



EDITORIAL

‘PURVODAYA’: NEW BEGINNING ON DEVELOPMENT



Dr. Sujit Kumar Pruseth*

Since 2014, the Indian State has been pursuing strong and much-needed political and economic reforms towards promotion of overall national development. The Indian growth story has been witnessing rapid transformation and accelerated development in recent times. The focus of the government has been on making India self-reliant. A self-reliant India means a robust manufacturing sector, vibrant, globally competitive and integrated economy. The ‘Purvodaya’ mission strives to achieve focused development of the eastern region to initiate the next generation of national growth.

In the ear of increased globalization, Indian needs to accelerate vigorously to utilize the expanding opportunities in economy and become a preferred destination for industries and services. This will invigorate the economy and ensure employment and sustained economic development. The Purvodaya Mission aims to usher in sustained development by making the eastern parts of India as the preferred choice of investment. An efficient economic resurgence in eastern parts of India will make India a strong economic power house in the world.

The eastern parts of India is having huge potential in tourism, blue-economy, railways , roadways and knowledge-economy. The first generation of education led development was inaugurated in Bengal before independence. Similarly, Odisha has a rich history and legacy of maritime trade. The long coast has the potential of creating world class roadways and railways. The infrastructure connectivity will boost the

local economy and create a multiplier effect in eastern states in terms of investments in IT allied sector, education, steel and petroleum. The eastern states have the robust education infrastructure including the skilled and educated man –power.

The eastern part of India has the distinction of huge amount of rice, vegetable and fish productions. The agricultural residue from these states have the potential of being used as inputs for the production of ethanol which is an essential element of petroleum. The establishment of the bio-refinery at Baulsingha in Bargarh district of Odisha is all set to change the economic condition of the farmers in the region. The enhancement in the income of the farmers and agri-business owners will be ensured through the bio-refinery.

The development of ports like Vizag, Paradip, Haldia and Dhamra etc can change the economic activities in this region. With the development of ports, investment in petro-chemicals, plastic, Blue-economy and storage facility services have become easier. Most importantly, the entrepreneurship with employment opportunities are the two key elements which will emerge as the game changer. The entrepreneurship requires a conducive eco-system which requires simplification rules and regulation, political will of government etc. The Purvodaya Mission reflects the steel resolve towards making the eastern part of India economically vibrant, socially progressive. At the same time, the Purvodaya mission aims to ameliorate the economic disparities as compared to other parts of India. Economic disparities lead

to regional imbalance and fuel political and social disharmony. In the long run, it also creates trust and governance deficit. So, the Purvodaya mission is also an effective policy instrument towards bringing in good governance.

Launched with the aim of accelerated development of eastern India, the Purvodaya mission's larger objective is to make India a leading economic power. It is pertinent to mention here the strategies devised. The strategies would be multi-prong. One is to construct Integrated Steel Hub in eastern part of India which would ensure competitiveness in steel sector and in addition, it would facilitate regional development with job creation. It has the huge potential of spurring entrepreneurship in under-developed areas. It will usher in social development like robust infrastructure in the form of schools, hospitals and skilling centers etc.

The Purvodaya mission has other noble objective of easing the lives of the people in terms of providing cooking gas. The Pradhan Mantri Urja Ganga project has been initiated with the objective of providing piped cooking gas to households in eastern states.

The Purvodaya mission aims to bring about a visible form of transformation in the lives of people in eastern part of India. Balanced economic growth and no economic disparities would ensure sustained growth and make India a stable democracy.



Dreamstime

*Editor, Purvodaya

'MISSION PURVODAYA' AND DEVELOPMENT OF WESTERN ODISHA



Dreamstime



Dr. Tapas Kumar Sarangi*

'Aatmanirbhar Bharat' is about transforming India from being just a passive market to an active manufacturing hub at the heart of global value chains. Aatmanirbhar Bharat is a strong Bharat with robust manufacturing sector, self-reliant yet globally integrated economy. A Self-reliant India will be a Force Multiplier for the global economy. When India speaks of becoming self-reliant, it doesn't advocate a self-centred system. In India's self-reliance, there is a concern for the whole world's happiness, cooperation and peace.

Purvodaya- eastern India has to drive the national growth. "Honorable Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has emphasized the need for focused development of the Eastern India to harness the untapped potential of this region to fuel next wave of national growth. This is the essence of Mission Purvodaya.

The 'Mission Purvodaya' is aimed at the accelerated development of eastern India through the establishment of an integrated steel hub. The objective of this hub would be to enable swift capacity addition and improve the overall competitiveness of steel producers both in terms of cost and quality. The steel clusters will drive employment opportunities across the value

chain, creating both direct and indirect jobs and spurring entrepreneurship, including in under-developed areas. It will spur development of other manufacturing industries and will be accompanied with social infrastructure in the form of cities, schools, hospitals, skilling centers etc.

The society of eastern India is aspirational--people are getting economically sound, their spending capacity is increasing. Eastern India will play a pivotal role in driving national economic growth and achieving PM Modi's vision of making India a \$5 trillion economy. The Eastern belt has the potential to add more than 75% of the country's incremental steel capacity. In India's march towards a \$5 trillion economy, the eastern states can play a major role where the steel sector can become the catalyst. It is expected that out of the 300 MT capacity by 2030-31, over 200 MT can come from this region alone, driven by Industry 4.0. Earlier, Japan and India have also launched the India Japan Steel Dialogue to ensure sustainable growth of the steel sector. Iron ore exports from India, particularly Odisha, helped Japan in becoming a leading economic power.

'Mission Purvodaya' was launched in 2020 for the accelerated development of eastern India through the establishment of an integrated steel hub in selected states of eastern India. The focus will be on eastern states of India (Odisha, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, West Bengal) and northern part of Andhra Pradesh which collectively hold ~80% of the country's iron ore, ~100% of coking coal and significant portion of chromite, bauxite and dolomite reserves. The Integrated Steel Hub would focus on 3 key elements: (i) Capacity addition through easing the setup of Greenfield steel plants. (ii) Development of steel clusters near integrated steel plants as well as demand centres. (iii) Transformation of logistics and utilities infrastructure which would change the socioeconomic landscape in the East. The objective of this hub would be to enable swift capacity addition and improve overall competitiveness of steel producers both in terms of cost and quality.

The National Steel Policy 2017 is nested within the government's overall aspirational target of more than doubling the domestic steel capacity to 300 MTPA by FY2031. It envisages investment to the tune of Rs.10 lakh crore to scale up crude steel production capacity to 300 MT by 2030-31. To achieve the NSP target of 300 MT of steel capacity by FY2031, India would need to set up fresh capacities of 12 million tonnes (MT) every year till 2031.

Considering the geographical, spiritual advantage and natural resource endowment that the state of Odisha has, physical infrastructure in the form of roads, communication network, electricity, irrigation system available; social infrastructure in the form of national level educational institutions, judiciary and civil society organisations and information linkages at its disposal, the state is in an unique position to move forward.

The liberalisation process that started in India in the early 1990s has made Odisha potentially the most attractive destination for large capital-intensive projects by private-sector firms – typically mineral-based ones. In 1905, Madhusudan Das, who was a champion of agriculture, established an export-oriented unit, Utkal Tannery, which once dispatched shoes for the British army. He was one of the pioneers of industrialisation in the state. In the early periods, Western Odisha bore establishment of various units (name of owning group/family in parentheses) like the Rourkela Steel Plant (government), Rajgangpur Cement (Dalmia), Bhasker Textiles (Birla) at Jharsuguda, Orient Paper (Birla) at Brajarajnagar, Tata Refractories (Tata) at Belpahar, Indian Aluminium (Birla) at Hirakud, IDCOL Cement (government) at Bargarh, J K Paper (Singhanian) at Rayagada, Ferro-Chrome (IMFA) at Theruvali, and Alind Conductor (government) at Hirakud.

