transmission**

#### **National Grid**

Target of **one nation-one grid-one frequency-one market-one price** has been achieved through reforms, unbundling of the utilities, improved inter-state transmission capability, corresponding increase in generation capacity etc. **On 29th December, 2015, a single pan-India price at Rs. 2.30 per unit for power was discovered in the power exchange platform. 50,215 ckm transmission lines and 1,28,403 MVA sub-station capacity** added during 2014-16.

Available Transfer Capacity of **Southern Grid** has increased to 5900 MW (i.e. by 71% in 2014-16) due to addition of a number of transmission lines. The ATC would be further enhanced by **625 MW by December 2016 with the commissioning of 765 MW at Angul-Srikakulam-Vimagiri line.**

On 21<sup>st</sup> December, 2016 Shri Piyush Goyal released reports on **‘Renewable Energy Integration: Transmission an Enabler’, ‘Green Energy Corridor II’** and **‘Electricity Demand Pattern Analysis’**. PGCIL has prepared the first two reports that cover aspects of comprehensive transmission plan to integrate renewable energy sources into the National Grid and role of Transmission as an Enabler in growing Renewable Energy (RE) penetration scenario.

### **Power Distribution**

#### **Ujwal DISCOM Assurance Yojana (UDAY)**

Ujwal DISCOM Assurance Yojana (UDAY), a scheme for financial and operational turnaround of Power Distribution Companies was formulated and launched by the Government on 20th November, 2015 in consultation with the various stakeholders. The scheme aims to provide **permanent solution to legacy debts of approximately Rs.4.3 lakh crores** and address potential future losses.

**As on 08.12.2016, 17 States** of Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat, Bihar, Punjab, Jammu & Kashmir, Haryana, Uttarakhand, Goa, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Manipur, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Himachal Pradesh and the Union Territory of Puducherry have **signed Memorandum of Understanding under UDAY**. The Government of Telangana has not signed a MoU under UDAY so far.

In order to facilitate such States that want to join but could not join UDAY, the Government of India has now decided to extend the timeline to such States up to 31.03.2017. So far, Governments of Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Punjab, Bihar, Haryana, Jammu & Kashmir and Andhra Pradesh have issued **Bonds to the tune of Rs. 1,82,204.29 crore** including Bonds issued by Rajasthan DISCOMs worth Rs. 12,368.00 crores and by UP DISCOMs worth Rs. 10,714 crores.

A **Multi-Level Monitoring mechanism** for Ujwal DISCOM Assurance Yojana (UDAY) has been put in place to ensure a close monitoring of performance of the participating States under UDAY. Also a web portal ([www.uday.gov.in](http://www.uday.gov.in)) has been created for monitoring purpose. The last meeting of the Monitoring Committee was held on **03-11-2016**.

#### **Smart Grid Mission**

National Smart Grid Mission (NSGM) was launched on 27th March 2015. **Funds allocated for NSGM were Rs.40 Crore & Rs.30 Crore for the years 2015-16 and 2016-17 respectively.** Smart Grid Projects at **Chandigarh for Rs. 28.58 crores**, at **Amravati (Maharashtra) for Rs. 90.05 crores**, at **Congress Nagar (Nagpur) for Rs. 139.15 crores** and at **Kanpur for Rs. 319.57 crores** have been sanctioned under NSGM. The **National Smart Grid Mission Project Management Unit (NPMU)** is handholding States for speeding up development of Smart Grid Network in the country.

#### **Reforms**

##### **Amendments in Tariff Policy**

The Union Cabinet approved proposal for amendments in the Tariff Policy on 20.1.2016. **Resolution issued on 28.1.2016.** It will provide the **motivation to harness the hydro as well as renewable capacity for energy security of the country.**

Main amendments are as under:

- Promotion of Renewable Generation Obligation (RGO).
- Compulsory procurement by Discoms from waste-to-energy plants.
- Thermal Power Plants within 50kms of sewage treatment facilities to use treated sewage water.
- Hydro projects continued to be exempted from competitive bidding upto 15th August 2022.
- Use of Smart meters in a phased manner to enable 'Time of Day' metering.
- Inter-State and Intra-State transmission lines only through competitive bidding.
- Procurement of power from coal washery reject based plants of PSUs or their JVs on regulated tariff.
- Expansion of capacity of IPPs (on regulated tariff) from 50% to 100% of existing capacity.
- Compulsory purchase of power from micro grids at regulated tariff.

##### **Mobile applications and websites launched to ensure accountability and transparency**

- **Grameen Vidyutikaran (GARV) app** to help citizens track rural electrification under Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Gram Jyoti Yojana (DDUGJY) (<http://garv.gov.in/>)
- **GARV – II App**, launched on 20<sup>th</sup> December 2016, hosts the data in respect of about **6 lakh villages, with more than 15 lakh habitations having 17 crore people, that has been mapped for tracking progress on household electrification** in each of the habitations of these villages.
- **VIDYUT PRAVAH app** created to provide real time information of electricity price and availability (<http://www.vidyutpravah.in/>)
- **Unnat Jyoti by Affordable LEDs for All (UJALA) app** to keep track of LED distribution under the Domestic Efficient Lighting Programme (DELP) (<http://delp.in/>)
- **URJA (Urban Jyoti Abhiyaan) MobileApp** - the Consumer Dashboard of the URJA App, launched on 16.06.16, provides for Urban Power Distribution Sector to enhance Consumer Connect, Project Monitoring of Urban Distribution Sector projects and providing information on the monthly performance on parameters like Consumer complaints redressal, Release of New service connection, Average number of interruptions faced by consumer, Number of consumers making e-payments, Energy lost / power theft i.e. AT&C loss.
- **E-Tarang app** is for monitoring the real time Status of Transmission System.
- **E-Trans app** is a platform for better price discovery in respect of Inter State Transmission projects to be awarded through tariff based competitive bidding (TBCB) process.
- **'DEEP (Discovery of Efficient Electricity Price) e-Bidding' portal** - the Portal will provide a common **e-bidding platform with e-reverse auction facility** to facilitate nation-wide power procurement through a wider network so as to bring uniformity and transparency in the process of power procurement.
- **Mobile app for Star Labelled Appliances** – BEE has developed a mobile app for Standards and Labeling Programme (S&L) for consumers, which is linked with S&L database of BEE and provides a platform to receive real-time feedback from consumers and other stakeholders.

### **Other Good Governance Initiatives**

- **Separate e-auction window of coal for Power Sector** started.
- **Revised Guidelines for short-term procurement of power** by Distribution Licensees through tariff based bidding process was notified on 30.3.2016. Introduction of short-term procurement through e-bidding portal will result in greater transparency and fairness in the procurement process for ultimate benefit of the consumers.
- **Self-certification of the electrical installations:** Notifications on voltage level for self-certification under these Regulations have been notified on 16.5.2016. This will facilitate **Ease of Doing Business**.
- **e-bidding and reverse bidding for Goods & Services being procured** under the Ministry and its PSUs has been implemented.
- **Study of “Best Practices of ten DISCOMs where AT&C losses reduced in last 5 years”** conducted.
- **Third Party Sampling:** To improve process of measurement of quality of coal. **Central Institute of Mining and Fuel Research (CIMFR), Dhanbad** appointed. Further, CIL would **supply sized coal to power plants** to increase its power generation efficiency.
- **Policy guidelines notified for grant of Bridge Linkages** to specified end use plants of Central and State Public Sector Undertakings (both in Power as well as Non-Power sector).
- Government has approved continuation of the **Payment Security Mechanism (PSM)** beyond 31st October, 2016 for **recovery of current over dues of state power utilities**.

RM/VM

**Press Information Bureau  
Government of India  
Ministry of Shipping**

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**Ministry of Shipping: Year-end Review Setting the Stage for Growth**

**Year Ender - 2016**

The Ministry of Shipping has taken several steps during the year to build its base for realizing the full potential of India's maritime sector. From weeding out and amending obsolete legislations to modernizing existing infrastructure to building new ones, the Ministry has unleashed a whole range of initiatives aimed at the growth and development of the sector. The highlights of the work done by the Ministry during the year are as follows :

**A. SAGARMALA PROGRAMME**

**i. National Perspective Plan**

Sagarmala Programme is now moving from the conceptualization and planning to the implementation stage. The National Perspective Plan (NPP), for the comprehensive development of India's coastline and maritime sector, has been prepared and was released at the maiden Maritime India Summit 2016, on 14th April, 2016, by the Hon'ble Prime Minister.

**ii. Projects under Sagarmala**

As part of Sagarmala, more than 400 projects, at an estimated infrastructure investment of more than Rs. 7 lack crore, have been identified across the areas of port modernization & new port development, port connectivity enhancement, port-linked industrialization and coastal community development. These projects will be implemented by relevant Central Ministries, State Governments, Ports and other agencies primarily through the private or PPP mode.

Rs. 242.92 cr. has been released for 14 projects under Sagarmala. In addition, Ministry is also funding special projects under Sagarmala. In this regard, Rs. 58.5 cr. has been released for capital dredging for Gogha-Dahej RO-Pax Ferry Services Project and Rs. 43.76 cr. has been released for RO-RO Services Project at Mandwa. TEFRR is under preparation for development of underwater viewing gallery and restaurant at Beyt Dwarka Island.

**iii. Sagarmala Development Company (SDC)**

The Sagarmala Development Company (SDC) was incorporated on 31<sup>st</sup> August 2016, after receiving Cabinet approval on 20<sup>th</sup> July 2016, for providing equity support to residual projects under Sagarmala. The first Board meeting of the SDC was held on 21<sup>st</sup> September 2016 and subscribed Share Capital of Rs. 90 Crore has been released to SDC. The process is underway for appointment of Managing Director and Functional Directors.

