



purvodaya

The Rise of Opportunities

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DIRECTOR'S DESK

The Institute of Social and Cultural Studies (ISCS), India's July-August edition of the Bulletin "Purvodaya: The Rise of Opportunities" in itself remains significant as it talks about important aspects like Food Security for Eastern India and how government is mending efforts on the growth of the agriculture sector as a way to boost national economy, create employment, and generate livelihoods and self-sufficiency in food production. Through adopting alternative models and analyzing different food policies to meet the needs of SDG's 2 and 12.

On the other hand the article delving on the economic features of Eastern India both in historic and contemporary era highlights how Eastern India and its regions like West Bengal, Odisha, Jharkhand and Bihar continues to steer as a backbone of India's economy. The article also describes how the government through digitization, interconnectivity, and investment plans would want the eastern belt to nail India's growth globally in coming times. The Odia articles by eminent scholars and writers denoting the ports in eastern coasts of India also about Chittagong and Sittwe port of our neighbourhood.

The rearmost part of the bulletin captures details about the school Internship programme that is carried out by the institute every summer. This year students' internship programme remained equally apprising for the students as through research methodology workshop, discussion on the climate change and its impact on World Environment Day and Interaction on Indian Culture and India's precedence in the G20 which oriented them about diverse aspects of unexplored depths of Indian culture.

— Arindam Mukherjee, Director, ISCS, India



Dreamstime

INDIA'S PROSPERITY WITH FOOD SECURITY

Uday Sankar Acharya*

Food Security means elimination of hunger and malnutrition. Our constitution implicitly provides for right to food for citizens as fundamental rights. Removal of hunger and malnutrition is in priority list of welfare state. Recently National Security Advisor of India, Mr. Ajit Doval stressed the importance of food security for National Security during his speech in 34th convocation of G. B. Pant university of Agriculture and Technology. Institutionalised food security by Government of India dates back to much earlier than National Food Security act – 2013. This act aimed at providing subsidized food grains up to 75% of rural and 50% of urban populations under targeted public distribution system (PDS) covering about 2/3rd of population. As per the Global Food Security Index, India ranks 68th out of 113 nations with 58.9 points.

There are three dimensions of food security – availability, accessibility and affordability. This mostly depends on proper PDS under strict Government's vigilance. Food Cooperation of India (FCI) established in 1965 procures food grains from farmers at MSP(Minimum Support Price) to build up a buffer stock. Then State Governments distribute these food grains through PDS. The PDS was introduced in 1992. Subsequently targeted PDS was introduced in 1997 for poor people. In the year 2000 'Antyodaya Anna Yojana' for poorest of poor and in 2013 "Annapurna Scheme" for indigent

senior citizens, were introduced. India, at present operates world's largest PDS in which, every year about 60 million tonnes of subsidized food grains are distributed among 810 million beneficiaries. Besides PDS, Government has other schemes like Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS), food for work (FFW), poverty Alleviation programmes, Mid-day meals and Employment Generation programmes too. Several state schemes like "Indira Canteen" in Karnataka, "Amma unavagam" in Tamil Nadu, "Ahar Yojana in Odisha has been introduced.

Food for work programme was launched on 14th November 2004 by the Ministry of Rural Development for poor, unskilled, manual laborers. The food grains are provided to state Governments free of cost by the Central Government. The eligibility criteria for this scheme have been relaxed to provide food for work to both BPL and APL families. The wages are paid partly in cash and partly in food grains. The programme has since been subsumed in the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act 2005 which has come to force in 200 identified districts of the country. Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS) is the world's largest early childhood programme. The Mid day meal programme not only provides one meal per day to school going children but also attracts children to the school. This programme was launched in 1995. But much earlier to that, in 1925, the then Madras Municipal Corporation started a "School Lunch" programme for disadvantaged students. The MDM scheme has evolved into World's largest school feeding programme reaching out to about 120 million children at primary and upper primary level in about 1.2 million schools across the country. Under the scheme, freshly prepared cooked meals of 450 calories and 12 gms of proteins are given to lower primary students and 700 calories and 20 gms of proteins for upper primary students are provided during school days. Odisha, Uttar Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh are the top three states among the general category states in State Ranking Index for NFSA. Tripura, Himachal Pradesh and Sikkim take top three positions in Special Category States/UTs. Odisha with food security index score of 0.836 tops the list among the states of India. In the state, five kilograms of rice per month per person at Rs. 1.00 per kg is provided under SFSS since 2018. The Beneficiaries under state Food Security Scheme are provided with additional

rice and pulses during Covid-19 Pandemic. One thousand rupees incentives were given to beneficiary families' twice under NFS and SFS schemes. The state food security scheme launched under NFSA – 2013 earmarked Rs. 442 crores per year. The state Government has undertaken 20 points programme under ICDS. Some of the high lights of state ICDS are supplementary nutrition programme, Immunization and health check up, Poshan (Nutrition) programme, Kishori Shakti Yojana (for adolescent girls) etc. The shelf help groups are given the task of preparing food packets of pulses and cereals powder mix (Locally known as Chhatua) for distribution. The state Government has launched "Ahar Yojana" (Ahar means food) to provide cheap lunch to urban poor at a highly subsidized rate of rupees five per meal. It was inaugurated on 1st April 2015 by the Chief Minister of Odisha. Initially the programme started in five major cities of Odisha. Currently there are one hundred "Ahar centers" active in 30 districts of Odisha covering 73 urban areas. People pay five rupees per lunch while the rest of the expenditure is borne by Odisha Mining Corporation. Also PDS is being used to tackle malnutrition by providing locally grown cereals.