The Western Odisha comprises of ten districts of Odisha State. The districts are Balangir, Bargarh, Boudh, Deogarh, Jharsuguda, Kalahandi, Nuapara, Sambalpur, Sonapur & Sundargarh. In Western Odisha 79% of its population depend on

agriculture and nearly 48% live below the poverty line. Having huge natural resources, Western Odisha is on its way to achieve this objective through its investment friendly atmosphere, infra connectivity and skilled manpower. The western Odisha will take a central role in driving the national growth as a manufacturing hub.

Districts of western Odisha consist of some of the poorest districts of India. It also consists of some of the mineral rich and forest rich districts of India. Its rich mineral wealth and water reserve is attracting domestic and foreign investors to extract its resource. Revenue from mining is adding to the financial reserve of both the central government and the state government. The potential of mineral based industries in Western Odisha along with other sectors like agriculture, food processing, creative industries,

MSME, women entrepreneurship will play an important role in making Odisha a one trillion dollar economy. As Odisha is a "hidden gem of India" the regional economies will play a key role in making India a 10 trillion dollar economy. The Government of Odisha emphasizes on the unique competitive advantages of Odisha over other states and its potential to become the export hub for metal products across the world.

With the availability of resources and opportunities ahead, a more proactive approach in advocating 'Mission Purvodaya' and development of institutions and administrative system, enhanced collaboration with national and international institutions could lead the western region of Odisha to one of the best performing economies across India.



Dreamstime

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ECONOMY REGENERATION THROUGH ACT EAST (PURVODAYA) POLICY



Dreamstime



Dr. Dinesh Kumar Nayak*

The National Steel Policy (2017) states that steel is a product of large and technologically complex industry having strong forward and backward linkages in terms of material flows and income generation. It is also one of the most important products of the modern world and of strategic importance to any industrial nation. From construction, industrial machinery to consumer products, steel finds its way into a wide variety of applications. It is also an industry with diverse technologies based on the nature and extent of raw materials used. In India, steel has an output multiplier effect of nearly 1.4 times on GDP and employment multiplier factor of 6.8 times. The Indian steel industry contributes approximately 2 per cent to the country's GDP and employs about 5 lakh people directly and about 20 lakh people indirectly.¹

Indian steel sector is seeking to fulfil all the domestic requirements and also emerge as a major player at the global stage. Despite being the world's second largest producer of steel, India's annual per capita steel consumption in 2019-20 was 74.7 kg is one-third as against the global average of 294.3 kg.² There is an excellent opportunity for India to increase its steel

1. <https://steel.gov.in/national-steel-policy-nsp-2017>

2. https://steel.gov.in/sites/default/files/R_D%20Chapter%20for%20MoS%20Website%20March%202021.pdf

consumption and avail advantages of greater steel use. Figure 1 visualizes the relationship between per capita steel consumption with country's economic development in terms of per capita GDP. It demarks two clear messages that India's lower per capita consumption of steel and lower per capita GDP, which indicates India has rich scope for development in this direction.

On January 2020, mission Purvodaya was launched in order to accelerate the development of steel sector through establishment of integrated steel hub. It aims holistic development of eastern states of India (Odisha, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, West Bengal) and northern part of Andhra Pradesh., which collectively hold around 80 per cent of the country's iron ore(Figure 2); 100 per cent of coking coal; and significant portion of chromite, bauxite and dolomite reserves. Despite being endowed with natural resources, the eastern region (Odisha, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, West Bengal, and Andhra Pradesh) has lagged behind in socio-economic development as compared to some other parts of the country. About half of aspirational districts are in this region which is becoming hotspots of socio-economic development.

With the presence of major ports such as Paradip, Haldia, Vizag, Kolkata etc., more than 30 per cent of India's major port capacity, these five states have potential in playing a major role having advantage over steel sector as catalyst and further for national economic growth and development. This Eastern belt has the potential to add more than 75 per cent of the country's incremental steel capacity envisioned by the National Steel Policy. It is expected that out of the 300 MT capacity by 2030-31, over 200 MT can come from this region alone,³ driven by Industry 4.0. Campaign 'Ispati Irada' aims to leverage usage of steel as an easy-to-use, environment-friendly, cost-effective, affordable and strength-giving material.

Through, National Infrastructure Pipeline,

with an investment worth of Rs. 102 lakh crore building infrastructure on inland waterways, shipping, air or road. Eastern India has given special focus in this infrastructure development efforts. Stressing upon the need of improving business climate, ease of doing business have been given utmost importance through setting up companies to regulatory clearances, taxation etc. Reform steps are extended to the coal sector, emphasizing revenue, higher production and logistic development in the coal sector is expected to fuel the growth of Eastern India. In addition, both petroleum as well as steel sector have to play an important role in Mission Purvodaya to harness the untapped potential of this region to fuel next wave of national growth. Indian gas grid is being expanded to new markets in eastern and north-eastern part of the country with Government's supports of capital grants under the Indradhanush North Eastern Gas Grid projects. Pradhan Mantri Urja Ganga (PMUG) project is directed to provide piped cooking gas to the millions of households in eastern states.⁴

The proposed Integrated Steel Hub, encompassing Odisha, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, West Bengal and northern Andhra Pradesh, would serve as a torchbearer for socio-economic growth of eastern India. The objective of this hub would be to enable swift capacity addition and improve overall competitiveness of steel producers both in terms of cost and quality. The Integrated Steel Hub focus on 3 key elements: a) capacity addition through easing the setup of Greenfield steel plants; b) development of steel clusters near integrated steel plants as well as demand centres; and c) transformation of logistics and utilities infrastructure, which would change the socio-economic landscape in the east.

Mission Purvodaya, an Integrated Steel Hub in eastern India would add to the competitiveness of the steel sector and facilitate regional development with job creation. The steel clusters will drive employment opportunities across the value

3. <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseDetailm.aspx?PRID=1599007>

4. <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1673977>

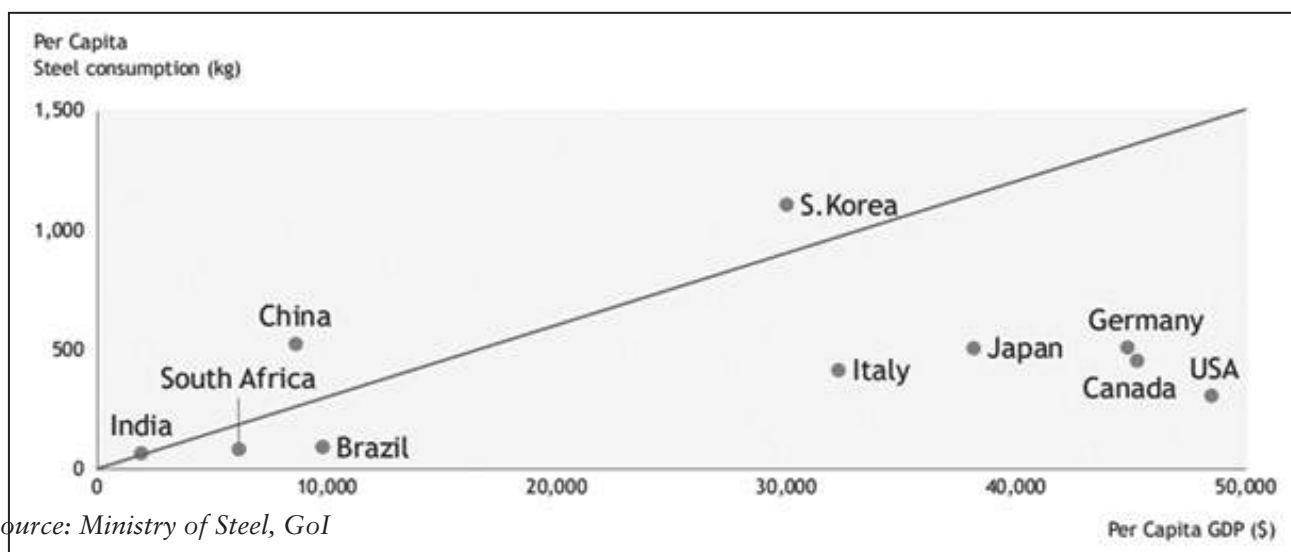
chain, creating both direct and indirect jobs and spurring entrepreneurship, including in under-developed areas. It will spur development of other manufacturing industries and will be accompanied with social infrastructure in the form of cities, schools, hospitals, skilling centers etc.