**iv. Port Modernization & New Port Development**

Master Plans have been finalized for the 12 major ports. Based on the same, 142 port capacity expansion projects (total cost: Rs. 91,434 cr.) have been identified for implementation over the next 20 years. Out of this, 30 projects (total cost: Rs. 11,612 cr.) have been proposed for implementation starting FY 2016-17. In addition, TEFRRs have been finalized for 6 new port locations, namely – Vadhavan, Enayam, Sagar Island, Paradip Outer Harbour, Sirkazhi, Belekeri. DPR has been prepared for a new port at Sagar Island and EFC approval has been obtained on 5<sup>th</sup> August 2016. DPR is under preparation for Vadhavan, Paradip Satellite Port and Enayam. In-principle approval has been accorded by the Union Cabinet for setting up a major port at Enayam on 5<sup>th</sup> July 2016.



## Six potential new ports



## Summary of 142 Port Modernisation Projects from Port Master Plan

Port Modernisation Projects from Port Master Plan			
	No. of Projects	Project cost (Rs Cr)	MTPA
Under Implementation	42	23,263	310
2016-17	30	11,612	138
2017-18	12	2,103	30
2018-19	11	4,703	15
2020-25	26	21,588	151
2026-35	21	28,165	240
<b>Total</b>	<b>142</b>	<b>91,434</b>	<b>884</b>

#### v. Port connectivity enhancement

Indian Port Rail Corporation Limited (IPRCL) has taken up 25 works across 9 major ports. Out of this, 8 works have already been awarded and 5 more are targeted for award in the remaining part of FY 2016-17. DPR is under preparation / approval for the remaining 12 works.

Out of the final list of 27 rail connectivity projects identified under Sagarmala, 21 projects (~3300 Km, total cost: Rs. 28,000 cr.) are being taken up by Ministry of Railways and 4 projects (~151 Km, total cost: Rs. 3,590 cr.) are to be taken up either in Non-Government Rail (NGR) or JV model through Indian Port Rail Corporation Limited.

Out of 79 road connectivity projects identified under Sagarmala, 45 projects will be done by MoRTH and NHAI, including 18 projects under the Bharatmala scheme. The remaining 34 projects will be done by State PWD, Port Authorities and Sagarmala Development Company in coordination with MoRTH / NHAI.

The scope of the Coastal Berth Scheme has been expanded and approved by the competent authority on 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2016. The scheme was also integrated into the Sagarmala Programme. 11 projects have been sanctioned (Rs. 70 cr. released) and 24 proposals are for consideration under the scheme. An Inter-Ministerial Committee (IMC) has also been constituted to develop a strategy and implementation roadmap for the coastal shipping of coal and other commodities/product. Four meetings of the IMC have been held so far (22<sup>nd</sup> March 2016, 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2016, 1<sup>st</sup> June 2016 and 14<sup>th</sup> October 2016). Based on the recommendations of the IMC, DPR is under preparation for the heavy haul rail corridor between Talcher & Paradip.

#### vi. Port-led Industrialization

To promote port-led industrialization, 14 Coastal Economic Zones (CEZs) covering all the Maritime States and Union Territories have been proposed. A CEZ is conceptualized as a spatial-economic region which could extend along 300-500 km of coastline and around 200-300 km inland from the coastline. Each CEZ will be aligned to relevant major and non-major ports in the State and is envisaged to tap synergies with the planned industrial corridors. CEZ perspective plans have been prepared and Detailed Master Plans will be prepared for 5 pilot CEZs (in Gujarat, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Odisha) in the first phase of development.

The vision of the Sagarmala Programme is to reduce logistics cost and time for the movement of EXIM and domestic cargo and development of port-proximate future industrial capacities near the coast is a step in this direction. In this regard, 29 potential port-linked industrial clusters across three sectors, namely – Energy, Materials and Discrete Manufacturing, have been identified under Sagarmala. These include 13 bulk clusters for basic input industries such as Power, Refineries & Petrochemicals, Steel and Cement, 2 Maritime clusters and 14 discrete manufacturing clusters, in the labour intensive sectors of Electronics, Apparel, Leather Products, Furniture and Food-Processing etc. The master plans for the proposed Maritime Clusters in Gujarat and Tamil Nadu have been prepared.



Based on availability of land with the Major Ports, Ministry of Shipping is developing a SEZ at JNPT, Free Trade Warehousing Zone (FTWZ) at Ennore and has also identified Kandla and Paradip for development of Smart Port Industrial Cities (SPICs).

#### **vii. Coastal Community Development**

As part of the coastal community development objective of the Sagarmala Programme, the Ministry of Shipping is taking up a number of initiatives/projects. Notable among them are the coastal community skilling projects and projects for development of marine fisheries sector.

To support the development of fishermen community, Ministry is part-funding select fishing harbour projects under Sagarmala in convergence with Department of Animal Husbandry Dairying & Fisheries (DADF). In this regard, the project for modernization & upgrading of Sassoon Dock, at a cost of Rs. 52.17 cr. has already been sanctioned. Ten additional proposals, across 5 Maritime States, are under consideration for approval. Ministry is also supporting the development of deep sea fishing vessels and fish processing centers in convergence with DADF.

Ministry of Shipping is taking up a number of projects to enhance livelihood / employment opportunities for the coastal communities and has already released Rs. 16.9 cr. under Sagarmala, for skilling projects covering more than 20,000 people across 20 coastal districts. This includes safety training for workers in Alang-Sosiya Shipyard in Bhavnagar District (Gujarat). Ministry is also undertaking skill gap analysis in 23 coastal districts to identify the skilling requirements and develop a roadmap for addressing the same. The action plan for 6 districts, in the first phase, has already been prepared.

To provide skilling for port & port user community, Ministry is planning to conduct cutting-edge skill training in ports & maritime sector and is evaluating the proposal for setting up Multi-Skill Development Centers linked to Major Ports, in collaboration with Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship.

#### **viii. Potential Impact**

The projects identified under Sagarmala Programme are expected to mobilize more than Rs. 7 Lac Cr of infrastructure investment, double the share of domestic waterways (inland & coastal) in the modal mix, generate logistic cost savings of Rs. 35,000-40,000 Cr per annum, boost merchandise exports by USD 110 Billion and enable creation of 1 Cr new jobs, including 40 Lac direct jobs, in the next 10 years.

### **B. REVAMPING OF EXISTING MAJOR PORT AND MERCHANT SHIPPING LEGISLATION**

#### **i. Major Port Authorities Bill, 2016**

With a view to promote the expansion of port infrastructure and facilitate trade and commerce, the proposed bill aims at decentralizing decision making and to infuse professionalism in governance of ports. The new Major Ports Authority Bill, 2016 would help to impart faster and transparent decision making benefiting the stakeholders and better project execution capability. The Bill is aimed at reorienting the governance model in central Ports to landlord port model in line with the successful global practice. This will also help in bringing transparency in operations of Major Ports. This Bill was introduced in the Lok Sabha on 16.12.2016.

The salient features of the Major Ports Authority Bill are as under:

- a. The Bill is more compact in comparison to the Major Port Trusts Act, 1963 as the number of sections has been reduced to 65 from 134 by eliminating overlapping and obsolete Sections.
- b. The new Bill has proposed a simplified composition of the Board of Port Authority which will comprise of 11 members from the present 17 to 19 Members representing various interests. A compact Board with professional independent members will strengthen decision making and strategic planning. Provision has been made for inclusion of representative of the State Government in which the Major Port is situated, Ministry of Railways, Ministry of Defence and Customs, Department of Revenue as Members in the Board apart from a Government Nominee Member and a Member representing the employees of the Major Ports Authority.

- c. The role of Tariff Authority for Major Ports [TAMP] has been redefined. Port Authority has now been given powers to fix tariff which will act as a reference tariff for purposes of bidding for PPP projects. PPP operators will be free to fix tariff based on market conditions. The Board of the Port Authority has been delegated the power to fix the scale of rates for other port services and assets including land.
- d. An independent Review Board has been proposed to be created to carry out the residual function of the erstwhile TAMP for Major Ports, to look into disputes between ports and PPP concessionaires, to review stressed PPP projects and suggest measures to review stressed PPP projects and suggest measures to revive such projects and to look into complaints regarding services rendered by the ports/private operators operating within the ports would be constituted.
- e. The Boards of the Port Authority have been delegated full powers to enter into contracts, planning and development, fixing of tariff except in national interest, security and emergency arising out of inaction and default. In the present MPT Act, 1963 prior approval of the Central Government was required in 22 cases.
- f. Empowers the Board to make its own Master Plan in respect of the area within the port limits and to construct within port limits Pipelines, Telephones, Communication towers, electricity supply or transmission equipment. The Board is empowered to lease land for Port related use for upto 40 years and for any purpose other than the purposes specified in section 22 for upto 20 years beyond which the approval of the Central Government is required.
- g. Provisions of CSR & development of infrastructure by Port Authority have been introduced.

The Union Cabinet has approved the proposal of Ministry of Shipping to replace the Major Port Trusts Act, 1963 by the Major Port Authorities Bill, 2016. This will empower the Major Ports to perform with greater efficiency on account of full autonomy in decision making and by modernizing the Institutional structure of Major Ports. The Bill has been introduced in the Lok Sabha on 16.12.2016.

## **ii. Revamped Merchant Shipping Bill to replace Merchant Shipping Act, 1958**

In order to promote ease of doing business to meet new challenges facing merchant shipping sector – to increase tonnage under Indian flag and share of Indian seafarers, safeguard rights and privileges of seafarers, enhance safety and security of vessels and life at sea, to develop Indian coastal shipping and trade and to ensure compliance of India's obligations under International conventions and to replace old redundant provisions with contemporaneous provisions, the Merchant Shipping Bill, 2016 is being introduced in Parliament to replace existing MS Act, 1958. This Bill was introduced in the Lok Sabha on 16.12.2016.