All said and done. As per 2022 evaluation of Global Food Security, in India, the prevalence of under nutrition is 16.3%, children with stunted growth are 30.9%, 33.4% are under weight and 3.8% are obese. This picture says that lot more has to be done. The Government (both central and state), NGOs, private sectors, all should act together to make India a "Food Secured" Nation. It needs concerted and integrated efforts of all stakeholders involved in the value chain for maintaining efficient and effective delivery system. Further, enough care is to be taken to minimize any 'leakage' in PDS and also to tackle the mounting expenditure on storage, and carrying cost to reduce the burden on public exchequer. Guaranteeing access to resources, rural employment and income generation are keys to overcome food insecurity. The approach to eradicate food insecurity is multi dimensional. It requires improved Governance, responsible investments in agriculture, health and education, encouraging and empowering small producers and strengthening social protection. The state Governments should identify the specific food unsecured areas and food insecure groups, and then, enquire the proper cause(s) behind the insecurity. If the causes of food insecurity are addressed properly, the problems can have a permanent solution.

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Dreamstime

THE SOUL OF INDIA BECOMES ITS NERVE CENTRE- ODISHA IN FOCUS

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INTRODUCTION

The historic value of eastern India has been off proven by its enormous contributions, whether it be in our freedom movement or in the form of social reform. The region comprising Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, West Bengal and Orissa is also a productive hinterland rich in diversified resources which include mines, rivers, fertile soil, rich minerals, industries, research organizations and most importantly an academically inclined populace. The tragedy, however, lies in the fact that it has lagged behind in terms of socio-economic development, in comparison to other prospering states in the country.

Thus, India's most recent proactive infrastructural connectivity stance has been revolving around the 'Mission Purvodaya', which was developed as an affiliate of the 'Atmanirbhar Bharat' programme and aims to transform the country from a passive market to an active manufacturing hub. The programme has been curated to support a self-reliant India as a 'Force Multiplier' in the global economy.

AN OVERVIEW

Odisha is one of the fastest-growing states in India. In 2022-23, it registered a growth rate of 7.8 percent in comparison to 7.1 percent at all India level.

Indeed, the state's post covid growth revival has been quite exemplary. In 2021-22, the State's GSDP grew by 11.5 percent while for the whole of India, it grew by 8.7 percent, leaving aside the covid year. Odisha's growth resilience is reflected in its average medium-term growth rate of 7.9 percent from 2013-14 to 2021-22, leaving aside the covid year. Odisha's Covid recovery and resilience is demonstrated by its nominal growth in GSDP in 2021-22. Per capita income in the state is growing at a rapid rate. The state's exemplary status is further demonstrated by its per capita income levels. Per capita income (income per head) of Odisha has multiplied by thrice between 2011-12 and 2022-23 while at all India levels, it is multiplied by 2.7 times. Odisha's per capita income grew at an annual compound rate of 10.9 percent while that of India grew by 9.4 percent during this period. Odisha, in the shortest possible time, is going to converge and exceed India's per capita income bringing all round prosperity driven by growth, innovation, technology, governance, institutional innovation and effective decentralization.

The industrial sector, too, has recorded the highest growth on average in the pre-covid times (7 percent). In 2022-23, this sector is expected to grow at 6.1 percent.

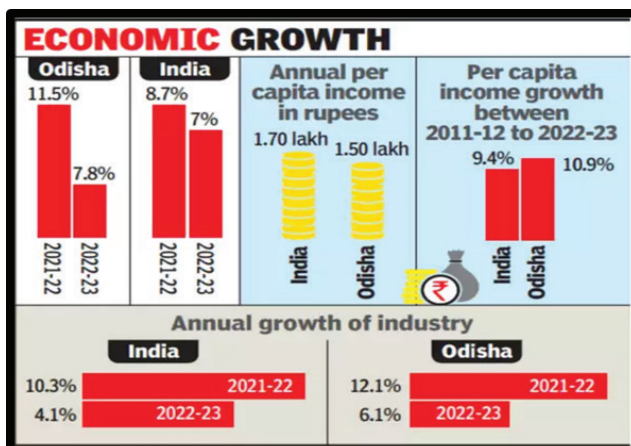
The third major sector, the services sector is expected to grow at 8.8 per cent in 2022-23 higher than provide average growth. The sector constitutes nearly 36 per cent of GSVa in 2022-23. Unlike the former, the services sector is highly diverse. It includes trade, transport, education, health, financial services and the like. Growth boosts are also to be seen in the Agriculture and the Allied sector. The industrial sector and service Sector is expected to grow by 6 per cent, 6.05 per cent,

8.8 per cent respectively in 2022-23. administration, communication, etc.

WHY ODISHA?

Erstwhile Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas Shree Dharmendra Pradhan reaffirmed the importance of Odisha as one of the largest steel-producing states in India and aimed to make it the nerve centre of Purvodaya in the steel sector. Hon'ble Prime Minister Mr Narendra Modi also gave the clarion call for the Mission, which aims to make Eastern India an important contributor to national growth and propel it towards becoming a humongous five trillion-dollar economy.

Odisha comes across as an important choice since high rates of infrastructural spending are already being devoted to the state in terms of developing roads, railways, bridges and pipelines. Purvodaya will further enable the strengthening of the backbone of the steel ecosystem, wherein Odisha alone is expected to cross 100 MTPA of steel production by 2030. Odisha's natural advantage of having mineral resources and large ports offers unique opportunities for industrial growth. Both steel and petrochemical sectors as well as ancillary industries are uniquely poised to leverage the opportunities and expand their footprints.