Growth of steel industry through such a hub would lead to significant employment opportunities across the entire value chain and will play a significant role in overall socio-economic growth of eastern India, thus reducing the disparity between the east and other regions of the country. By giving boost to domestic sourcing of iron and steel products by mandating preference, through (domestically-manufactured iron & steel products) DMI&SP Policy, steel imports worth more than Rs. 20,000 cr. have so far been avoided. It is further expected under the mission purvodaya, new campus of the Skill Development Institute (SDI) Bhubaneswar, aims to strengthen skill of 50,000 trainees in next 10 years. Recent sanction on a road project of Rs 1,539 crore under Raipur-Visakhapatnam Economic Corridor will increase socio-economic

development of the region.

In the budget of the country, aggregated expenditure is categorized under two broad heads: revenue and capital. Revenue expenditure includes expenditure incurred in operation and maintenance of government departments, such as salaries, pensions, subsidies, grants, interest payments on debts which are regularly incurred, recurring in nature and do not result in creation of assets. Capital expenditure includes a long-term expenditure, non-recurring in nature such as creation, acquisition of capital assets such as infrastructure, construction of roads, buildings, machinery, railway lines, airports, investment in shares, loans by Central Government to State Governments, repayment of loans, which all add to capital stock of the economy and raises economy's capacity to produce more.⁵ In India, the capital expenditure multiplier is around 2.45, while the revenue expenditure multiplier is 0.99.⁶ Thus, for an investment of each Rs. One crore increase in capital expenditure under Mission Purvodaya, the region has potential to increase GDP by Rs. 2.45 crores.

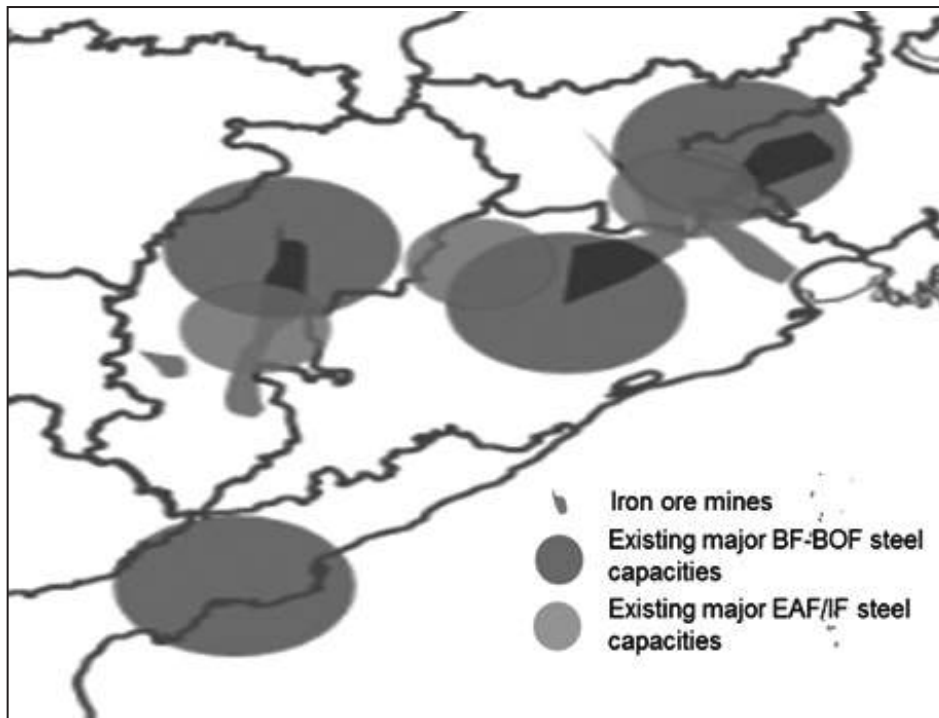
Figure 1: Per capita steel consumption as indicator of nation's economic development



5. <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/blogs/economic-policy/why-governments-are-unable-to-reap-benefits-of-higher-capital-expenditure-multiplier/>

6. <https://www.nipfp.org.in/publications/one-pagers/fiscal-multipliers-india/>

Figure 2: Steel foot print in India



Source: National Steel Policy, 2017

Note: The Indian steel industry is structured in between three broad categories based on route wise production viz. BFBOF, EAF and IF. BF-BOF route producers have large integrated steel making facilities which utilize iron ore and coking coal for production of steel. Unlike other large steel producers, the Indian steel industry is also characterized by the presence of a large number of small steel producers who utilize sponge iron, melting scrap and non-coking coal (EAF/IF route) for steelmaking (NSP, 2017).

Table 1: Some selected key process development with regards to Purvodaya Mission

Date	Theme	Source
1, January 2019	The Central government flagged off the Rs 14,523 crore Purvodaya projects including two gas pipeline projects worth Rs 7,200 crore. The pipeline projects will benefit Odisha, AP and Telangana	https://odishabytes.com/odisha-talks-business-with-go-swift-skilled-manpower/
28, February 2020	In order to discuss on the Purvodaya initiative in Odisha and prospects of Japanese investment in the steel sector and downstream development in Odisha, the Union Minister of Steel, Petroleum & Natural Gas, and Ambassador of Japan to India met Chief Minister of Odisha.	https://egov.eletsonline.com/2020/02/union-steel-minister-japanese-ambassador-meet-odisha-cm-on-purvodaya/

21, July 2020	Discussed roadmap for establishing an integrated steel hub in eastern India.	https://twitter.com/dpradhanbjp/status/1285583873439481856
14, September 2020	The Ministry of Steel has prepared a draft framework policy for development of steel clusters in the country. It is aimed at facilitating setting up of greenfield steel clusters along with development and expansion of existing steel clusters.	https://www.financialexpress.com/industry/govt-prepares-draft-framework-policy-for-development-of-steel-clusters-in-india/2082829/

The key developments took places through the investment in continuation of 'Purvodaya' vision (Table 1). The Prime Minister reiterated that the central government is committed to the all-round development of Odisha.⁷ He also inaugurated the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Bhubaneswar, which is built at a cost of Rs 1,260 crore and this would prove to be a centre of the dreams for Odisha's youth and also provide employment. Table 2 presents other instances of foundations and inaugurated projects as developments under the Purvodaya mission.

Table 2: Other instances as developments under mission Purvodaya

Gas pipelines	Paradip Hyderabad Pipeline Product Project (PHPL), Bokaro-Angul section of Jagdishpur-Haldia, Bokaro-Dhamra Gas Pipeline Project (PM Urja Ganga)
Tourism sector	Archaeological museum in Lalitgiri
Health sector	Employee's State Insurance (ESI) Hospital
National highways	Chandikhole-Bhadrak section of NH 5 (new NH16), Khandagiri Flyover, Bhubaneswar on NH 5 (new NH16), Cuttack-Angul section of NH 42 (new NH55), and Tangi-Puintola section of NH 5 (new NH16)
Bio-fuel resources	Oil reserve in Chandikhole and a special bio-fuel plant

7. <https://www.firstpost.com/politics/narendra-modi-rolls-out-infra-projects-worth-rs-14000-cr-for-odisha-criticises-bjd-govt-for-perpetuating-demon-of-corruption-5784101.html>

IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON INDO-BANGLADESH BORDER TRADE IN WEST BENGAL



Shri Kamlesh Saini*

About Land Port Authority of India (LPAI)

LPAI was established on 1st. March, 2012 under the LPAI Act, 2010 and it functions as a statutory body under the Department of Border Management, Ministry of Home Affairs with representation from the Ministry of External Affairs, Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Department of Revenue and other stakeholders. It also associates the concerned State Governments and BGFs in its work.