Main features of the MS Bill, 2016 are:

- (i) To register all seagoing vessels, whether propelled or not including certain residuary category of vessels not covered under any statute;
- (ii) To allow substantially-owned vessels and vessels chartered on Bareboat Charter-cum-Demise (BBCD) contract by Indian entities to be registered as Indian flag vessels; to recognize Indian controlled tonnage as a separate category; and dispense with the requirement for issuing licences to Indian flag vessels for coastal operation, so as to facilitate augmentation of Indian tonnage and promotion of coastal shipping;
- (iii) To make the insurance of crew engaged on vessels including fishing, sailing without mechanical means of propulsion and whose net tonnage is less than fifteen compulsory by the owner of the vessel; and to dispense with the requirement with respect to signing of articles of agreement by the crew before the Shipping Master, so as to ensure welfare of seafarers;
- (iv) To make provisions for security-related aspects, which will enable identification and ensure coastal security;
- (v) To give effect to IMO convention provisions not covered in the existing act.
- (vi) Repeal of Coastal Vessel Act, 1838.

## **iii. Admiralty Bill 2016**

The Admiralty (Jurisdiction and Settlement of Maritime Claims) Bill, 2016 has been introduced in the Parliament in the winter sessions of the Parliament on 21 November, 2016. Admiralty jurisdiction relates to powers of the High Courts in respect of claims associated with transport by sea and navigable waterways. Under the present statutory framework, the admiralty jurisdiction of Indian courts flow from laws enacted in the British era. The proposed Bill consolidates the existing laws relating to admiralty jurisdiction of courts, admiralty proceedings on maritime claims, arrest of vessels and related issues and repeals five obsolete British statutes on admiralty jurisdiction in civil matters. . The Bill confers admiralty jurisdiction on High Courts located in coastal states of India and this jurisdiction extends upto territorial waters. This legislative proposal will fulfil a long-standing demand of the maritime legal fraternity.

### C. MARITIME INDIA SUMMIT, 2016

The maiden Maritime India Summit, 2016 was organized by the Ministry of Shipping in Mumbai from April 14<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup>, 2016. The objective of the Summit was to create awareness of the untapped potential of Indian maritime sector and showcase investment opportunities. The focus was on presenting India as an attractive investment destination.

The Summit was inaugurated by Hon'ble Prime Minister of India on 14<sup>th</sup> April, 2016, to mark the 125th birth anniversary of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, who is the Architect and Founding Father of our Constitution and the creator of the water and river navigation policy in India. Hon'ble Prime Minister also released the National Perspective Plan of the Sagarmala programme on the occasion. The release of National Perspective Plan firmly places the ports and national waterways at the centre-stage of national development agenda.

Secretary General of International Maritime Organisation, Mr. Kitack Lim and Minister of Oceans and Fisheries, Republic of Korea, Mr. Kim-Young Suk also addressed the gathering during the Inaugural Session. Republic of Korea was the Partner Country for the Summit. A delegation from Republic of Korea led by Minister of Oceans and Fisheries along with two Deputy Ministers, senior Government officials and representatives of over 50 maritime sector companies participated in the Summit. Maharashtra was the host state for the summit and provided all necessary support for successfully hosting the summit in Mumbai.

The 3 day exhibition organized during 14-16 April, 2016 drew enthusiastic response from 197 exhibitors including 81 international companies, 80 Indian private sector companies and 36 Government owned entities.

More than 140 Business Agreements were signed during the Summit. The value of investments in these 140 projects is around \$ 13 Billion (approximately Rs. 83,000 crores). The Ministry of Shipping also showcased around 240 projects which present investment opportunities in the sector in India in the next few years. The investment potential of these projects is around \$ 66 Billion (Rs. 4.34 lakh crores).

To follow up on the investment proposals and provide assistance to potential investors, an Investment Facilitation Cell has been constituted in the Ministry of Shipping to support investors and assist in follow-up of all Business Agreements that have been signed during MIS 2016.

### D. PORTS

The Ports play an important role in the trade of the country. In fact they are the Gateways for the EXIM Trade. Over all the ports in the Country handle 90% by volume and 70% by value of India's external trade.

#### i. Capacity and Traffic

In order to meet the ever increasing Trade requirements of the Country, the focus has to be on the infrastructure development and capacity enhancement of the Ports. Over the years the cargo handling capacity of the major ports has been growing steadily as under:

(In MTPA)	
Year	Capacity
2012-13	744.91
2013-14	800.52
2014-15	871.34
2015-16	965.36
2016-17 (upto November, 2016)	1005.96 (Provisional)

Traffic handled at the major ports has also been increasing as shown in the table below:

<b>(In MT)</b>	
<b>Year</b>	<b>Traffic</b>
2012-13	545.79
2013-14	555.49
2014-15	581.34
2015-16	606.37
2016-17 (upto November, 2016)	424.12

During 2015-16, 30 Projects were awarded, involving an investment of Rs. 15334.77 crore and additional capacity of 162.10 MTPA. In 2016-17, 33 projects have been targeted for award of which 23 have already been awarded.

## **ii. Efficiency improvement**

While increasing the capacity of major ports, Ministry of Shipping has been striving to improve the operational efficiencies through mechanization and other measures. As a result key efficiency parameters have improved considerably. The Average Turnaround Time has registered a significant improvement in 2015-16 and was 3.63 days as against 4.00 days in the corresponding preceding year. This has further improved to 3.49 days in the current year (up to October, 2016). The Average Output Per Ship Berthday has increased from 12458 Tonnes in 2014-15 to 13151 Tonnes in 2015-16. This has further increased to 13949 Tonnes during the current year (up to October, 2016). A study to benchmark the performance of Major Ports to comparable international ports was taken up with a view to improve the operational efficiency and profitability. Out of the 116 initiatives recommended by the consultants 60 have already been implemented and the remaining will be implemented by 2019. The implementation of these recommendations is expected to lead to further improvement in the operational efficiency and productivity of the Major Ports in the coming years.

## **iii. Measures to improve efficiency**

The tariff guidelines were revised to provide flexibility to port operators to align the tariff closer to market tariff subject to achievement of certain performance standards. 100% FDI is being allowed in PPP Projects in the Port Sector. The Model Concession Agreement is being amended so as to take care of the contingencies affecting the execution of PPP Projects. A new Major Ports Authority Act to replace existing Major Ports Act, 1963 to provide greater autonomy and modernization of institutional structure is under consideration. A new berthing policy and stevedoring policy has been formulated.

With a view to enable Major Ports to handle larger vessels the Ministry has prepared an action plan for increasing the draft in Major Ports. The outer harbour in Visakhapatnam Port has very deep draft of more than 18 mtrs. It is proposed to create a draft of more than 18 mtrs, in Mormugao Port, Kamarajar Port (Ennore).

## **iv. Special Initiatives in Ports**

As part of promoting Ease of Doing Business to promote and facilitate business at ports, a number of activities which include elimination of manual forms, direct port delivery, installation of container scanners at ports, RFID based automation system etc have been undertaken. Further as part of the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, Green agenda, new schemes have been formulated for providing financial assistance to Major Ports for green initiatives and also for building their capacity for combating oil pollution. Major Ports are taking up renewable energy projects to generate more than 150 MW (solar & wind energy) in the next five years. Focus is being given on setting up of Special Economic Zones (SEZs) and Coastal Economic Zones around major ports.

## **v. Green Energy Projects at Major Ports by 2017**

The Ministry of Shipping is keen to promote the use of renewable sources of energy and is in the process of installing solar and wind based power systems at all the Major Ports across the country. The target is to set up 90.64 MW of solar energy capacity at twelve Major Ports and 70 MW of wind energy capacity at four Major Ports, by 2017. These major ports have started the process of setting-up the renewable energy projects from their profit earnings. The total financial implications of the solar projects will be Rs. 407.7 crore.

A total of 6.94 MW of solar projects has already been commissioned with Vishakhapatnam Port leading the way with 6.25 MW, the other ports in which solar projects have been commissioned are Kolkata, New Mangalore, V.O. Chidambaranar and Mumbai.

## **E. SHIPPING**

### **i. Overview**

95 % of the country's trade by volume (68% in terms of value) is moved by sea. India has one of the largest merchant shipping fleet and ranked 17<sup>th</sup> among the developing countries with average age of the fleet being 18.03 years. India has a total of 1299 ships comprising of 11.24 MGT as on 31.10.2016. Out of the total tonnage, 900 vessels of about 1.52 million GT are engaged in Coastal trade and remaining 399 vessels are plying in overseas trade. Despite growth in tonnage, the percentage of cargo carried by Indian flag ships has reduced from 40.7% in 1987-88 to 7.45% of total EXIM trade in 2014-15.

The Ministry of Shipping has taken many proactive and progressive interventions for the development of the maritime sector in the country. These initiatives can be summarized under the following heads:-

### **ii. Promoting "Ease Of Doing Business"**

This has been at the core of the efforts of the Ministry during the year. Focus has been on simplifying procedures by removing irritants that make it cumbersome to carry on business smoothly. The major highlights in this regard are:

#### **(a) Exclusion of services of transportation of import cargo by ships on voyage charter from Negative List.**

Freight charged by the shipping companies for import of goods into India has been excluded from the Negative List and permitted availment of CENVAT credit on inputs used for providing such service. This will bridge the competitive gap between Indian and foreign shipping lines in the taxation sphere. This positive change puts India on par with the major progressive maritime jurisdictions, which already give full credit of taxes paid on inputs used for import cargo.

#### **(b) Zero rating of services of transportation of export cargo by Indian ships.**

The transport service for export of cargo was not being treated as export and CENVAT credit was also not available for export of goods, which made the service costlier for Indian flag ships. It has now been proposed that the services provided by Indian shipping lines by way of transportation of goods by a vessel to outside India shall be zero rated with effect from March 1, 2016 along with the availability of CENVAT credit for inputs used in providing the service. This will reduce transportation cost and puts India at par with the major progressive maritime jurisdictions which have zero rates of taxation on maritime services and also provide full credit of taxes paid on inputs used in the maritime services.