Workshop organised by the Ministry of Steel, in partnership with the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI), Government of Japan, and the Confederation of Indian Industries (CII).

In consideration of the economic growth targets for 2030, the Odisha government has planned to take up several key infrastructure projects to improve the quality of life of people and bring about radical economic growth

in the State. The projects will be implemented by 18 important Departments between 2022-23 and 2026-27.

DEVELOPMENTS IN THE IT SECTOR

Digitization has emerged as the fairytale healing balm against the wounds of the pandemic. Indeed, the high tide of the digital revolution explores the potential to revamp the politico-economic face of the nation, simplifying policy decisions, amplifying interconnectivity and revolutionizing education. The IT sector is an area where Odisha is gaining national attention. Odisha today stands among the major states of India that are contributing to the economy through Information Technology. Software exports from the state are also recording consistent growth over the years and today the IT exports from the state have touched about Rs 7500 crore per annum. Apart from this, the ITES, BPO, KPO and Electronics sectors are also growing due to the various incentives provided by the government. Professional services are on the rise and executive spending power has boosted the state's economy and the state is truly now a "Destination of the Future" with the growing scale of investment, talent pool and ambition. As part of its marquee 5T Initiatives which have become the backbone of the state's transformative journey, the Odisha government has increased spending on Information Technology and Digital Initiatives.

The Chief Minister of Odisha, Naveen Patnaik recently inaugurated IBM's client innovation centre (CIC) at O-Hub, Chandaka Industrial Estate in Bhubaneswar, further emboldening the IT ecosystem in the state. The new centre will position Odisha as a technology resource hub of India.

'MAKE IN ODISHA CONCLAVE'- 2022

The Make in Odisha Conclave-2022, the flagship investor summit of the State Government, aims to attract investors from across the globe to Odisha – the 'Land of New Opportunities', by assuring them 'better than the best' facilities & helping entrepreneurs realise their dreams by showcasing its prowess as a progressive state focusing on industry-led development as well as its potential to be a manufacturing hub connecting India to Southeast Asia and beyond. The third edition of the marquee event was organized in Bhubaneswar from November 30 to December 04, 2022, with a runaway

success. As a build-up to the MIO Conclave-2022, the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Odisha led the government delegations on roadshows to various metros across the country and abroad like Coimbatore, Jamshedpur, Ahmedabad, Lucknow, New Delhi, Mumbai, Bengaluru and Hyderabad as well as to Dubai. The MIO Conclave is a unique opportunity to understand Odisha's policy and regulatory environment and its existing as well as emerging vast business opportunities across the sectors.



THE HARBINGER OF CONNECTIVITY- ODISHA AND JAPAN ON PURVODAYA

It has been argued that Japan has been rightly chosen as India's partner on this lofty venture as a country that will sufficiently guide us in making the Indian steel ecosystem bigger both in qualitative and quantitative terms. Talking about Japan-Odisha connection, Dharmendra Pradhan affirmed that Japan and Odisha have an age-old association. While India and Japan have been considered to be spiritual allies, the historic link between Odisha and Japan can be specifically traced back to the iconic Dhauli Stupa that was built with Japanese support. Purvodaya thus marks a new dawn in reaffirming these relations albeit decades later.

DHAULI STUPA, ODISHA

CONCLUSION

Even as the state's economy holds enormous promise for the country as a whole, and Eastern India in particular, it needs to tackle issues such as extraction-based economic development, associated environmental degradation, and distress migration. There is also an urgent need to address to socio-political empowerment of the conventionally excluded: the Scheduled Castes, the Scheduled Tribes, the landless and the underprivileged. The positive side, however, is that the state still has sufficient room to grow.

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ସାମୁଦ୍ରିକ ବନ୍ଦର : ଆମ୍ଭର ଭାରତର ଆଧାର

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ପାରମ୍ପରିକ ନୌକା ବା ପ୍ରବାପ ଭସାଇବାକୁ ଆଇଲାଣ୍ଡ ର ସ୍ଥାନୀୟ ଭାଷାରେ ‘ଲୟ କ୍ରୋଥୋଙ୍ଗ’ (Loy Krothong) କୁହାଯାଏ । ଆଇଲାଣ୍ଡ ସହିତ ମ୍ୟାନମାର, ଜାପାନ, ଚୀନ ଓ କୋରିଆର କିଛି ଅଂଶରେ ଏହି ବାର୍ଷିକ ଉତ୍ସବ ପାଳନ ହୁଏ, ଯେଉଁଥିରେ ପୂର୍ବପୁରୁଷଙ୍କର ନୌବାଣିଜ୍ୟ କ୍ଷେତ୍ରରେ ରହିଥିବା ଗୌରବମୟ ପରମ୍ପରାକୁ ମନେପକାଇ ହାତ ତିଆରି ଛୋଟ ଛୋଟ ନୌକାରେ ଲକ୍ଷ୍ମୀ ସଦୃଶ ପ୍ରବାପ ଜାଳି ବିଭିନ୍ନ ଜଳାଶୟରେ ଛଡ଼ାଯିବାର ପ୍ରଥା ରହିଛି । ଏପ୍ରିଲ – ମେ’ ମାସରେ ଦକ୍ଷିଣ ପଶ୍ଚିମ ମୌସୁମୀ ପ୍ରବାହ ଆରମ୍ଭ ସମୟରେ ଏହି ପର୍ବ ପାଳନ କରାଯାଏ ।