LPAI provides “single window” infrastructural facilities such as warehouses, examination sheds, parking bays, weigh bridges etc. for cross border movement of passengers and goods at designated locations on the international borders of India. These ICPs apart from housing regulatory agencies like Customs, Immigration and Border Guarding Force also provides support facilities like Quarantine for Plants and Animals, Banking, Parking, etc. in a single sanitized complex equipped with all the state of the art amenities. An ICP is broadly divided into a passenger facilitation area and a cargo area, for separately processing imports and exports of goods.

EXISTING INTEGRATED CHECK POST			
	LOCATION	STATE	BORDER
1	Attari	Punjab	Pakistan
2	Agartala	Tripura	Bangladesh
3	Dawki (Under Construction)	Meghalaya	Bangladesh
4	Jogbani	Bihar	Nepal
5	Moreh	Manipur	Myanmar
6	Petrapole	West Bengal	Bangladesh
7	Raxaul	Bihar	Nepal
8	Dera Baba Nanak	Punjab	Pakistan
9	Sutarkandi	Assam	Bangladesh

Salient Features

Passenger Terminal:

- Separate arrival and departure areas for passengers
- Immigration and Customs Clearances
- VIP Lounge, Prayer Room, Retail Areas, Child Care Room, Foreign Exchange Bureau, Duty Free Shops
- Offices of Customs, Immigration, BGF etc.
- Free transport at Attari and Agartala for passengers between zero point and passenger terminal

Cargo Terminal:

- Import Warehouse
- Export Warehouse
- Offices of Customs, Clearing Agents, Custodian etc.
- Weigh Bridge and Rummaging Pit, Cold Storage
- Canteen/Cafeteria
- Bank, EDI connectivity, Waiting Hall
- Toilets & Rest Area for Drivers

- Separate Parking areas for Export & Import Vehicles

- Dedicated paved areas for loose cargo

Other Facilities:

- Quarantine Block
- Electric Sub Station
- Doctor Room, Sick Room, Laboratory, Holding Area
- CCTV, PA System, Fire Alarm and Fire Fighting System
- Parking area for passenger and cargo vehicle
- Security provided by Border Guarding Force

Note on 'Operation under the impact of Covid-19'

1. Introduction of the COVID-19 awareness programme among the staff, drivers, labourers with the help of team NDRF & the West Bengal State Health department.
2. Reasonable restrictions in the entries of the outsiders to the port area and the office buildings.
3. Compulsory checking of body temperature with the thermal gun during entry.

4. Prohibiting entry without the face mask.
5. Proper sanitization of the office buildings, office desks, premises, adjacent roads, canteens, office vehicles etc.
6. Distribution of PPE kits, face masks, hand gloves, hand sanitizers, soaps to the government agencies to check the spread COVID- 19.
7. There is a pool of 100 local drivers for carrying export trucks to Bangladesh. Proper sanitization of the two dormitories is ensured where these drivers are staying. Instructions have been issued to the canteen to remain open 24*7 for them, so as to mitigate any difficulties, ensuring the availability of adequate potable water.
8. Distribution of PPE kits, face masks, hand gloves, hand sanitizers, soaps to the labourers, soaps and drums filled with water is kept ready at several points to wash hands, staff deputed at warehouses are monitoring whether any violation in the social distancing norms etc.
9. Reasonable restrictions of the entry of the users to the offices. Minimum no. of users are allowed to enter the office at a time and everybody has been strongly advised to follow social distancing norms.
10. Export - Each driver taking trucks to Bangladesh is wearing PPE kits & hand gloves and on their return each export truck is being properly sanitized at the no man's land by the LPAI team prior to its entry in India.
11. Import - Each driver bringing trucks in to India is wearing PPE kits & hand gloves and truck is being properly sanitized at the no man's land by the LPAI team prior to its entry in India.
12. The medical team deployed by GoWB is randomly testing the Bangladeshi drivers for detection of COVID-19.



**Manager, Land Ports Authority of India, ICP Petrapole*

•The idea was shared by the writer at the ISCS's conference on "Impact of COVID-19 on Indo-Bangladesh Border Trade in West Bengal"



Dreamstime

MISSION PURVODAYA- A FEW QUICK TURNAROUND OPTIONS



Dr. Arindam Saha*

The eastern region of India which used to sparkle with few world-famous universities centuries back, a region that has many stories of valour, a region that produced few noble laureates across varied fields is no longer the best region anymore. All these have one subtle hint: the typical intellectual abilities in the people of the region were unbeatable. We perhaps don't see them in abundance in our immediate neighbourhood, as people migrated as they search for establishments that can exploit critical thinking. Strangely, such opportunities shrunk like never before in the past few decades! The critical question is: can there be growth that will be lopsided in the region?

Let's deliberately limit our choices so that settle on a starting block. It's a fact that a quick growth can come from service sector, but more sustainable last mile growth can emerge from the traditional manufacturing and agriculture sectors. On the other hand new age sectors are a quick grosser, but their life span are less than the agriculture sector. Given these paradoxical anecdotes, ranking them is a tough ask as states have different flavours. My takes, with blinkered eyes, would be minerals etc. industries for Odisha, food processing Jharkhand, technology start-ups West Bengal, traditional agriculture Bihar. Despite being cognizant that

education industry and IT parks are flourishing in Odisha, I have to omit it, as I restricted to one per state. Its indeed good that Odisha is throwing more options now.

Let's pin point few interesting facets that are avenues for employments and growth in coming decades. Pardon me that I am skewed towards the new emerging industries and the choice is thus narrowed down to stories flourishing around the application side of Artificial Intelligence. More so because these products are boundary-less as well as can augment all our dreams in services, manufacturing and agriculture in the eastern region together. Sample the following cases that I think is highly doable.

- The eastern region used to be the powerhouse of India's financial markets. Till a few years back, as much as one-third of India's stock market trading used to happen from here. Not Mumbai, as many may tend to believe. Now the bigger picture, can we have a delivery-based commodities metal exchange here that will compete with the likes of London Metal exchange (which sets the metal prices across countries)? Imagine the resultant economy, the region setting or at least influencing global base metals movements. The region has efficient ports and patches of not so fertile lands that can be used as warehouses. We don't have many such base metal warehouses in the Bay of Bengal regions.

-The world seems to have become aware of IOT- (Internet of Things) and few other things. Now is the time for pre-emptive measures than reactive instruments. User behaviour learning is a big challenge. Billions of dollars are being spent on it. Can we create few centres of excellence that deals focusses only on making predictive engines? Let me highlight one application. One big industry that is yet to happen here is medicines. If we try to set up afresh that may take ages. Curiously an interesting area that emerges in pharma is bio statistics, that include molecular success prediction. It's a recent phenomenon, yet companies spending mind-blowing sums. Similar solutions are highly in

demand in agriculture. Gone are the days when agriculture was just restricted to land, fertilisers etc. Today it's also about mixing AI -(Artificial Intelligence) technology. Like using weather events to foretell agriculture inputs and outcomes. Likewise, prediction engines have applications in all spheres.

- When we talk about the eastern region, education can't be left out. But today's education is not necessarily in house. Having said that, niche education, focussed high level works (that is not just a blue sky research), research that solves industry issues are prerequisites. We must have dedicated quant and AI specific institutes for applied studies.