#### **(c) Reduction of service tax incidence on coastal shipping.**

Realizing the need for encouraging transportation of goods through coastal shipping rather than road or rail, the Government, in the Union Budget 2015-2016, had brought the abatement of service tax at par with road and rail i.e. 70%. However, due to lack of CENVAT credit on inputs used in the service in case the benefit of abatement is availed, the shipping companies were not able to provide services to the customers at lower costs. In Union Budget 2016-17, the Government has rectified this anomaly and allowed shipping companies to charge service tax at abated rate on freight income and avail CENVAT credit on input services.

#### **(d) Reduction of Central Excise duty on capital goods, raw materials and spares used for repair of ocean going vessels.**

This would reduce the material cost used for repair of the ocean going vessels by 4%, if domestically procured. This amendment also permits the shipyards to procure capital goods for ship repair of ocean going vessels at NIL rate of duty from the existing 12.5%. With the proposed amendment, cost of ship repair and dry-docking in India will reduce.

#### **(e) Implementation of e-payment mode for collection of ocean freight.**

With a view to ease the process of payment to the shipping lines by the importers/exporters, on the advice of this Ministry, CSLA - an association of foreign container shipping lines, operating in India, has confirmed that all their 31 member-lines have implemented e-Payment mode by way of RTGS/NEFT for collection of all type of ocean freight charges. This will bring in transparency in ocean freight charged by different service providers.

### **iii. Shipbuilding**

Global recession in the shipbuilding industry has affected the financial position of a number of yards especially in the private sector. Due to market downturn post 2008 and the lack of government policy support, all shipyards other than the defense shipyards are facing challenging times with very few global shipbuilding orders coming in. The Indian shipbuilding industry has continued to concentrate on defense and offshore sector vessels. The fleet expansion plans of Indian Navy and the vessels for the Indian Coast Guard are the two prime segments which were targeted by the Indian shipyards. Lack of orders from the Indian commercial ship owners and the lack of government policy support adversely affected the Indian shipbuilding outlook. In the year 2016, Government has taken following initiatives to strengthen shipbuilding industry.

#### **(a) Infrastructure status for shipyards.**

Government of India has, on April 13, 2016, notified inclusion of stand-alone shipyards undertaking activities such as shipbuilding and ship-repair under the Harmonized List of Infrastructure sectors. With this inclusion, shipyards will be able to avail flexible structuring of long term project loans, long term funding from Infrastructure Funds at lower rates of interest and for a longer tenure equivalent to the economic life of their assets, relaxed ECB norms, issuance of infrastructure bonds for meeting working capital requirements.

#### **(b) Financial assistance and eligibility support for Indian shipyards.**

The Government of India has introduced a Rs. 4000 crore Shipbuilding Financial Assistance Policy for a period of 10 years viz 2016-2016 to encourage domestic shipbuilding. Financial assistance will be granted to Indian Shipyards equal to 20% of the lower of "Contract Price" or the "Fair Price" (as assessed by three international valuers) of each vessel built by them for a period of at least 10 years commencing 2015-16. This rate of 20% will be reduced by 3% every three years. Necessary guidelines have since been formulated and uploaded on the website of the Ministry on June 16, 2016 for wide circulation and operationalization.

#### **(c) Criteria for evaluating and awarding tenders from shipbuilding and ship repair work floated by Govt. Departments or agencies including Public Sector Undertakings.**

Revision of domestic eligibility criteria has been approved to ensure that all the government departments or governmental agencies such as CPSUs procuring vessels for governmental purposes or for own purposes shall undertake bulk tendering for their vessel related requirements with deliveries starting from 2016-17 with a Right of First Refusal (RoFR) for Indian shipyards and shall ensure that from 2025 onwards, only Indian-built vessels are procured for governmental purpose or for own purpose. Similar relaxation will be applicable for repair of their vessels. Necessary guidelines have since been formulated and uploaded on the website of the Ministry on May 31, 2016 for wide circulation and operationalization.

#### **(d) Simplification of procedure for tax compliance.**

To promote ease of doing business in the sector, in the Union Budget 2016-2017, Government of India has issued simplified procedure for tax compliance for the shipyards while procuring duty free goods for shipbuilding and ship repair.

## **Iv Shipbreaking**

### **• Project for upgradation of ship recycling yards Alang-Sosiya with loan from JICA:**

- a. Gujarat Maritime Board had submitted a DPR for modernization of Alang-Sosiya ship recycling yards with loan assistance from JICA at a cost of US\$ 180.28 million.
- b. The project has been posed to JICA by Ministry of Finance on 25.08.2015.
- c. During the year, JICA has conducted preparatory survey at Alang Sosiya.
- d. MoEF&CC has issued environmental clearance and CRZ clearance for the project on 02.11.2016.

- e. After JICA takes a final decision on the project, Loan Agreement may be processed by March, 2017.

• **Development of Labour Housing Project at Alang Shipping Yard:**

- a. GMB has completed a project for providing dormitory type housing facilities for the 1000 labours as a Phase-I development at a cost of Rs.18.36 crores.
- b. 50% of the cost of the project (Rs.9.18 crore) has been paid to GMB on 24<sup>th</sup> June 2016 from Ferrous Scrap Development Fund.
- c. 201 labourers have applied for accommodation.

v. **Vision Document for Coastal Shipping, Tourism and Regional Development**

Coastal shipping provides benefit in the form of less environmental pollution due to lower per km consumption of fuel. However, unavailability of consolidated cargo, return cargo and general lack of awareness among shipper community make coastal shipping unviable. On the contrary, the high penetration level of road followed by rail coupled with the ability to effect door-to-door movement of cargo makes the field tougher for coastal shipping.

In order to increase the share of coastal shipping and inland water transportation to 10% by 2019-20 and to promote cruise tourism leading to development of coastal regions, the Ministry of Shipping has prepared a vision for “Coastal Shipping, Tourism and Regional Development” in consultation with stakeholders along with an action plan to achieve the objective. The key elements of the vision are to increase share of coastal/IWT mode from 7% to 10% by 2019-20, Development of coastal shipping as end to end supply chain, integration of IWT and coastal routes, development of regional centres to generate cargo for coastal traffic, development of domestic cruise industry and, promotion of lighthouse tourism.

vi. **Cochin Shipyard Limited**

(a) **Development of New Dry-dock**

A new large dry dock is considered essential for future growth of Cochin Shipyard (CSL). This dry dock will enable CSL to construct LNG ships, Large Naval vessels like the proposed second Indigenous Aircraft Carrier, Merchant vessels, like Cape size vessels, etc. The dry dock will also cater to repairs and upgradation of jack-up rigs, semi submersibles, etc. The estimated cost of the proposed new High Density dry dock is Rs. 1799 Crores (920 Crs for Civil + 879 Crs for machinery, electrical & consultancy). The proposal has been approved by CCEA on 20<sup>th</sup> July, 2016.

Ministry of Environment & Forest has given environment clearance to the project on 9<sup>th</sup> November, 2016 with a major pre condition of NBWL Clearance. Clearance from Ministry of Defence has also been requested.

(b) **Proposed International Ship Repair Facility**

The project was awarded to CSL on nomination basis by Cochin Port Trust. The contract was signed with CoPT on 24<sup>th</sup> December, 2012 and Lease deed on 12<sup>th</sup> April, 2013.

CSL had taken over 8.12 ha of land & 15 ha of water area for a lease period of 30 years along with 231 employees of CoPT. CSL intends to setup ship lift of 130 m x 25 m with a capacity to dock the vessels up to 6000T at a draft of 4.5m. The facility will have the transfer system, 6 workstations, a float repair berths and allied facilities. The total cost of Project is estimated to Rs. 970 Crores. Repairs of around 84 vessels per year are envisaged in the upcoming facility. CSL has already commenced the Ship repair activities in the small existing dry dock.

The approval of Public Investment Board (PIB) have been conveyed on 19<sup>th</sup> May, 2016. EAC deliberations (3<sup>rd</sup>) in MoEF&CC have been completed on 24<sup>th</sup> November, 2016. The Consent to execute by Factories & Boilers Department, Kerala is in its final approval stage. Consent to establish has been issued by KSPCB for this project. As per the contractual obligation with CoPT, ISRF project is to be completed within 60 months from the date of obtaining environmental clearance.

vii. **Use of Green Energy in Lighthouses**

Directorate General of Lighthouses and Lightships (DGLL) has established and is maintaining 193 lighthouses. Most of these lighthouses were operating on conventional source of energy i.e. electricity and generators. In line with Government's initiative to maximize the use of Green Energy for protection of environment, DGLL has started harnessing solar energy to operate these lighthouses. Till date, 158 lighthouses have been fully solarized by generating 377 KW of solar energy. DGLL has planned to achieve complete solarization of all the lighthouses by 31.12.2016.

## **F. INLAND WATERWAYS**

### **i. Follow up Action on National Waterways Act, 2016**

The National Waterway Act, 2016 declaring 111 national waterways, including the 5 national waterways declared earlier has been enforced w.e.f. 12<sup>th</sup> April, 2016. The process for preparation of techno economic feasibility (TEF) study/Detailed Project Report (DPR) of new national waterways was initiated. As per the feasibility reports received so far, 32 new national waterways and five national waterways declared earlier are to be developed in the next three years. Out of these 32 new national waterways, DPRs for 8 waterways are available. The process for preparation of DPR has been initiated for the remaining 24 waterways. Based on the available DPRs, development work of river Barak (NW -16) has been initiated for fairway development and navigational aids for the stretch Silchar – Bhanga (70 km) proposed under phase – I.

### **ii. Jal Marg Vikas Project**

Jal Marg Vikas Project for capacity augmentation of National Waterway - 1 (River Ganga) from Haldia to Varanasi (Phase - I) by facilitating navigation of 1500-2000T Ships has been commissioned with the technical and financial assistance of World Bank at an estimated cost of Rs.5639 cr. The project envisages various sub-projects such as fairway development, navigational aids, construction of multi-modal terminals at Varanasi, Sahibganj and Haldia, construction of new navigational lock at Farakka, bank protection work, LNG vessels etc. The status of development of sub-projects is as below:

#### **a) Multi-modal Terminal at Varanasi**

Work order for construction of Phase-I (A), mainly offshore work was awarded at a cost of Rs. 169.70 cr. on 13.05.2016 and the work has commenced. Work is scheduled to be completed in 26 months.