ହଜାର ହଜାର ମାଇଲ ଦୂରରେ ସମୁଦ୍ର ଅପର ପାର୍ଶ୍ୱରେ, ଓଡ଼ିଶା ଓ ବଙ୍ଗଳାର କିଛି ଅଂଶରେ ବଙ୍ଗୋପସାଗର କୂଳରେ କାର୍ତ୍ତିକ ମାସରେ ସେହିଭଳି ଏକ ଉତ୍ସବ ପାଳିତ ହୁଏ, ଯାହା ବୋଇତ ବନ୍ଦା ନାମରେ ପରିଚିତ । ସଂସ୍କୃତି ଓ ପରମ୍ପରା, ଜନଜୀବନ ଓ ଆଚାର ବ୍ୟବହାରରେ ବହୁ ଅସାମଞ୍ଜସ୍ୟତା ରହିଥିଲେ ମଧ୍ୟ ଏ ଉଭୟ ସ୍ଥାନରେ ନୌବାଣିଜ୍ୟର ଇତିହାସ ଏକ ଏବଂ ଅଭିନ୍ନ । ଦୁଇ ସଭ୍ୟତା ମଧ୍ୟରେ ସମ୍ପର୍କର ସେତୁ ପାଲଟିଥିଲା ନୌବାଣିଜ୍ୟ ।

ଭାରତୀୟ ସାହିତ୍ୟ ଓ ସଂସ୍କୃତି, କଳା ଓ ସ୍ଥାପତ୍ୟ, ପ୍ରତ୍ନତାତ୍ତ୍ୱିକ ଆବିଷ୍କାର ଆଦିରୁ ଆମ ଦେଶର ସାମୁଦ୍ରିକ ବାଣିଜ୍ୟର ଗୌରବମୟ ଇତିହାସର ପ୍ରମାଣ ବହୁଳ ଭାବରେ ମିଳିଥାଏ । ବିଭିନ୍ନ ଜାତି, ଦେଶ ଓ ସଭ୍ୟତା ମଧ୍ୟରେ ଯୋଗସୂତ୍ର ସ୍ଥାପନ କରିବା ସହ ଅର୍ଥନୀତି, ସମାଜ ବ୍ୟବସ୍ଥା ଏବଂ ସାଂସ୍କୃତିକ ଜୀବନକୁ ସମୃଦ୍ଧ କରିବାରେ ବନ୍ଦରଗୁଡ଼ିକର ଏକ ମହତ୍ତ୍ୱପୂର୍ଣ୍ଣ ଭୂମିକା ରହିଛି । ଆମ ଦେଶର ୭୫୦୦ କିଲୋମିଟରର ସୁଦୀର୍ଘ ସାମୁଦ୍ରିକ ଉପକୂଳରେ ପ୍ରତିଷ୍ଠିତ ୧୨ଟି ମେଜର ପୋର୍ଟ (ସରକାରୀ ବନ୍ଦର) ଏବଂ ପ୍ରାୟ ହଜଣହଜଣ ଅଧିକ ମାଲ୍‌ନର ପୋର୍ଟ (ବେସରକାରୀ ବନ୍ଦର) ଭାରତର ବହିଃ ବାଣିଜ୍ୟକୁ ପରିବ୍ୟାପ୍ତ କରି ଦେଶର ଅର୍ଥନୀତିକୁ ସୁଦୃଢ଼ କରିବାରେ ଉଲ୍ଲେଖନୀୟ ଅବଦାନ ଦେଉଛନ୍ତି । ଭାରତୀୟ ବନ୍ଦରଗୁଡ଼ିକର ବାର୍ଷିକ ପଣ୍ୟ ସରବରାହ କ୍ଷମତା ପ୍ରାୟ ୨୪୦୦ ମିଲିଅନ ଟନ ରହିଛି । ଆମ ଦେଶର ବୈଦେଶିକ ବାଣିଜ୍ୟର ପରିମାଣ ଦୃଷ୍ଟିରୁ ପ୍ରାୟ ୯୫ ପ୍ରତିଶତ ଏବଂ ମୂଲ୍ୟ ଦୃଷ୍ଟିରୁ ପ୍ରାୟ ୬୮ ପ୍ରତିଶତ କାରବାର ସାମୁଦ୍ରିକ ବନ୍ଦର ମାଧ୍ୟମରେ ହୋଇଥାଏ । ବିଶ୍ୱରେ ଭାରତ ହେଉଛି ୧୬ତମ ବୃହତ୍ତମ ସାମୁଦ୍ରିକ ଦେଶ ଏବଂ ସମୁଦ୍ର ପଥରେ ବାଣିଜ୍ୟ ପରିମାଣ ଦୃଷ୍ଟିରୁ ଆମ ଦେଶର ସ୍ଥାନ ୧୮ତମ । ୨୦୧୫ ଆର୍ଥିକ ବର୍ଷରେ ଏହି ସମସ୍ତ ବନ୍ଦରଗୁଡ଼ିକରୁ ୧୫୬୦ ମିଲିଅନ ଟନ ପଣ୍ୟ ସରବରାହ ହୋଇଥିବା ବେଳେ ୨୦୨୨ରେ ଏହାର ପରିମାଣ ୨୬୦୦ ମିଲିଅନ ଟନରେ ପହଂଚିଛି । ଏହି ବର୍ଷଗୁଡ଼ିକରେ ସରକାରୀ ବନ୍ଦର ମାଧ୍ୟମରେ ଯଥାକ୍ରମେ ୮୭୧ ମିଲିଅନ ଟନ ଏବଂ ୧୬୧୭ ମିଲିଅନ ଟନ ପଣ୍ୟ ସରବରାହ ହୋଇଛି । ୨୦୧୩-୧୪ରେ ୩୧୪.୪୦ ବିଲିଅନ ଆମେରିକୀୟ ଡଲାରର ରପ୍ତାନୀ ଭାରତରୁ ହୋଇଥିବା ବେଳେ ୨୦୨୧-୨୨ରେ ଏହା ପରେ ୪୦ ପ୍ରତିଶତ ବୃଦ୍ଧି ପାଇ ୪୪୭.୪୬ ବିଲିଅନ ଆମେରିକୀୟ ଡଲାରରେ ପହଂଚିଛି । ଦେଶ ଭିତରେ ଏବଂ ବାହାରେ ଥିବା ଉତ୍ପାଦକ, ଯୋଗାଣକର୍ତ୍ତା, ବିତରକ, ଉପଭୋକ୍ତାମାନଙ୍କୁ ଯୋଡ଼ିବାରେ ଭାରତୀୟ ବନ୍ଦରଗୁଡ଼ିକ ବିଶ୍ୱ ଯୋଗାଣ ଶୃଙ୍ଖଳା (Global Supply Chain)ର ଏକ ଅଭିନ୍ନ ସଂଯୋଗ ଭାବେ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟ କରିବା ସଙ୍ଗେ ସଙ୍ଗେ ବୈଷୟିକ ଏବଂ ଶାସକୀୟ ସୁପରିଚାଳନା ଦ୍ୱାରା ବିଶ୍ୱସ୍ତରରେ ଏକ ଭରସା ଓ ବିଶ୍ୱାସର ବାତାବରଣ ସୃଷ୍ଟି କରିପାରିଛି । ଲଜିଷ୍ଟିକ ଖର୍ଚ୍ଚ ଏବଂ ସମୟ କମାଇ ଶିଳ୍ପ ଓ ବାଣିଜ୍ୟ ପାଇଁ ଏକ ଅନୁକୂଳ ବାତାବରଣ ସୃଷ୍ଟି ହେବାରେ ଏହା ସହାୟକ ହୋଇପାରିବ ।