In the Mission Purvodaya, we have to be careful about additional requirements of enabling infrastructure like highways, sea ports, air ports, internet speed, recreational facilities etc. and the requirement of quintessential rule of the law. Since today's India is witnessing vast improvements in these aspects, I have taken it granted that these will exponentially improve here too. I have only been careful in two things in my selections, and I reiterate as follows.

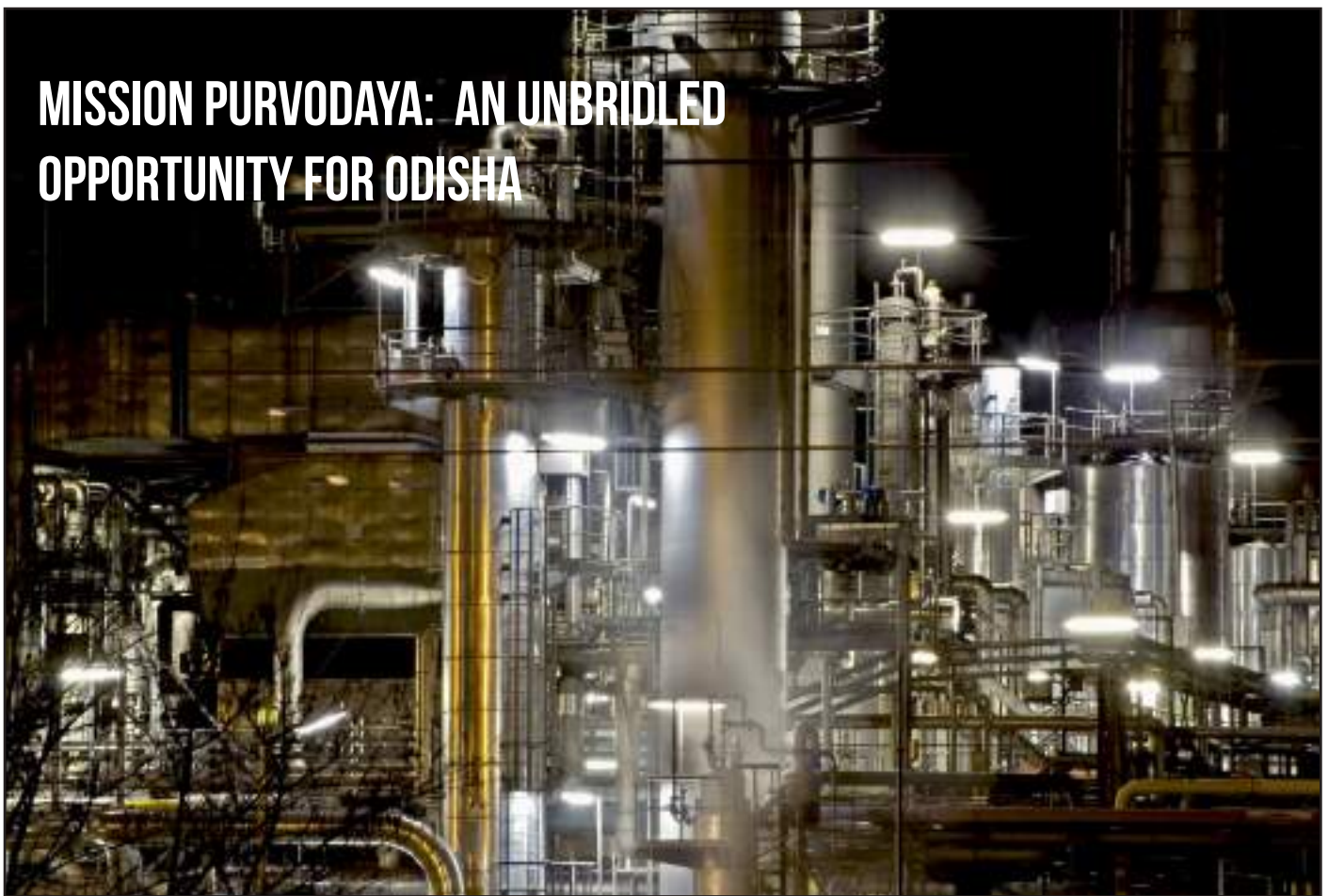
One, we could do well to focus less on industries, where we have to do lot of 'catch-up' ground works and analogous activities.

Second, we should focus on areas that are agnostic to political and geographical boundaries. Such endeavours would enable lot of quick overseas export billings.

Finally, a disclaimer is a must, no-where I meant that we would have to play down our traditional roots. Fully aware that with the blessing of river Ganga and it's tributaries the region is blessed with fertility; has so much possibilities in agriculture as well as in other sub soil activities. I repeat as the time has come for industries of tomorrow, we must not loose it. The region gave away the opportunity to become the computer hub a few decades back. Now we are at another kink – the AI revolution. I believe in Adam Smith. Government should be an enabler; spare the market to ride the kink that is certainly unfolding before us. Let the Mission Purvodaya be the catalyst.

*MD, Vista Intelligence

MISSION PURVODAYA: AN UNBRIDLED OPPORTUNITY FOR ODISHA



Dreamstime



Dr. Sarbeswar Padhan*

Steel is the backbone of modern human civilisation and considered as an engine of economic growth. Due to its low weight hardness, durability and adaptability, it is used widely in manufacturing of all engineering machines, mechanical tools, and, most importantly, building and construction structures such as bars, rods, channels, wires, angles etc. After petroleum and electricity generation, steel is one of the leading industries contributing to the growth of these core industries in India.

Steel has made a significant contributions to India's economic growth trajectory. The steel industry contributes more than 2 per cent of total Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and employs six million people directly and another twenty million indirectly. Steel has a linkage effect for both the manufacturing and service sectors. India remains the world's second-largest producer of crude steel, with output increasing from 95.477 Million Tonne (MT) in 2016 to 99.57 MT in 2020. Over the last few decades, the country has significantly strengthened its steel industry, and it has become a net exporter of finished steel, with exports of

10.150 MT in 2020 versus imports of 4.463 MT in 2020. Furthermore, according to the National Steel Policy-2017, the country aims to achieve a total production capacity of 300 MT by 2030. The global average per capita steel consumption is 224.5 kg, but to accelerate India's economic growth, per capita steel consumption could be increased from 64 kg in 2017 to 160 kg by 2030.

To achieve a \$5 trillion economy by 2030, the Union government has prioritised investment in steel-intensive sectors such as road and rail infrastructure, housing, pipe water, and electricity for all, etc. *Purvodaya* is one of the major initiatives that has been taken up to address this issue. The government will assist investors by providing them with encumbrance-free land, long-term iron ore at a competitive price, statutory clearance, and logistics infrastructure to establish Greenfield steel plants. This flagship scheme places a strong emphasis on faster development by establishing steel hubs in the states of Eastern India, which contributes approximately 80 per cent of the country's iron ore reserves and 30 per cent of its port capacity. These states, which include Odisha, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, West Bengal, and northern Andhra Pradesh, contribute the majority of steel production and provide the best logistic infrastructure, such as Ports (Paradip, Haldia, Dhamara Gopalpur and Vizag etc). Under this *Mission Purvodaya*, Eastern states are expected to attract investment amount of \$ 70 billion for development and expansion of the steel clusters.