#### **b) Multimodal Terminal at Sahibganj**

Work for construction of Phase-I of the Terminal has been awarded at a cost of Rs. 280.90 on 27.10.2016. The work is scheduled to be completed in 30 months.

#### **c) Construction of New Navigational Lock at Farakka**

Tender process has been completed and the work has been awarded cr. on 15.11.2016 at a cost of Rs. 359.19 cr. The work is scheduled to be completed in 30 months.

#### **d) Multimodal Terminal at Haldia.**

61 acres of land in the Haldia Dock Complex has been taken on 30 year lease from Kolkata Port Trust.

Tender process for Phase-I of the terminal is in the advanced stage. The work is expected to be awarded in December, 2016. The work is scheduled to be completed in 30 months from the date of award of work.

### **iii. National Waterway -4**



The stretch between Muktyala to Vijayawada of NW – 4 is being planned for immediate operation for which dredging works to remove shallow patches has been awarded. The work is expected to commence from December, 2016. Preparatory works viz. land delineation surveys, categorization of cross structures are also underway in Vijayawada – Kakinada stretch of NW – 4 to develop them through a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) which is under process for approval.

#### **iv. National Waterway -5**

The dredging operation in the non-tidal stretch between Erada to Padanipal has commenced. Lease agreement has been signed for 6.79 acres of land for setting up of temporary terminal facility at Erada. Action has been initiated for acquiring another 0.85 acres land on lease basis. Scheme for developing the terminal with floating pontoon equipped with suitable cranes alongwith associated civil engineering work has also already been sanctioned and work for construction of pontoon with gangway has already been awarded. The procurement of cranes is also at an advanced stage.

#### **v. Inland Vessels Act (IV Act)**

The existing Inland Vessels Act, 1917 has become absolute because of introduction of modern technology, change in size, type, capacity, propulsion, deck machineries, automation in operation of powered vessels in Indian waters. There is, therefore, need to review the provisions of existing IV Act so as to rationalize the manning scale of vessels, training and education, and competency of manning staff and also to ensure statutory safety with regard to design, construction and operation of vessels. The Maritime State Development Council (MSDC), in its 15<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 16.11.2016, therefore, took a decision that a new IV Act should be enacted.

In compliance with the above decision, IWAI has prepared a Draft Bill, 2017 to enact a new IV Act and repealing the existing IV Act. This Bill addresses the existing lacunae of variation of standards of Inland Vessels across States. As per the Draft Bill Central Government would be nodal authority to stipulate uniformly applicable standards and measures to safe navigation of Inland Vessels. The State Government would be empowered to implement the provisions of the new Bill. The proposed Bill has 16 parts to deal with different aspects of Inland Vessels and their use in inland waters.

The new Bill proposes reforms in the existing scheme of regulations related to certification of survey, registration, competency and service and also covers new types and categories of mechanically propelled vessels (termed as "Special Category Vessels"). The Bill covers the existing category of Inland Vessels and those to be developed in future such as LNG vessels.

The new Bill has been drafted by IWAI in consultation with Indian Register of Shipping (IRS) after intensive discussion with the stakeholders. The Draft Bill was placed on the website of IWAI and a public notices was also issued inviting comments. The comments so received have duly been incorporated in the Draft Bill.

The Draft Bill and a Note for Cabinet have been circulated for inviting comments of the concerned Ministries/Departments on 22.11.2016. On receipt of comments, the proposal will be placed for consideration and approval of the Cabinet. Thereafter, the Bill will be placed for consideration and enactment in both the Houses of Parliament following the laid down procedure.

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UM/NP/MS

**Press Information Bureau  
Government of India  
Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment**

16-December-2016 18:23 IST

**Year End Review-2016 "Rights of Persons with Disabilities (RPWD) Bill-2016" Passed by Parliament**

**Sugamya Pustakalaya- An Online Library for Persons with Visual Disabilities Launched**

**Three Guinness World Records Created in Samajik Adhikarita Shivir, Navsari, Gujarat**

<b>Year End Review - 2016</b>
<b>Ministry of Social Justice &amp; Empowerment</b>

Passing of the "Rights of Persons with Disabilities (RPWD) Bill-2016" by Parliament was one of the major achievements of the Ministry during the year 2016. Besides this the Ministry launched various initiatives for the welfare of Scheduled Caste, Other Backward Class, Denotified, Nomadic & Semi-Nomadic Tribes, Persons with Disabilities, Persons in Destitute, Safai Karamcharis, etc. These initiatives include financial support to the target groups, rehabilitation of beggars, and result oriented skill development programmes. Some of the programmes launched during the year include

**Parliament passes Rights of Persons With Disabilities (RPWD) Bill -2016 :**

The Parliament passed the "Rights of Persons with Disabilities (RPWD) Bill-2016" on 16<sup>th</sup> December, 2016. In the Bill, the Disability has been defined based on an evolving and dynamic concept and the types of disabilities have been increased from existing 7 to 21 and the Central Government will have the power to add more types of disabilities. Speech and Language Disability and Specific Learning Disability have been added for the first time. Acid Attack Victims have been included.

The Bill provides for penalties for offences committed against persons with disabilities and also violation of the provisions of the new law. Special Courts will be designated in each district to handle cases concerning violation of rights of PwDs. Reservation in vacancies in government establishments has been increased from 3% to 4% for certain persons or class of persons with benchmark disability. Office of Chief Commissioner of Persons with Disabilities has been strengthened who will now be assisted by 2 Commissioners and an Advisory Committee comprising of not more than 11 members drawn from experts in various disabilities. Every child with benchmark disability between the age group of 6 and 18 years shall have the right to free education.

**Ministry Announces Rs 90 Lakh in Cash Awards to Rio Paralympics 2016 Medal winners :**

Ministry gave Cash awards of a total of Rs 90 lakhs for the Rio Paralympics 2016 Medal Winners under Awareness Generation and Publicity (AGP) scheme. Gold medal winner Shri Mariyappan Thangavelu and Shri Devendra Jhajharia

were awarded Rs 30 lakh cash prize, Silver medallist Ms. Deepa Malik was facilitated with Rs 20 lakh and Shri Varun Singh Bhati was honoured with Rs 10 lakh for winning bronze medal at the Rio Paralympics 2016. On the best ever performance of Indian Paralympians, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi had already hailed the efforts of para-athletes in his monthly radio programme 'Mann Ki Baat' on 25th September, 2016. India sent its biggest-ever contingent of 19 athletes to the Rio Paralympics 2016.



### **Three Guinness World Records created in Samajik Adhikarita Shivir, Navsari, Gujarat :**

Three (3) Guinness World Records were created at Samajik Adhikarita Shivir and Scheme of Assistance to Disabled Persons for Purchase/Fittings of Aids/Appliances (ADIP) Camp in Navsari, Gujarat on 17<sup>th</sup> September, 2016. Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi graced the occasion as Chief Guest. Expressing his pleasure PM Shri Modi tweeted, "Navsari has set three records has made a mark for itself on the map of the world. Congratulations," on the micro-blogging website.



**The First record - "Highest number of Oil lamps lit simultaneously at single location"** was set on the eve (16th September, 2016) of the Mega camp. An incredible 989 Divyangjans (Person with Disabilities) came together to set an all-new record- almost doubling the minimum of 500 participants they needed in order to achieve the title. The challenge was for each person to light the lamp exactly at the same time after a given signal within 30 seconds.





**The Second record 'Biggest Wheelchair Logo' was also broken on 17th September, 2016 in Navsari, Gujarat.** The 1,000 participants in wheelchairs depicted a message saying 'Happy Birthday PM' in Tri-colour. It bettered the previous record of 346 participants that was achieved by Hope Inc. in Moorhead, Minnesota, USA.



**The Third world record 'Most people fitted with Hearing Aid in 8 hours – Single location (600 Hearing Aid)** was also set on the same day. Free assistive devices kits were handed out to thousands of Divyangs throughout the weekend, in addition to the hearing aids distributed during the record attempt.

**Sugamya Pustakalaya- an online library for persons with visual disabilities launched :**

“Sugamya Pustakalaya: A step towards an Accessible Digital India” (An online library for persons with visual disabilities) was launched by Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad, Minister for Law & Justice and Electronics & Information Technology at a function organized by Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment in New Delhi on 24<sup>th</sup> August, 2016. Shri Thaawarchand Gehlot, Minister of Social Justice & Empowerment presided over the function.

“**Sugamaya Pustakalaya**” is an online platform that makes accessible content available to print-disabled people. The library houses publications across diverse subjects and languages and multiple accessible formats. It has been created by Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan), Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment in collaboration with member organizations of Daisy Forum of India and powered by TCS Access. Books are available in Accessible formats for people with visual impairment and other print disabilities. Over 2 lakhs books in diverse languages. Integrating libraries across India and the Globe, including the largest international library, ‘Bookshare’.

### **President presents “National Awards for Empowerment of Persons With Disabilities -2016 :**

President of India Shri Pranab Mukherjee presented the National Awards for Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan), 2016 to awardees at a function organized by Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment in New Delhi on 3<sup>rd</sup> December, 2016 on the occasion of International Day of Persons with Disabilities (3<sup>rd</sup> December). Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment Shri Thaawarchand Gehlot, Ministers of State of Social Justice and Empowerment Shri Krishan Pal Gurjar, Shri Ramdas Athawale also graced the occasion.

On International Day of Persons with Disabilities i.e. 3<sup>rd</sup> December the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan), Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment presents National Awards on Individuals, Institutions, Organisations, State/District etc for their outstanding achievements and work done towards empowerment of Persons with Disabilities.