ପୂର୍ବ ଏବଂ ଉତ୍ତର-ପୂର୍ବ ଭାରତର ଶିଳ୍ପ ଓ ବାଣିଜ୍ୟ ପାଇଁ ମୁଖ୍ୟତଃ ବଙ୍ଗୋପସାଗରସ୍ଥିତ କୋଲକାତା, ହଳଦିଆ, ଧାମରା, ପାରାଦୀପ, ଗୋପାଳପୁର, ଭାଇଜାଗ ଏବଂ ଗଙ୍ଗାଭରମ ବନ୍ଦରଗୁଡ଼ିକ ମହତ୍ତ୍ୱପୂର୍ଣ୍ଣ । ମଧ୍ୟ ଭାରତ ଏବଂ ଉତ୍ତର ଭାରତର ରାଜ୍ୟ ସମୂହ ପାଇଁ ମଧ୍ୟ ଏହି ବନ୍ଦରଗୁଡ଼ିକ ବାଣିଜ୍ୟ, ପଣ୍ୟ ପରିବହନ ଓ ଯୋଗାଣଯୋଗର ସୁଦୃଢ଼ ମାଧ୍ୟମ ହୋଇପାରିଛି । ୨୦୨୨-୨୩ ଆର୍ଥିକ ବର୍ଷରେ ମେଜର ପୋର୍ଟ(ସରକାରୀ ବନ୍ଦର) ଯଥା, ଶ୍ୟାମାପ୍ରସାଦ ମୁଖାର୍ଜୀ ବନ୍ଦର (ହଳଦିଆ ଓ କୋଲକାତା ବନ୍ଦର ଉଭୟକୁ ନେଇ), ପାରାଦୀପ ବନ୍ଦର ଏବଂ ଭାଇଜାଗ ବନ୍ଦର ଯଥାକ୍ରମେ ୬୫.୬୬ ମିଲିଅନ ଟନ, ୧୩୫.୩୬ ମିଲିଅନ ଟନ ଏବଂ ୭୩.୬୫ ମିଲିଅନ ଟନ ପଣ୍ୟ ସରବରାହ କରିଛନ୍ତି ଯାହା ତିନୋଟି ଯାକ ବନ୍ଦର ପାଇଁ ସର୍ବକାଳୀନ ରେକର୍ଡ଼ ପରିମାଣ ଅଟେ । କୋଲକାତା ଏବଂ ହଳଦିଆ ବନ୍ଦର ହୁଗଲି ନଦୀରେ ହୋଇଥିବାରୁ ଏଠାରେ ଜଳର ଗଭୀରତା କମ୍ ଏବଂ ବଡ଼ଜାହାଜରେ ସାମଗ୍ରୀ ଆଣିବା ସମ୍ଭବ ନୁହେଁ । ଏଥିପାଇଁ ନିକଟବର୍ତ୍ତୀ ତାଳପୁରର ଗଭୀର ସମୁଦ୍ର ଉପକୂଳରେ ଏକ ବନ୍ଦର ନିର୍ମାଣର ପରିକଳ୍ପନା ହାତକୁ ନିଆଯାଇଛି ।