Odisha is known for its abundant natural resources. Odisha will be the major stakeholder in the entire eco-system, with 33 per cent of total iron ore reserves and the largest producer of stainless steel, with more than 20 per cent of the

country's steel mining capacity. Odisha has three major ports (Paradip, Dhamara, and Gopalpur) for the logistics support. Steel Authority India Limited (SAIL) in Rourkela and two state-owned enterprises, Orissa Mining and Development Corporations Limited (ODMC) and Bisra Stone Lime Company Limited (BSLC), are major steel producing units. The ODMC Limited produces and sells iron and manganese ore from the Keonjhar district, whereas the BSLC Limited leases limestone and dolomite mines in the Sundargarh district. Major private producers such as Tata Steel, Jindal Stainless Steel (JSL), Bhusan Steel Limited, and Jindal Steel Works (Bhusan Power and Steel Limited) also have major operations in Odisha. In this context, Odisha can be a catalyst in leading investment zones for the major industrial corridor of Jharsuguda, Raurkela, Kalinga Nagar and Anugul district. Last year, \$5 billion infrastructure development has been undertaken in roads, railways, airports, pipelines, and bridges in the state. Again, the 50000 crore Mega Steel plant is expected to complete by ArcelorMittal-Nippon Steel India. The government of Odisha is scheduled to operate a 12 million tonnes integrated steel plant in Kendrapara. All these infrastructural developments will generate ample employment and entrepreneurial opportunities among youths in the states. As per the World Steel Association, globally, for every 2 jobs created in the industry 13 more jobs are created in the entire supply chain.

In the aftermath of the Covid-19 pandemic's economic disruptions in leading sectors of the economy. The steel industry can be a harbinger of the state's economic progress. Odisha should be a leader in *Purvodaya Bharat*, seizing opportunities and enhancing people's lives and well-being.

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ମିଶନ୍ ପୁରୋଦୟ



Dreamstime



Rajeeb Nayak*

ଗୋଟିଏ ଦେଶ ବା ରାଜ୍ୟର ଯଦି ଭିନ୍ନ ଭିନ୍ନ ପ୍ରାକ୍ତ ମଧ୍ୟରେ ସାମାଜିକ ତଥା ଅର୍ଥନୈତିକ ବିକାଶ ଦିଗରେ ଆକାଶ ପାତାଳ ପ୍ରଭେଦ ରହେ, ତାହେଲେ ତାକୁ ଆଚଳିକ ବୈଷମ୍ୟ କୁହା ଯାଇଥାଏ । ଏହା ନିରାଟ ସତ୍ୟ ଯେ ସବୁ ଅଞ୍ଚଳର ଭୂମିରୂପ, ପ୍ରାକୃତିକ ସମ୍ପଦ, ଚଳଣା ବା ପରମ୍ପରା, ଜୀବନ ଧାରଣ ପ୍ରକ୍ରିୟା ସମାନ ନୁହେଁ । ତଥାପି ସରକାରଙ୍କର ମୌଳିକ କର୍ତ୍ତବ୍ୟ ହେଲା ସମସ୍ତ ଅଞ୍ଚଳକୁ ଗୋଟିଏ ସୂତ୍ରରେ ବାନ୍ଧି ରଖିବା ଏବଂ ଏଥି ସକାଶେ ପ୍ରତିଟି ଅଞ୍ଚଳର ସମ୍ଭାବନା ତଥା ଦୁର୍ବଳତାର ଚିହ୍ନଟୀକରଣ କରି ଦୁର୍ବଳତା ସବୁକୁ କିପରି ହଟାଇ ଆଗକୁ ବଢ଼ିବାକୁ ହେବ ଏବଂ ସମ୍ଭାବନା ସବୁକୁ ଆୟୁଧ କରି କିପରି ବିକାଶ ଦିଗରେ ଆଗ୍ରସାର ହୋଇହେବ ତାର ଏକ ଦିଶାନିର୍ଦ୍ଦେଶ ପ୍ରସ୍ତୁତ କରିବା ଆବଶ୍ୟକ । ସେ ଦୃଷ୍ଟିରୁ କେନ୍ଦ୍ରରେ ଶାସନାଧୀନ ସରକାର ଆତ୍ମନିର୍ଭର ଭାରତକୁ ସାକାର କରିବା ଲକ୍ଷ୍ୟରେ ସକ୍ଷୁଳିତ ବିକାଶ ଅପରିହାର୍ଯ୍ୟ ମନେକରି ଭାରତର ପୂର୍ବାଞ୍ଚଳ ରାଜ୍ୟ ଉପରେ ଦୃଷ୍ଟି ନିବଦ୍ଧ କରିଛି । ଏହିସବୁ ରାଜ୍ୟରେ ଥିବା ପ୍ରଚୁର ସମ୍ଭାବନାକୁ ନେଇ ସରକାର ଏକ ଖସଡା ପ୍ରସ୍ତୁତ କରନ୍ତି । ସେମିତିରେ ଦେଖିଲେ ବର୍ତ୍ତମାନ କେବଳ ପୂର୍ବାଞ୍ଚଳ ରାଜ୍ୟ ମଧ୍ୟରେ ପଶ୍ଚିମ ବଙ୍ଗ, ଓଡ଼ିଶା, ଝାରଖଣ୍ଡ, ଛତିଶଗଡ଼ ତଥା ଆନ୍ଧ୍ରପ୍ରଦେଶର ଉତ୍ତରାଞ୍ଚଳ ମିଶି ଭାରତବର୍ଷର ଅଣା ଶତକଡ଼ା ଲୁହା ପଥର, ଶହେ ଶତକଡ଼ା ରତ୍ନ କୋଇଲା ଏବଂ ଅନେକ ମାତ୍ରାରେ କ୍ଲୋମାଇଟ, ବକ୍ସାଇଟ ତଥା ଡୋଲୋମାଇଟ

ଗଢ଼ିତ ରହିଛି । ସରକାର ଏହି ପରିପ୍ରେକ୍ଷାରେ ଆନ୍ତର୍ଜାତୀୟ ଭାରତର ଏକ ଅଂଶ ହିସାବରେ ଭାରତର ପୂର୍ବାଞ୍ଚଳ ରାଜ୍ୟ ସମୂହକୁ ସମୃଦ୍ଧ କରିବାକୁ ଦୃଷ୍ଟିରେ ରଖି ୨୮ ଫେବୃୟାରୀ ୨୦୨୦ମସିହାରେ କେନ୍ଦ୍ର ସରକାରଙ୍କ ଦ୍ଵାରା ମିଶନ ପୂର୍ବୋଦ୍ଘର ଶୁଭାରମ୍ଭ କରାଯାଇ ପ୍ରଧାନମନ୍ତ୍ରୀ ନରେନ୍ଦ୍ର ମୋଦୀ ଏହି କ୍ରମରେ ଓଡ଼ିଶାରେ କେବଳ ଟ.୧୫୦୦୦ କୋଟି ଟଙ୍କାର ଏକ ପ୍ରକଳ୍ପର ଶୁଭାରମ୍ଭ କରନ୍ତି ଯେଉଁଥିରେ ସ୍ଵାସ୍ଥ୍ୟ,ରାସ୍ତା, ରାଜପଥ,ଉଚ୍ଚଶିକ୍ଷା,ସଂସ୍କୃତି ଇତ୍ୟାଦିର ବିକାଶ ନିମିତ୍ତ ଖର୍ଚ୍ଚ ହେବ ।ଏଥି ସକାଶେ ପେଟ୍ରୋଲିୟମ୍ ଏବଂ ଷ୍ଟିଲ କ୍ଷେତ୍ରକୁ ପ୍ରଧାନ୍ୟ ଦିଆଯିବ । ଭାରତବର୍ଷକୁ ୫ ଟ୍ରିଲିୟନ ଡଲାର ଅର୍ଥନୀତିରେ ପହଞ୍ଚାଇବା ଅଭିଯାନରେ ପୂର୍ବାଞ୍ଚଳ ରାଜ୍ୟ ସମୂହ ଏକ ଗୁରୁତ୍ଵପୂର୍ଣ୍ଣ ଭୂମିକା ନିଭାଇ ପାରିବ ଯେଉଁଥିରେ ଷ୍ଟିଲ କ୍ଷେତ୍ର ଏକ ଉତ୍ପାଦକ ରୂପେ କାମ କରି ପାରିବ ବୋଲି ସରକାର ହୃଦବୋଧ କରନ୍ତି । ସେହି ଦୃଷ୍ଟିରୁ ୨୦୩୦-୩୧ ସୁଦ୍ଧା ମୋଟ ଆଶା କରା ଯାଉଥିବା ୩୦୦ ଏମ.ଟି କ୍ଷମତାରୁ ୨୦୦ଏମ.ଟିରୁ ଅଧିକ ପୂର୍ବାଞ୍ଚଳ ରାଜ୍ୟରୁ କେବଳ ଆସିବାର ସମ୍ଭାବନା ଥିବାରୁ ଷ୍ଟିଲକୁ ନାଭିକେନ୍ଦ୍ର ସ୍ଵରୂପ ମନେକରି ଭାରତ ସରକାରଙ୍କ ଷ୍ଟିଲ ମହାଶାଳୟ,କନଫେଡେରେସନ ଅଫ ଇଣ୍ଡିୟାନ ଇଷ୍ଟି ଏବଂ ଜଏଣ୍ଟ ପ୍ଲାନିଂ କମିଟିର ମିଳିତ ସହଯୋଗ କ୍ରମେ ସମନ୍ୱିତ ଷ୍ଟିଲ ହବ୍ ପରିକଳ୍ପନା କରନ୍ତି ।ଏହି ଷ୍ଟିଲ ହବ୍ ର ମୁଖ୍ୟ ଉଦ୍ଦେଶ୍ୟ ରହେ -