### **President Presents ‘Vayoshreshtha Samman’ to Older Persons & Institutions on International Day of Older Persons :**

The President of India Shri Pranab Mukharjee presented the National Awards for Senior Citizens "**Vayoshreshtha Samman-2016**" to eminent senior citizens and institutions in recognition of their service towards the cause of elderly persons, especially indigent senior citizens at a function organized by the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment in New Delhi on 1<sup>st</sup> October, 2016. Union Minister for Social Justice & Empowerment Shri Thawarchand Gehlot presided over the function. These awards were presented as part of the celebration of the International Day of Older Persons (IDOP) on 1<sup>st</sup> October.

Vayoshreshtha Samman is a Scheme of National Awards instituted by the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment (D/o Social Justice & Empowerment) initially in 2005 and was upgraded to the status of National Awards in 2013, for institutions involved in rendering distinguished service for the cause of elderly persons especially indigent senior citizens and to eminent citizens in recognition of their service/achievements. Ministries of Social Justice & Empowerment, Health and Rural Development are running such useful schemes for the welfare of elderly persons.

#### **'Job Fair for Divyangjans'organised :**

Two days "Job Fair for Divyangjans" from 7th to 8th September 2016 was organized by Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment in New Delhi. It was inaugurated by Union Minister for Social Justice & Empowerment Shri Thaarwarchand Gehlot in New Delhi. About 30 private sector companies and Industries participated in the special job fair for Divyangjans. Based on their requirements these companies and industries made assessments of Divyangjans to give them employment.

#### **Ministry felicitates visually impaired Judo Medalists from Commonwealth Games :**

The Government is working on setting up 5 National Sports Centres for persons with disabilities. Out of these 3 Centres viz. Punjab, Madhya Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh will come up very soon as the land has been allotted and preparatory work has been started. The Government is very keen to provide all possible supports to the persons with disabilities so that they can excel in different spheres of life. Shri Thawarchand Gehlot, Union Minister for Social Justice & Empowerment said this on 1<sup>st</sup> June, 2016 in New Delhi while felicitating Visually Impaired Judokas who won Gold & Bronze medals for India in recently held Commonwealth Championship in South Africa. Minister has also announced Rs.1 lakh each for Gold medallists and Coach and Rs. 50000 each for Bronze medallists.

#### **Prime Minister Unveils the Foundation Plaque of Dr. Ambedkar National Memorial :**

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The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi unveiled the foundation plaque of Dr Ambedkar National Memorial on 21<sup>st</sup> March 2016 to be constructed at 26, Alipur Road, Delhi where Dr Ambedkar breathed his last. Delivering Dr. Ambedkar's Memorial Lecture on the occasion, Shri Modi said that Dr Ambedkar contribution to the nation is immense. Most of the programmes being taken by the government now had been visualized by him only. Because of his ideology and vision for oppressed and downtrodden, he should be remembered saviour of oppressed world over and not as the leader of Dalits only in India.

#### **New Rules notified to revamp Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act :**

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The Ministry has notified the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Amendment Rules, 2016 on 14 April 2016, the birthday of Babasaheb Ambedkar. The Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 was amended by Parliament in 2016. The amendments made stronger provisions for the protection of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes from atrocities against them. Rules have now been framed to give effect to the



amended provisions. These rules will speed up the process of dispensation of justice to victims of atrocities, are strongly sensitive in cases of offences against women, and liberalize and expedite access to relief for the members of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes who have been victims of atrocities.

#### **National Job Portal for persons with disabilities launched :**

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The Ministry launched an exclusive job portal for Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) on 27<sup>th</sup> January 2016. The PwDs can avail the different facilities such as self employment loan, education loan, skill training, link to scholarships and information about jobs in a single window platform through this National Job Portal. A book on success stories of 100 PwD entrepreneurs who have come up in their life to be the true role models was also launched. The book "YES WE CAN" has been published by penguin publishers with the support of NHFDC.

#### **'Inclusiveness and Accessibility Index' as part of Prime Minister's 'Sugamya Bharat Abhiyan' for Persons with disabilities launched :**

Government launches 'Inclusiveness and Accessibility Index' to mark the next chapter of its flagship Campaign, the 'Sugamya Bharat Abhiyan'. The Index, prepared in collaboration with The Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) was launched by Shri M Venkaiah Naidu, Minister of Urban Development, Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation and Parliamentary Affairs at a function held in New Delhi on 30<sup>th</sup> March 2016. The 'Inclusiveness and Accessibility Index' helps the industries and corporate to participate in the Accessible India Campaign (AIC) by voluntarily evaluating their readiness for making the workplace accessible for Persons with Disabilities. The Prime Minister made a call to the Corporate Sector to come forward and support the Campaign during his speech on the occasion of the launch of AIC on 3rd December 2015, which also marked the International Day of Persons with Disabilities.

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#### **Steps taken to promote Schedule Caste Entrepreneurship :**

Venture Capital Fund of Rs. 200 Crore for Schedule Caste Entrepreneurs created on 22 December 2014. The Scheme would be implemented by Industrial Corporation of India Limited. The Fund has been registered with SEBI. Credit Enhancement Guarantee Schemes for Young Scheduled Caste Entrepreneurs launched with a budget of Rs. 200 crore to facilitate concessional finance. This will encourage Entrepreneurship among SC and result in job creation.

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#### **First Ever Draft List of Denotified & Nomadic Tribes released :**

The Ministry released first ever draft list of Denotified, Nomadic & Semi Nomadic Tribes, prepared by National Commission for Denotified, Nomadic & Semi Nomadic Tribes in New Delhi on 27<sup>th</sup> June 2016. The draft list has state wise details of the Denotified, Nomadic & Semi Nomadic Tribes.

Releasing the book, Shri Thaarwarchand Gehlot, Minister for Social Justice & Empowerment said that it is the intention of the Government to bring all the downtrodden groups of the country into the mainstream as envisioned by the Prime Minister. In addition to the draft list of DNT communities, Minister also released the feedback from these communities, decisions of the commission and its communication with the State Governments. He also said that for the first time his Government has reviewed the progress of development of these communities, so as to identify their issues and suggest appropriate measures for their improvement.

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#### **Motor Bikers, Citizens rally in support of Accessible India Campaign's "Ride for Accessibility" at India Gate :**

The Ministry and some of the leading Motor-Bike Groups of the National Capital came together to spread awareness about 'Universal Accessibility' through 'Ride for Accessibility' for the Accessible India Campaign. A festival of 'Roaring

Wheels' rolled out at the India Gate in New Delhi on 24<sup>th</sup> July, 2016. The Rally 'Ride for Accessibility' was flagged off by Shri Thaawarchand Gehlot, Minister for Social Justice & Empowerment.

### **Ministry signs MOU with National Drug Dependence Treatment Centre (NDDTC), AIIMS :**

The Ministry signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with National Drug Dependence Treatment Centre (NDDTC) under All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), New Delhi in New Delhi on 30<sup>th</sup> August, 2016 to conduct a National Survey on Extent and Pattern of Substance Use. The proposed National Survey on Extent and Pattern of Substance Use will provide estimates of proportion and absolute number of Users and Dependent individuals of various psychoactive substances (Drugs) in all the states/UTs and at the National level in India. It will also help in mapping the presence of services and interventions for drug dependent individuals and identifying the gaps in service delivery.

### **Accessible India Campaign-Important achievements /milestones of the Campaign :**

- 50 cities have been selected as part of this Campaign.
- Eighteen organizations were empanelled as Access Auditors by the Department, after a detailed screening procedure.
- Access Audit of 1092 buildings out of 1098 building (work order issued on 19.03.2016) in 31 cities is completed, constituting 99.3% achievement. In addition to this, work orders for 410 buildings in 13 more cities have been issued on 23.06.2016 to the empanelled auditors in which Access Audit of 400 buildings (97.5%) are completed.
- State Governments have been requested to send financial proposals along with pending Utilization Certificates (UCs) of previous years under SIPDA Scheme. Financial proposals from 10 States/UTs have been received.
- PRAGATI meeting on Accessible India Campaign under the Chairmanship of the Prime Minister with Central Government Secretaries and State Chief Secretaries was held on 24.08.16 to review the implementation of the campaign.
- Video conferencing with State Secretaries of Social Welfare Department of 10 States was held on 31.08.16 to expedite financial proposals.
- Decision taken that Central Ministries/Departments will carry out retrofitting of the building to make them accessible from their budget. It has been targeted that all international airports and A-1, A and B categories railway stations will be made accessible by December, 2016.
- Efforts are being made on accessibility of government websites and on the need to make changes in the Public Procurement Policy for mandatory accessible provisions in the purchase of IT Hardware and Software. Accessibility of TV programmes and dissemination requirements are also important targets under Accessible India Campaign.
- M/o Drinking Water and Sanitation and M/o Urban Development have been requested to ensure that adequate number of unisex accessible toilets is constructed in each block under Swachh Bharat Mission.
- 50 Accessibility Clubs in IITs, IIMs and other institutes have been set up for encouraging innovation and investment in Accessibility Solutions.
- The Department has prepared an index to measure inclusiveness and accessibility across different kinds of organizations. The Index is an educational and aspirational tool, which aims at assessing the current state of inclusiveness and accessibility of persons with disabilities in an organization and acts as a guide for taking progressive steps to increase support, inclusiveness and accessibility towards persons / employees with disability.

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**Sanjay Kumar/jk/SJ&E-Year End Review/16.12.2016**



**Press Information Bureau  
Government of India  
Ministry of Urban Development**

18-December-2016 12:45 IST

**115 cities launch water supply and sewerage projects under Atal Mission at a cost of Rs.6,346 cr  
20 cities take up schemes worth more than Rs.100 cr each; another 20 more than Rs.50 cr each  
87 Smart City Projects worth Rs.5,768 cr in progress; 7 already completed  
Cities gear up for resource mobilization through credit rating; 87 smart cities being credit rated  
482 cities become Open Defecation Free; Toilet building close to half-way mark of mission target  
Over 9 lakh houses approved for urban poor in just one year; about 3 lakh houses built so far**

**Ease of Doing Business in urban areas improves**

**2016 marks a good beginning in implementation of new urban missions**

**Rs. 2,72,380 cr investment in urban infrastructure approved during 2016**

**Shri M.Venkaiah Naidu says first year of execution encouraging**

Further to launch of major new urban sector missions in June,2015, implementation of urban infrastructure projects got off a good start in 2016, the first year of execution.