ଏହିସବୁ ବନ୍ଦର ବ୍ୟତୀତ ଉତ୍ତରପୂର୍ବ ଭାରତ ସହ ଦେଶର ଅନ୍ୟ ଭାଗରୁ ସାମଗ୍ରୀ ପରିବହନ ଏବଂ ଯୋଗାଯୋଗ ବ୍ୟବସ୍ଥାର ମାନ ଉନ୍ନତ କରିବା ପାଇଁ ଅନ୍ତର୍ଦେଶୀୟ ଜଳପଥରେ ଇଣ୍ଡୋ-ବାଂଲାଦେଶ ପ୍ରୋଟୋକଲ ରୁଟ, ବାଂଲାଦେଶର ଚିତ୍ରାଗଙ୍ଗ ବନ୍ଦର ଏବଂ ମ୍ୟାନମାରର ସିଞ୍ଚେ ବନ୍ଦର ଆଦିର ବିକାଶ କରାଯାଉଛି । ସଡ଼କ ପଥରେ ସଂକୀର୍ଣ୍ଣ ସିଲିଗୁଡ଼ି କରିଡର (ଯାହା ଟିକେନ୍ ନେକ୍ ଭାବରେ ପରିଚିତ) ଦେଇ ଯୋଗାଯୋଗ ଯଥେଷ୍ଟ ସମୟ ସାପେକ୍ଷ ଓ ବ୍ୟୟ ସାପେକ୍ଷ ମଧ୍ୟ । ପ୍ରାୟ ୫୦୦ ମିଲିଅନ ଆମେରିକୀୟ ଡଲାର ବ୍ୟୟରେ ମ୍ୟାନମାରରେ କାଲାଦାନ ମଲ୍ଟି ମୋଡଲ ଟ୍ରାନଜିଟ ଟ୍ରାନ୍ସପୋର୍ଟ ପ୍ରୋଜେକ୍ଟ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକାରୀ କରି ଭାରତ ସରକାର ହଳଦିଆ ବନ୍ଦରରୁ ବଙ୍ଗୋପସାଗର ଦେଇ ସିଞ୍ଚେ ବନ୍ଦର, ସେଠାରୁ କାଲାଦାନ ନଦୀପଥରେ ପାଲେଡ୍ଵା, ସେଠାରୁ ସଡ଼କ ପଥରେ ମିଜୋରାମକୁ ପଣ୍ୟ ପରିବହନ ବ୍ୟବସ୍ଥା କରିଛନ୍ତି । ଏହି ବନ୍ଦର ଦେଇ ଭାରତରୁ ସାମଗ୍ରୀ ପରିବହନ ଏହି ବର୍ଷ ମେ' ମାସ ୯ ତାରିଖରୁ ଆରମ୍ଭ ହୋଇଛି । ଫଳସ୍ଵରୂପ, କୋଲକାତାରୁ ଉତ୍ତରପୂର୍ବ ଭାରତକୁ ପଣ୍ୟ ପରିବହନ କ୍ଷେତ୍ରରେ ସମୟ ଓ ଆର୍ଥିକ ବ୍ୟୟ ପ୍ରାୟ ୫୦ ପ୍ରତିଶତ କମ୍ ହେବ । ୨୦୧୫ରେ ଭାରତ ଓ ବାଂଲାଦେଶ ସରକାରଙ୍କ ମଧ୍ୟରେ ହୋଇଥିବା ଚୁକ୍ତି ଅନୁଯାୟୀ ଭାରତ କୋଲକାତା ଓ ହଳଦିଆ ବନ୍ଦରରୁ ପଣ୍ୟ ପରିବହନ ଚିତ୍ରାଗଙ୍ଗ ଓ ମୋଙ୍ଗଲା ବନ୍ଦର ଓ ସେଠାରୁ ଆଶୁଗଞ୍ଜ ବା ଆଖୁରା ଦେଇ ତ୍ରିପୁରାକୁ କରିପାରିବ ।

ପୂର୍ବ ଭାରତର ଏବଂ ବଙ୍ଗୋପସାଗର ତଟୀୟ ଏହି ସମସ୍ତ ବନ୍ଦର ଭାରତର ଦ୍ରୁତ ଅର୍ଥନୈତିକ ଅଭିବୃଦ୍ଧିରେ ଉଲ୍ଲେଖଯୋଗ୍ୟ ଭୂମିକା ଗ୍ରହଣ କରିଛନ୍ତି । ଭାରୀ ଶିଳ୍ପଦ୍ୟୋଗଗୁଡ଼ିକର କଞ୍ଚାମାଲ ଆମଦାନୀ ଠାରୁ ଆରମ୍ଭ କରି ଉତ୍ପାଦିତ ଦ୍ରବ୍ୟର ରପ୍ତାନୀ, ଖାଦ୍ୟଶସ୍ୟ, କେମିକାଲ, ଡେଲ, ଗ୍ୟାସ ଆମଦାନୀ, ରପ୍ତାନୀ ଏବଂ ପଶ୍ଚାତ ଗ୍ଲଭଭାଗ (hinterland) କୁ ରେଳପଥ, ସଡ଼କପଥ ତଥା ଅନ୍ତର୍ଦେଶୀୟ ଜଳପଥ ଦେଇ ପରିବହନ ଏହି ବନ୍ଦର ସମୂହରୁ ଅତ୍ୟନ୍ତ ଦକ୍ଷତାର ସହ ହୋଇପାରୁଛି ।