- ୧. ଷ୍ଟିଲ ପ୍ଲାନିଂ ପ୍ରତିଷ୍ଠାକୁ ସହଜ କରି କ୍ଷମତା ବଢ଼ାଇବା
- ୨. ସମନ୍ୱିତ ଷ୍ଟିଲ ପ୍ଲାନିଂ ନିକଟରେ ଷ୍ଟିଲ କୃଷ୍ଣର ବିକାଶ
- ୩. ଲଜିଷ୍ଟିକାସ ତଥା ଉପେଯାଗିତା ଭିତ୍ତିଭୂମିର ରୂପାନ୍ତରଣ

ପୂର୍ବ ଭାରତର ସାମାଜିକ ତଥା ଅର୍ଥନୈତିକ ଚିତ୍ର ବଦଳାଇବାରେ ଏହା ଏକ ପ୍ରମୁଖ ଭୂମିକା ଗ୍ରହଣ କରିବ ।ଏହି ହବ୍ ର ମୁଖ୍ୟ ଉଦ୍ଦେଶ୍ୟ ହେବ କ୍ଷମତା ବୃଦ୍ଧି ତଥା ସାମଗ୍ରିକ ଭାବରେ ଉତ୍ତମ ମୂଲ୍ୟ ତଥା ଗୁଣ ଅନୁସାରେ ଷ୍ଟିଲ ଉତ୍ପାଦକଙ୍କ ମଧ୍ୟରେ ପ୍ରତିଯୋଗାତା ବୃଦ୍ଧି କରିବା ।ଭାରତୀୟ ଷ୍ଟିଲ ତାର ସମସ୍ତ ଆଭ୍ୟନ୍ତରୀଣ ଚାହିଦା ପୂରଣ କରିବା ତଥା ଆର୍ଡ଼ିଜାତୀୟ ସ୍ତରରେ ଏକ ପ୍ରମୁଖ ଅଂଶାଦାର ରୂପେ ଅଭ୍ୟୁଦୟ ହେବା ନିମିତ୍ତ ଷ୍ଟିଲର ଉପଯୁକ୍ତ ବ୍ୟବହାରର ଉଦ୍ଦେଶ୍ୟ ନେଇ ‘ଇସ୍ପାତି ଇରାଦା’ ନାମରେ ନାମରେ ଏକ ମିଳିତ ଅଭିଯାନ

ଆରମ୍ଭ କରାଯାଏ ।ଷ୍ଟିଲ କ୍ଷେତ୍ରରେ ଭାରତକୁ ବୈଷୟିକ ସହାୟତା ଯୋଗାଇବା ନିମିତ୍ତ ଜାପାନ ସହିତ ବୁଝାମଣା ମଧ୍ୟ ସାକ୍ଷର ହୁଏ ।ଏହି ଷ୍ଟିଲ ବ୍ୟବହାର କରିବାକୁ ସହଜ,ପରିବେଶ ଅନୁକୂଳ,ଶସ୍ତା ତଥା ଶକ୍ତି ପ୍ରଦାୟକ କରିବାକୁ ସରକାର ତତ୍ପରତା ଦେଖାନ୍ତି ।

ଷ୍ଟିଲ ଭିନ୍ନ କେମିକାଲସ ତଥା ପେଟ୍ରୋକେମିକାଲସ ଇତ୍ୟାଦି କ୍ଷେତ୍ରକୁ ମଧ୍ୟ ଏହି ମିଶନରେ ପ୍ରାଥମିକତା ଦିଆ ଯିବାର ଲକ୍ଷ୍ୟ ରହେ ।ପ୍ରଧାନମନ୍ତ୍ରୀ ଉର୍ଜା ଗଙ୍ଗା ପ୍ରକଳ୍ପ ମାଧ୍ୟମରେ ପାଇପ ସାହାଯ୍ୟରେ ପୂର୍ବାଞ୍ଚଳ ରାଜ୍ୟର କୋଟି କୋଟି ପରିବାରକୁ ରକ୍ଷନ ଗ୍ୟାସ ଯୋଗାଇ ଦିଆଯିବ । ସ୍ଥିରାକୃତ ହୁଏ ।ଏହାଦ୍ଵାରା ପ୍ରଥମଥର ସକାଶେ ପଶ୍ଚିମ ବଙ୍ଗର ଜନ ସାଧାରଣ ପାଇପ ମାଧ୍ୟମରେ ଗ୍ୟାସ ପାଇବାରେ ସମର୍ଥ ହେବା ଜଣାଯାଏ ।ସରକାର ଗ୍ୟାସ କୈନ୍ଦ୍ରିକ ଅର୍ଥନୀତି ଉପରେ ଗୁରୁତ୍ଵାରୋପ କରିବା,ସ୍ଵଚ୍ଛ ଜୀବାଣୁ ଇନ୍ଦନର ବ୍ୟବହାର,ଅକ୍ଷୟ ଶକ୍ତି ବୃଦ୍ଧି,କାର୍ବନର ଗତିଶୀଳତାକୁ କମାଇ ବିଦ୍ୟୁତ ଶକ୍ତି ବୃଦ୍ଧି,ନୂତନ ଇନ୍ଦନ ସ୍ଵରୂପ ହାଇଡ୍ରୋଜେନ ଏବଂ ସମସ୍ତ ଶକ୍ତି ବ୍ୟବସ୍ଥାରେ ଡିଜିଟାଲ ନବୋନ୍ମେଷକୁ ଗୁରୁତ୍ଵ ଆରୋପ କରିବାର ଲକ୍ଷ୍ୟ ରଖନ୍ତି । ଗ୍ୟାସ କୈନ୍ଦ୍ରିକ ଅର୍ଥନୀତି ଅଭିମୁଖୀ ହେବା ନିମିତ୍ତ ତୈଳ ତଥା ଗ୍ୟାସ ଭିତ୍ତିଭୂମୀ ବୃଦ୍ଧି ସକାଶେ ସରକାର ୧୦୦ ବିଲିୟନ ଟଙ୍କା ଖର୍ଚ୍ଚ କରିବାର ଲକ୍ଷ୍ୟ ରଖନ୍ତି ।ଯଦ୍ଵାରା ପାଇପ ଲାଇନ,ତରଳ ପ୍ରାକୃତିକ ଗ୍ୟାସ ଟରମିନାଲ ଏବଂ ସହରାଞ୍ଚଳ ଗ୍ୟାସ ବଣ୍ଟନ(ସି.ଜି.ଡି)ନେଟୱର୍କ ପ୍ରତିଷ୍ଠା ହେବ ।ଉତ୍ତମ ଗାଡ଼ି ଏବଂ ଚାଳକ,କୃଷକ ତଥା ଉଦ୍ୟମୀଙ୍କ ଲାଭ ଉଦ୍ଦେଶ୍ୟରେ ଶସ୍ତା ଯାତାୟାତ ନିମିତ୍ତ ଚିରସ୍ଥାୟୀ ବିକଳ୍ପ(ଏସ.ଏ.ଟି.ଏ.ଟି)ଅଭିପେକ୍ଷା ତ ଏହି ପ୍ରୟାସ ମ୍ୟୁନିସିପାଲଟି ଇଲାକାର କଠିନ ବର୍ଯ୍ୟବସ୍ଥୁ ପରିଚାଳନା ତଥା ସହରାଞ୍ଚଳର ବାୟୁ ପ୍ରଦୂଷଣ ବିଶେଷତଃ କାର୍ବନ ଉତ୍ସର୍ଜନ ତଥା ଶସ୍ୟ ମୂଳ ଜଳାଇବାରୁ ହୋଇଥାଏ ତାକୁ ରୋକିବା ନିମିତ୍ତ ଅନେକ ପ୍ରତିଶ୍ରୁତି ବହନ କରେ ।କୃଷିକୁ ଅଧିକ ଗୁରୁତ୍ଵ ଦେଲେ କର୍ମେସତ ବାୟୋଗ୍ୟାସ(ଜୈବିକ ଗ୍ୟାସ)ର ବ୍ୟବହାର ଦ୍ଵାରା କଜା ତୈଳ ଉପରେ ଥିବା ନିର୍ଭରଶୀଳତା କମିବ ଏବଂ କୃଷକର ଆୟ ବଢ଼ିବ । ସହିତ କର୍ମ ନିୟୁକ୍ତି ତଥା ଉଦ୍ୟୋଗ ବଢ଼ିବ ।