Brisk execution of urban infrastructure projects, approval of smart city plans for 60 cities, credit rating of cities for resource mobilization through municipal bonds, Swachh Bharat Mission picking up momentum in urban areas, enactment of Real Estate Act and notification of Real Estate Rules, large scale approval of construction of affordable houses for urban poor and massive investment approval in urban areas have, modification of Building Bye-laws and simplification of approvals for building plans and construction permits made the year 2016 a new landmark in urban development.

Under Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT), a total of 490 projects with an investment of Rs.6,571 cr have taken off the ground. These include 102 projects to ensure water supply connections to all households besides enabling water supply at the normative 135 litres per head per day in 76 cities at a total cost of Rs.3,474 cr and 41 sewerage and septage management projects and augmenting water supply in an-other 39 mission cities at a cost of Rs.2,878 cr. Another 319 projects with a cost of Rs.9,686 cr are close to being awarded for implementation. Development of open and green spaces is in progress in almost all the 500 mission cities. Investment of Rs.30,657 cr has been approved under Atal Mission during 2016 for improving infrastructure relating water supply, sewerage networks, storm water drains, urban transport with focus on non-motorised transport and open and green spaces.

Under Smart city Mission that involved the complex task of converting city-wise Smart City Plans into projects warranting elaborate technical planning, 87 projects in 19 cities worth Rs.5,768 cr are under execution with seven of them already completed, even though the first batch of 20 smart cities was announced in January, 2016. Another 80 projects with an investment of Rs.4,448 cr are close to being awarded for implementation. A total investment of Rs.1,32,197 cr has been approved under the Smart City Plans of 60 cities during January-December, 2016.

During this year, a qualitative transformation has been set in motion with cities embarking on credit rating which is necessary for mobilization of much required resources through municipal bonds. 87 smart cities have undertaken credit rating exercise with 16 of them completing the process. 12 cities that have been given credit rating are: Pune-AA, Ahmedabad and New Delhi Municipal Council-AA minus, Visakhapatnam-A, Jaipur- A minus, Udaipur, Kota and Ajmer-BBB plus, Tirupati, Kakinada and Bhubaneswar-BBB and Roukela-BB plus.

Swachh Bhart Mission in urban areas got close to half-way mark of mission targets in building toilets during this year. As against the target of building over 66 lakh individual household toilets, 27,81,883 have already been built and construction of another 21,43,222 toilets is nearing completion as the mission gained momentum in 2016. While 5.08 lakh community and public toilet seats are required to be built by 2019, already 1,07,272 toilet seats have been built so far and construction of another 1,28,550 toilet seats in nearing completion. Of the over 81,000 urban wards in the country, 39,995 wards have reported 100% door-to-door collection of municipal solid waste. 482 cities have reported to have become Open

Defecation Free during 2016. Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh, and Sikkim have declared all cities and towns as ODF. Kerala is set to do so by March next year.

65 kms of metro projects have been approved during 2016 with an investment of Rs.22,118 cr. These include Lucknow Metro (22 km with a cost of Rs.6,928 cr), Chennai Metro Extension (9 km, Rs.3,720 cr) and Pune Metro (31 km, Rs.11,420 cr).

Under Heritage Infrastructure Development and Augmentation Yojana (HRIDAY), implementation of projects worth about Rs.200 cr has begun during 2016 in the cities of Ajmer, Amaravati (Andhra Pradesh), Amritsar, Kancheepuram and Vellankini (both in Tamil Nadu), Varanasi and Warangal(Telangana).

Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Urban) has hit a new high with construction of 9,02,008 affordable houses for urban poor being approved during 2016 alone as against over 13 lakh such houses approved during 2005-2014. With this, a total of 12,91,271 affordable houses have been approved for urban poor under this new housing mission. About three lakh houses have so far been built including those sanctioned under JNNURM and RAY which were subsumed under PMAY(Urban) and being financed.

A major highlight of 2016 being enactment of Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Act and subsequent notification of Real Estate Rules for five Union Territories without legislatures by the Ministry of Housing & Urban Poverty Alleviation and by the Ministry of Urban Development for Delhi. Some States too have come out with such Rules. This legislation that came into being after a long wait of 8 years has been widely welcomed.

Under Deen Dayal Antyodaya Yojana-NULM, meant for enhancing employability and enhancing incomes of urban poor, 7,38,387 beneficiaries have skill trained, 1,18,190 urban poor have been assisted for self-employment through subsidized loans and 1,43,430 Self-Help Groups have been formed. Street vendor survey has been taken up in 902 cities and completed in 641 cities. 9,42,774 street vendors have been identified and 2,22,210 of them have been issued ID cards.

Towards improving the 'Ease of doing business', Ministry of Urban Development issued in March, 2016 'Model Building Bye-laws' providing a framework for online approvals for building and construction projects in urban areas including simplified environmental and other clearances within 30 days besides promoting green construction technologies. In pursuance of these modified laws, the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change on December 16, 2016 issued a notification under which a self-declaration is sufficient for building and construction projects up to 20,000 sq.mt area and for 20,000-1,50,000 sq.ara, environmental clearance would be issued by urban local bodies as a part of building plan approvals, after due modification of Building Bye-laws.

In a significant land mark, during January-December, 2016, a total investment of Rs.2,72,380 cr has been approved for augmenting urban infrastructure, a sector that has been starved of investments over the previous decades. This includes – Rs.1,32,197 cr under Smart City Plans of 60 cities, Rs.30,657 cr under Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT), Rs.48,773 cr under PMAY(Urban), Rs.22,118 cr for new Metro Projects and Rs.5,500 cr under Swachh Bharat Mission (Urban) and Rs.32,835 cr for redevelopment of seven central government residential colonies in New Delhi.

With this, the total investment approved by this Government for improving urban infrastructure has increased to Rs.3,38,481 cr, marking a manifold increase over that of previous years.

On progress of implementation of new urban missions, Minister of Urban Development and Housing & Urban Poverty Alleviation Shri M.Venkaiah Naidu said to media : "New urban missions except Swachh Bharat Mission were launched in 2015 after a year long extensive consultations with States, Urban Local Bodies and other stakeholders. Project formulation under these new missions warranted comprehensive assessment of city level infrastructure deficits and projectisation accordingly. Decentralization of project formulation, their appraisal and approval besides substantial hand holding by both the urban ministries resulted in speedy approvals. City governments were required to adopt new approaches in place of the earlier business as usual attitude. They rose to the occasion to a large extent and that is evident in the pace of implementation. The new found spirit of competition among States and cities is giving positive results. Ease of doing business in urban areas is improving rapidly. I welcome the notification of the Ministry of Environment and Forests this week simplifying green clearances for construction projects. On the whole, 2016, the first year of execution of new missions has been encouraging. We would like this momentum even to be further enhanced so that intended outcomes are realized within stipulated time frames."

For Delhi, the central government has approved redevelopment of seven General Pool Residential Accommodation (GPRA) colonies at a total investment of Rs.32,835 cr on self-financing basis during 2016. These colonies are; Sarojini Nagar, Netaji Nagar and Nauroji Nagar to be redeveloped by the NBCC and Kasturba Nagar, Tyagaraj Nagar,

Sreenivasapuri and Mohammadpur by CPWD. This will result in creating of housing stock of 25,667 Type-II to Type-IV houses in place of the old existing 12,970 units alongwith 3.25 lakh sq.mtrs of supporting social infrastructure and 2.42 lakh sq.mts of government office space.

To make the Building Bye-laws citizen friendly and to enhance 'Ease of doing business', they have been revised after 33 years and Unified Building Bye-laws for Delhi have been notified in March,2016. This brings down time limit for granting building permits from 60 to 30 days in general and to below 20 days for lower risk buildings and the number of documents to be submitted from 40 to 14. No building plan approvals are now required for plot areas up to 105 sq.mt.

To enhance Ease of Doing Business, integrated online building permission system has been commenced during 2016 in Delhi and Mumbai under which approvals are being accorded in less than 30 days.

#### **Some major water supply projects under implementation under AMRUT:**

Karnataka: Bijapur-Rs.174 cr,

Mandya-Rs.124 cr,

Hassan-Rs.115 cr,

Chitradurga-Rs.110 cr,

Bellary-Rs.72 cr and Hospet-Rs.51 cr.

Tamil Nadu: Thanjavur-Rs.53 cr.

Madhya Pradesh: Bhopal-Rs.155 cr,

Chattarpur- Rs.63 cr.

Maharashtra: Vasai-Virar –Rs.136 cr, Amaravati – Rs.114 cr, Malegaon-Rs.78 cr,

Osmanabad-Rs.68 cr, Panvel-Rs.51 cr.

Gujarat: Morvi-Rs.150 cr,

Chattisgarh: Korba-Rs.145 cr, Bhilai Nagar-Rs.104 cr

Uttar Pradesh: Orai-Rs.121 cr

Bihar: Chapra-Rs.62 cr

Punjab: Ludhiana-Rs.68 cr

West Bengal- Bardhman – Rs.59 cr

Chandigarh : Rs.24 cr

Odisha: Cuttack-Rs.34 cr

#### **Some major sewerage projects under execution:**

Karnataka: Gulbarga-Rs.175 cr, Gadag-Betigere-Rs.159 cr, Hubli-Dharwar-Rs.157 cr, Bidar-Rs.125 cr,

Bengaluru- Rs.60 cr.