ଭାରତର ବନ୍ଦର ଓ ନୌବାଣିଜ୍ୟର ଏକ ଗୌରବମୟ ଐତିହ୍ୟ ରହିଛି ଏବଂ ଏହା ସବୁ ସମୟରେ ଦେଶର ପ୍ରଗତିର ମୁଖ୍ୟଧାରାରେ ସାମିଲ ହୋଇଆସିଛି । ବନ୍ଦରଗୁଡ଼ିକ ବର୍ତ୍ତମାନ ଆଉ କେବଳ ଗ୍ଲଭଭାଗ ଏବଂ ଜଳଭାଗ ମଧ୍ୟରେ ପରିବହନର ଏକ ମାଧ୍ୟମ ହୋଇ ରହିନାହିଁ, ବରଂ ଏକ ଚିର ବିବର୍ଦ୍ଧନଶୀଳ, ଗତିଶୀଳ ଏବଂ ସମୟ ସମ୍ବେଦନଶୀଳ ଗ୍ଲୋବାଲ ସପ୍ଲାଇ ଚେନର ଅଭିନ୍ନ ସଂଯୋଗରେ ପରିଣତ ହୋଇଛି ଯାହା ଉପରେ ସମଗ୍ର ବିଶ୍ଵ ଅର୍ଥନୀତି ପୂର୍ଣ୍ଣ ମାତ୍ରାରେ ନିର୍ଭରଶୀଳ । ନୀତି, ନିୟମର ସରଳୀକରଣ, ଅପ ସ୍ଥିମ – ଡାଉନ ସ୍ଥିମ ଏକୀକରଣ, ସଂସାଧନ ଓ କ୍ଷମତା ବୃଦ୍ଧି, ଡିଜିଟାଇଜେସନ ଆଦି ପଦକ୍ଷେପ ଏହି ମହତ୍ଵପୂର୍ଣ୍ଣ କ୍ଷେତ୍ରର ପରିଚାଳନାଗତ, ବ୍ୟବସାୟିକ ଓ ଅର୍ଥନୈତିକ ଅଭିବୃଦ୍ଧି ଘଟାଇବ ।

ଏସବୁ ଦିଗରେ କ୍ରମାଗତ ଭାବରେ ବହୁଥିବା ଚାହିଦା ପୂରଣ ପାଇଁ ମୌଳିକ ସଂସାଧନର ବିକାଶ, ଯଥା ବନ୍ଦରଗୁଡ଼ିକରେ ବର୍ଧ ସଂଖ୍ୟା ବୃଦ୍ଧି, ସମ୍ପୂର୍ଣ୍ଣ ଯନ୍ତ୍ରୀକରଣ, ଚାନେଲ ଓ ବର୍ଥର ଡ୍ରେଜିଙ୍ଗ ଦ୍ଵାରା ଗଭୀରତା ବୃଦ୍ଧି, ରେଳ ଓ ସଡ଼କ ସଂଯୋଗର ସୁବ୍ୟବସ୍ଥା ଆଦି ଅନେକ ଯୋଜନା ହାତକୁ ନିଆଯାଇ ସେସବୁର ଦ୍ରୁତ ରୂପାୟନ ଦିଗରେ ପଦକ୍ଷେପ ଗ୍ରହଣ କରାଯାଇଛି । କେନ୍ଦ୍ର ସରକାର ଏ ଦିଗରେ ବହୁ ପ୍ରକଳ୍ପର ଦ୍ରୁତ ରୂପାୟନ ନିମିତ୍ତ ବିବିଧ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକ୍ରମ ଆରମ୍ଭ କରିଛନ୍ତି । ଯଥା: (୧) ବନ୍ଦର ନିର୍ମାଣ ଓ ମରାମତି ପାଇଁ ଶତ ପ୍ରତିଶତ ବିଦେଶୀ ପୁଞ୍ଜି ବିନିଯୋଗକୁ ଅନୁମତି ପ୍ରଦାନ, (୨) ବନ୍ଦର ଓ ଆଖ୍ୟନ୍ତରୀଣ ଜଳପଥର ବିକାଶ, ରକ୍ଷଣାବେକ୍ଷଣ ଓ ପରିଚାଳନାରେ ନିୟୋଜିତ ସଂପ୍ଲାଗୁଡ଼ିକ ପାଇଁ ୧୦ ବର୍ଷ ଅବଧି ଟିକସ ଛୁଟିର (tax holiday) ସୁବିଧା, (୩) ଭାରତମାଳା ପରିଯୋଜନା ଅନ୍ତର୍ଗତ ମଲ୍ଟି ମୋଡଲ ଲଜିଷ୍ଟିକ ପାର୍କର ନିର୍ମାଣ ଓ ସଂସାଧନ ଯୁଗାଇବା ପାଇଁ ବିଭିନ୍ନ ସମ୍ବନ୍ଧିତ ମନ୍ତ୍ରାଳୟ ମଧ୍ୟରେ ରାଜିନାମା, (୪) ସାଗରମାଳା ଯୋଜନାରେ ପ୍ରାୟ ୬ ଲକ୍ଷ କୋଟି ଟଙ୍କା ବ୍ୟୟରେ ୫୭୬ଟି ପ୍ରକଳ୍ପର ରୂପରେଖ, (୫) ଭାରତୀୟ ସାମୁଦ୍ରିକ ପରିବହନର ସମସ୍ତ ଦିଗକୁ ବିଚାର କରି ୧୦ଟି ମୁଖ୍ୟ ପ୍ରସଙ୍ଗରେ ପ୍ରାୟ ୧୫୦ଟି ନୂତନ ପ୍ରୟୋଗକୁ ମାରୀଚାଇମ ଇଣ୍ଡିଆ ଭିଜନ ୨୦୩୦ ଅନ୍ତର୍ଗତ ଗ୍ରହଣ କରିବା, ଏବଂ (୬) ୨୦୩୦ ସୁଦ୍ଧା ୨୩ଟି ଅନ୍ତର୍ଦେଶୀୟ ଜଳପଥକୁ ପୂର୍ଣ୍ଣାଙ୍ଗ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକ୍ଷମ କରିବା ।