ମିଶନ ପୂର୍ବୋଦ୍ଘର କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକାରୀତାରେ ପୂର୍ବାଞ୍ଚଳ ରାଜ୍ୟ ଭିତରେ ଓଡ଼ିଶା ଏକ ଗୁରୁତ୍ଵପୂର୍ଣ୍ଣ ଭୂମିକା ନିଭାଇବ । ଓଡ଼ିଶାର

ଖଣିଜ ସମ୍ପଦ ତଥା ବନ୍ଦର ସ୍ୱତଃ ଏହାପାଇଁ ଏକ ସୁଯୋଗ ଏବଂ ଶିଳ୍ପ ବିକାଶ ଦିଗରେ ଏହା ଅନେକ ସମ୍ଭାବନା ସୃଷ୍ଟିକରେ । ଉଭୟ ଷ୍ଟିଲ ଏବଂ ପେଟ୍ରୋକେମିକାଲସ ତଥା ଏହା ସହିତ ଜଡ଼ିତ ଅନ୍ୟାନ୍ୟ ଶିଳ୍ପ ଅନେକ ସୁଯୋଗ ସୃଷ୍ଟି କରିବାରେ ସହାୟକ ହେବ ନିଶ୍ଚୟ । ଓଡ଼ିଶାରେ ବନ୍ଦର କୈନ୍ଦ୍ରିକ ଅର୍ଥନୀତି ପରିବର୍ତ୍ତନର ଭୂମିକା ନିଭାଇବ ବୋଲି ସରକାର ଆଶା ପୋଷଣ କରନ୍ତି । କେନ୍ଦ୍ର ଓଡ଼ିଶା ପ୍ରଦେଶର ଆଭ୍ୟନ୍ତରୀଣ ଜଳପଥ ଦିଗରେ ଅନେକ ଗୁଡ଼ିଏ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟ ଜାରି ରଖିଛି । ପାରାଦ୍ୱୀପ ବନ୍ଦର ରାଷ୍ଟ୍ର ଶ୍ରେଷ୍ଠ ବନ୍ଦର ରୂପେ ଅଭ୍ୟୁଦୟ ହୋଇଥିବାବେଳେ ଧାମରା ଏବଂ ଗୋପାଳପୁର ବନ୍ଦର ଗୁରୁତ୍ୱପୂର୍ଣ୍ଣ ଭୂମିକା ନିଭାଇଛନ୍ତି । ଷ୍ଟିଲ କ୍ଷେତ୍ରରେ ଓଡ଼ିଶା ହେଉଛି ଦେଶର ସବୁଠାରୁ ବେଶୀ ଉତ୍ପାଦନ କରୁଥିବା ରାଜ୍ୟ ଏବଂ ଏହା ଅଧିକ କର୍ମନିଯୁକ୍ତି ଦେବା, ସାମାଜିକ ତଥା ଅର୍ଥନୈତିକ ବିକାଶରେ ଗୁରୁତ୍ୱପୂର୍ଣ୍ଣ ଭୂମିକା ନେବା ତଥା ପୂର୍ବ ତଥା ଅନ୍ୟ ଅଞ୍ଚଳ ମଧ୍ୟରେ ଥିବା ବ୍ୟବଧାନକୁ କମାଇବାରେ

ସହାୟକ ହେବ । କଞ୍ଚାମାଲର ଉପଲବ୍ଧତା, ଭୌଗଳିକ ଅବସ୍ଥିତି ତଥା ଉପଯୁକ୍ତ ଗମନାଗମନର ସୁବିଧା ଦୃଷ୍ଟିରୁ ଓଡ଼ିଶାର ସ୍ୱତନ୍ତ୍ର ପରିଚୟ ରହିଛି ଏବଂ ଏହି କାରଣରୁ ଏହା ପୂର୍ବ ଭାରତର କେନ୍ଦ୍ରସ୍ଥଳରୂପେ ପରିଚିତି ହାସଲ କରିବ । ।

ବାସ୍ତବରେ ଦେଖିଲେ ମିଶନ ପୂର୍ବୋଦୟ ମାଧ୍ୟମରେ ସରକାର ରାଜ୍ୟ ରାଜ୍ୟ ମଧ୍ୟରେ ଥିବା ଅସମତୁଲତାକୁ ଏତାଇ ଏକ ସମୃଦ୍ଧ ଭାରତ ନିର୍ମାଣ କରିବାକୁ ବାହାରିଛନ୍ତି । ସେହି କାରଣରୁ ସରକାରଙ୍କ ଦ୍ୱାରା କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକାରୀ ବିଭିନ୍ନ ଯୋଜନା ଯଥା-ଉଜ୍ଜଳା, ପାଇଖାନା ନିର୍ମାଣ, ଜନଧନ, ପ୍ରଧାନମନ୍ତ୍ରୀ ଆବାସ ଯୋଜନା, ଉର୍ଜା ଗଙ୍ଗା, ଉତ୍ତାନ ଇତ୍ୟାଦିର ସଫଳ ରୂପ ଯନ୍ତ୍ରଣ ଉପରେ ପ୍ରାଥମିକତା ଦେବାକୁ ସେ ଘୋଷଣା କରିଛନ୍ତି । ଏଥି ସହିତ ନ୍ୟୁନତମ ସରକାର ଏବଂ ଅଧିକତମ ଶାସନର ମୂଳମନ୍ତ୍ରକୁ ପାଥେୟ କରି ସମାଜର ସମ୍ପତ୍ତି ସୃଷ୍ଟିକୁ ସରକାର ଅଗ୍ରାଧିକାର ଦେଇଛନ୍ତି ।



Dreamstime

**Economist and Eminent Journalist*