Telangana- Siddipet-Rs.18 cr

Madhya Pradesh : Sagar-Rs.299 cr, Rewa-Rs.199 cr, Satna-Rs.192 cr, Morena-Rs.128 cr, Neemuch –Rs.68 cr

Rajasthan : Bhiwadi-Rs.130 cr, Sikar-Rs.110 cr, Alwar-Rs.86 cr

Gujarat: Vadodara-Rs.89 cr

Punjab: Abohar-Rs.83 cr

Uttar Pradesh: Muzaffarnagar- Rs.27 cr

#### **Smart City Mission- Projects completed**

Jaipur: Provision of Wi-fi network under smart solutions-Rs.104 cr, Rehabilitation of Bawris-Rs.9 cr

Udaipur: Installation roof top solar panels, Smart Class Rooms in Government Schools, Open air gym at

Gulab Park (Rs.3.50 cr)

Surat : E-governance project (Rs.5 cr)

Kakinada (Andhra Pradesh): 7 E-pathasala class rooms (Rs.10 lakhs)

### **Some major Smart City Projects in progress:**

Ahmedabad: Retrofitting of utilities in identified smart city area (TOZ area)- Rs.675 cr, Slum rehabilitation in Jujnavada area under PPP- Rs.462 cr. A total of 24 projects with a cost of Rs.2,667 cr are in progress in Ahmedabad.

Surat: Smart cards for automatic fare collection – Rs.74 cr.

Coimbatore (Tamil Nadu) : 24 x 7 water supply : Rs.556 cr.

Amritsar : Solid Waste Management Project- Rs.294 cr

Ludhiana: Solid Waste Management project-Rs.98 cr, CCTV surveillance- Rs.70 cr

New Delhi Municipal Council: Energy management through Smart Grid- Rs.529 cr, Mini STP-37 cr, Smart Toilets at 110 locations-Rs.22 cr. A total of 14 projects at a cost of Rs.656 cr in progress.

Pune: Intelligent Traffic Management Systems on buses: Rs.104 cr, Street lighting –Rs.90 cr. A total of 4 projects at a cost of Rs.214 cr in progress.

Nagpur: Technology based Smart Solutions –Rs.520 cr.

Belgavi (Karnataka): Sewerage networks and Sewage Treatment Plant-272 cr

Davangere (Karnataka): Sewerage works-Rs.5 cr

Kochi(Kerala): Pan city Smart card project: Rs.25 cr

Guwahati: Conversion of Deputy Commissioner's office into Interpretation centre and public park-Rs.11 cr

Bhubaneswar- Urban Knowledge Centre- Rs.8.50 cr

Kakinada (Andhra Pradesh):Roof top solar panels on government buildings-Rs.40 cr,  
Upgradation of eateries- Rs.5.60 cr

Visakhapatnam (Andhra Pradesh): Smart Electricity Metering- Rs.27 cr

Bhopal: GIS based Property Tax rationalization- Rs.4.50 cr, Bicycle track-Rs.4.30 cr

Solapur: Green space around Fort-Rs.0.22 cr.

### **HRIDAY projects taken up for implementation during 2016 :**

Varanasi : Improving accessibility to various heritage and religious sites, façade improvement, street illumination, adaptive reuse of Town Hall – Rs.78 cr

Amritsar : Improvement of roads leading to heritage and religious sites, revitalization of water bodies, Façade improvement, development of open spaces – Rs.40 cr

Ajmer : Heritage walk trail, Lakefront development, Façade improvement, Open spaces-Rs.35 cr

Amaravati (AP): Access improvement to heritage places, Park development, Heritage walk-Rs.18.50 cr

Warangal(Telangana): Promenade along lake development, tourism and pilgrimage amenities-Rs.20 cr

Kancheepuram: Heritage sensitive civic infrastructure around temples-Rs.17.50 cr

Vellankini (TN): Civic infrastructure project completed at a cost of Rs.1.00 cr

AAR/KM

**Press Information Bureau  
Government of India  
Ministry of Water Resources**

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**Highlights of the Achievements of the Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation**

<b>Year End Review 2016</b>
Ministry of Water Resources, River, Development & Ganga Rejuvenation

## GANGA REJUVENATION

- The Union Cabinet had approved the proposal for taking up Hybrid Annuity based Public Private Partnership (PPP) model under Namami Gange Programme which aims to reform the wastewater sector in India.
- As a major initiative towards fast track implementation of Namami Gange Programme the first company of Ganga Task force Battalion was deployed at Garhmukteshwar.
- As part of Namami Gange programme, Government of India has set up “Clean Ganga Fund” for encouraging contributions from Resident Indians, Non-Resident Indians, Persons of Indian origin, Institutions, and corporates towards Ganga Rejuvenation. The total contribution received as on 4th March 2016 in Clean Ganga Fund was Rs. 87.69 Crores.
- An Implementation Agreement for Ganga Rejuvenation under the Namami Gange Programme was signed in New Delhi on 16<sup>th</sup> April, 2016 between the Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation and German International Cooperation (GIZ) of Germany.
- National Mission for Clean Ganga under the Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation in collaboration with Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur (IITK) announced the formal launch of Centre for Ganga River Basin Management and Studies (CGRBMS) in New Delhi.
- 41 Sewage treatment plants development / rehabilitation under 34 projects, having total capacity of 808.23 mld, were sanctioned in the Ganga Basin States since inception of NGRBA Programme.
- The Empowered Steering Committee (ESC) of the National Ganga River Basin Authority (NGRBA) had approved projects for Development of Ghats and crematoria. The total estimated cost of the projects is Rs. 2446 crore.
- Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation has constituted a committee to prepare draft Ganga Act. Justice Shri Girdhar Malviya (Retd.) was appointed the Chairman of the committee.
- The empowered steering committee (ESC) of National Ganga River Basin Authority (NGRBA) has approved various projects worth Rs. 400 crore (approx).
- Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation (MoWR, RD&GR) signed an MoU in Delhi with the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (MoA&FW) for speedy implementation of Namami Gange programme.
- The Union Cabinet approved the River Ganga (Rejuvenation, Protection and Management) Authorities order, 2016. The order lays down a new institutional structure for policy and implementation in fast track manner and empowers National Mission for Clean Ganga to discharge its functions in an independent and accountable manner.
- The Ministry released an amount of Rs. 315 crore to the Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation for the implementation of Ganga action plan under Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin) during the current financial year.
- The Government availed financial assistance in the form of developmental loans granted by Japan International Corporation Agency (JICA), amounting to Rs. 496.90 Crore for projects on Yamuna.
- As on 30th September 2016, 128 projects were sanctioned under Namami Gange Programme (including the existing projects sanctioned under NGRBA Programme) at an estimated project cost of Rs.9419 crore.

## RIVER DEVELOPMENT

- Based on the satellite imageries, Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) conducted a study on Paleo-channels in the North-Western part of India. This study revealed that the Paleo-channels originate from Himalayas as well as Aravallies and flow further south in the States of Haryana, Punjab, Rajasthan and Gujarat.
- A revised Bill has been drafted to constitute a Corporation named Brahmaputra Barak North-East River Development Corporation (BBNERDC).

## **WATER RESOURCES**

- The Union Minister of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation, Sushri Uma Bharti announced that Jal Manthan convention will become an annual feature.
- Jal Manthan-2 convention on the theme “Integrated Approach for Sustainable Water Management” was held in New Delhi on 24<sup>th</sup> February, 2016.
- Workshop on lessons learnt from the ongoing Dam Rehabilitation and Improvement Project (DRIP) was held in New Delhi on 19 February, 2016.
- Overall allocation of resources for the Ministry of Water Resources was increased from Rs 7,431 crore in 2015-16 to Rs 12,517 crore in the Union Budget for 2016-17 through budgetary support and market borrowings. This shows an increase of more than 168%.
- The fourth edition of India Water Week was observed from 04 to 08 April, 2016. It was inaugurated by Union Minister for Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation Sushri Uma Bharti in New Delhi.
- A Water Film Festival was held at Water Expo-2016 in New Delhi on 8<sup>th</sup> April, 2016.
- The Govt. had approved the National Hydrology Project under Central Sector Scheme as an Externally aided Project with support from the World Bank for Rs. 3679.77 crore.
- Union Minister for WR, RD and GR Sushri Uma Bharti launched nine projects for rural sanitation initiatives under Namami Gange Programme for conservation of river Ganga in Sahibganj, Jharkhand on 13<sup>th</sup> May, 2016.
- Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi jointly inaugurated the Afghan-India Friendship Dam (Salma Dam) with President of Afghanistan Dr. Ashraf Ghani at Chist-e-Sharif in Herat province in Western Afghanistan on 10<sup>th</sup> June, 2016.
- Union Ministry for WR, RD and GR called a Meeting of representatives of Governments of Odisha and Chattisgarh in New Delhi to consider the various water resources issues/projects in Mahanadi Basin. The meeting was called in pursuance of the assurance given by Union Minister for WR, RD and GR Sushri Uma Bharti in Parliament on July 26, 2016.
- Government had started an initiative called “Ganga Gram” under Namami Gange Programme. Under this, the villages will be developed as model villages by developing sustainable sanitation infrastructure and cleanliness practices. In the first phase government has started the Ganga Gram initiative in 306 villages.
- Union Minister for Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation Sushri Uma Bharti and Union Urban Development Minister Shri M Venkaiah Naidu launched Smart Ganga City Scheme in ten important cities through video conference. These cities are – Haridwar, Rishikesh, Mathura-Vrindavan, Varanasi, Kanpur, Allahabad, Lucknow, Patna, Sahibganj and Barrackpore.
- Union Minister for Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation Sushri Uma Bharti has launched various projects worth Rs. 560 crore under Namami Gange programme at Ganga Barrage in Kanpur.
- Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation constituted a high level technical team to visit the Cauvery basin area to assess the ground realities in the basin. Shri GS Jha, Chairman, Central Water Commission was appointed the Chairman of this team.
- First installment of Rs. 1500 crore were released to the states as central assistance for 99 prioritized irrigation projects under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Program (AIBP).

**Samir/JKD**