ଏହି ସମସ୍ତ ପରିଯୋଜନାର ସଫଳ ଏବଂ ସମୟାନୁବର୍ତ୍ତୀ ରୂପାୟନ ଦ୍ଵାରା ଭାରତୀୟ ଉପକୂଳର ଅସୀମ ସମ୍ଭାବନାର ବାସ୍ତବ ଉପଯୋଗ ହୋଇପାରିବ । ଏହା ସଂଗେ ସଂଗେ ଭାରତର ସାମୁଦ୍ରିକ ବନ୍ଦର ଏବଂ ଜଳପଥ ପରିବହନ ଆଗାମୀ ଦିନରେ ଆତ୍ମନିର୍ଭର ଭାରତ ଗଠନରେ ମାଲଖୁଷ୍ଟ ସଦୃଶ ପରିଗଣିତ ହେବ ।

ଶ୍ରୀ ମଲ୍ଲିକ : ଅବସରପ୍ରାପ୍ତ ଅଧ୍ୟକ୍ଷାସୀ ନିର୍ଦ୍ଦେଶକ, ଲଜିଷ୍ଟିକସ, ସ୍କିଲ ଅଥରୀଟି ଅଫ ଇଣ୍ଡିଆ

ଏବଂ

ଶ୍ରୀ ସ୍ଵାଇଁ : ମହା ପ୍ରବନ୍ଧକ, ଲଜିଷ୍ଟିକସ, ସ୍କିଲ ଅଥରୀଟି ଅଫ ଇଣ୍ଡିଆ

SUMMER INTERNSHIP 2023

The Institute of Social and Cultural Studies (ISCS), Kolkata offered a glorious opportunity to budding stalwarts namely high school students from the **Delhi Public School, Ruby Park, Kolkata**, and the **Heritage School**. In a venture never before undertaken, students at the plus-two level received adequate exposure with regard to the world of academia by attending seminars, workshops presided over by eminent speakers, followed by the composition of a 2000-word research article on an issue of contemporary relevance.

Orientation (23rd May 2023)- Around 50 students from both schools were in attendance as the **Programme Coordinator of ISCS, Ms Kankana Roy**, briefed them thoroughly on the internship schedule and activities which would require the students' wholehearted participation. The GMeet session with the Programme Coordinator was an engaging one, allowing the students to directly interact with one of the representatives of the organization and present questions.

Research Methodology and Academic Writing Workshop- A week after the Orientation, an online workshop was hosted by ISCS with two eminent personalities namely **Professor Shrabana Barua** and **Dr. Arindam Basu** as the speakers. Prof Shrabana elaborated on the basics of research in view of the students' upcoming assignments and future prospects, while Dr Basu discussed the nitty-gritty of academic writing, thereby allowing students to have a detailed insight of both worlds. The session was presided over by Ms Kankana Roy. The speakers were incredibly delighted to be assuaged by a flurry of questions from the eager students.

Coeval Discourse on Climate Change- 5th of June marked an important day for ISCS in two ways. First, of course, as the revered World Environment Day. Secondly, ISCS hosted its IXth Coeval Discourse on the topic "**India's Action Plan on Climate Change**", in the form of a panel discussion solely involving high schoolers. After a rigorous selection procedure

among 50 students, three each were shortlisted from the two eminent schools. **Chairperson Minakshi Mishra, the Zonal Director of ICCR (Indian Centre for Cultural Relations)**, lauded the students on their dedication and the enthusiasm with which they tackled sensitive issues such as global warming, rising sea levels and the like in connection to the geopolitical and socio-economic repercussions it presented for India, at the same time arguing on the feasibility of some of the solutions presented.

Coeval –IX

INDIA'S ACTION PLAN FOR CLIMATE CHANGE
5th June - 2023 | 5.00 pm
Seminar Room I, Rabindranath Tagore Centre,
The Indian Council For Cultural Relations, (ICCR), Kolkata.

Chairperson
Smt. Minakshi Mishra
Zonal Director, RTC, ICCR, Kolkata

Speakers

Mr. Samridha Nandi Class XII, Delhi Public School, Kolkata	Mr. Adnan Shahid Class XI, Delhi Public School
Ms. Nimrah Anwar Class XI, Delhi Public School	Mr. Spandan Adhikari Class XI, The Heritage School
Ms. Yuktika Agarwalla Class XI, The Heritage School	Mr. Krish Prahaladka Class XI, The Heritage School



Visit to the Maulana Abul Kalam Institute of Asian Studies(MAKAIS),9th June 2023- The interns were privileged to be able to pay a visit to MAKAIS, wherein they attended a lecture on Indian Culture and India's precedence in the G20. The revered **Dr S Prasad Ghosh** interacted with them, following which they were given a tour of the sprawling campus, the highlight of which were the two libraries.

Submission of research articles and assessment- In an effort to gauge the skills developed by the students in the month-long internship, they were asked to write

a research article each, for not more than 2000 words. While relevant topic clues such as ' the UNESCO and the Intangible Heritage of India' or ' India's role in the Covid Emergency' were provided prior, students were free to compose their articles on a topic of relevance separate from those provided. Four students were shortlisted, two each from both schools for their commendable work- Disha Roy Barman, Agni Brahmachari, Snehal Jalan and Sahil Agarwal. ISCS lauded them by presenting them with the latest publications as a token of appreciation.



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