

Mous signing with Singapore will boost investment in Odisha : CM

Dt. 16th to 31st January 2025



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The Odisha government signed seven Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) with Singapore on Friday in a significant move to foster economic growth and collaboration. The agreements, aimed at strengthening ties across several sectors, were signed in the presence of Singapore President Tharman Shanmugaratnam, Odisha Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu, Union Education Minister D. V. Edunoori, and Odisha Deputy Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi. The first MoU focuses on enhancing industrial infrastructure development with Singapore's leading industrial infrastructure development corporation (IDCO). It has partnered with Sembcorp, a leading energy and infrastructure company from Singapore, to establish industrial parks in the state. Another key agreement was made with Surbana Jurong, Singapore's leading urban and infrastructure consultancy, for the development of a petrochemical and petroleum investment region (PCPIR) in Odisha. The Bhubaneswar Development Authority also signed an MoU with Surbana Jurong for the planning and development of a new township. The initiative will bring modern infrastructure and smart city solutions to Odisha, helping to modernize the state's urban landscape. A collaborative MoU was signed between Grid Corporation of Odisha (GRIDCO), IIT Bhubaneswar, and Singapore's Nanyang Technological University (NTU). The partnership aims to advance research in energy and technology, contributing to Odisha's long-term innovation goals.



ପ୍ରବାସୀ ଭାରତୀୟ ଦିବସ ସମ୍ମେଳନ ଆୟୋଜନ ସମୃଦ୍ଧ ପରମ୍ପରା ଓ ନବ ଉନ୍ନେଷର ସମନ୍ବିତ ମଞ୍ଚ ଭାବେ ଉଦ୍ଭାସିତ ହେବ
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**ବୈଶ୍ୱିକ ରାଜଦୂତମାନଙ୍କୁ
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A 350-year of tradition! Hindus, Muslims host Makar Mela in Odisha



Presenting a pleasantly unique sight of harmony, hundreds of believers from both Hindu and Muslim communities thronged the shrine of Hazrat Sayed Jamal Saha Baba at Patara in Balasore on Tuesday to mark the occasion of Makar Sankranti. The shrine has reportedly been hosting an annual Makar Mela for the last 350 years and stands as a symbol of unity between the Hindu and Muslim communities.



Sources reported that the shrine will now be full of devotees for the next three days until the Makar Mela's culmination on January 16.

Further, as part of the celebrations, believers were seen offering chadar to Baba in the hope of having their wishes fulfilled.

"It is widely believed that Baba grants the heartfelt desires of all people and from all communities regardless of their faith. Hence, people come here with devotion," said an elderly man responsible for the upkeep of the shrine.



Odisha hikes salary of junior teachers (schematic) EPF increased



The Odisha government on Friday announced a hike in the salaries of junior teachers (schematic). As per the announcements, the teachers will now receive a monthly salary of Rs 16,000, up from the previous Rs 11,100. This pay hike is set to benefit approximately 13,740 teachers across the region.



The state government, under the leadership of Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi, announced this increment, which will incur an additional expenditure of Rs 89.15 crore from the state's budget. Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi has affirmed his commitment to supporting these educational professionals with the adjusted pay scale. The decision forms part of wider efforts to improve the socio-economic conditions of teachers in the region, ensuring they receive due recognition and fair compensation for their services. Alongside the salary increment, there has also been an increase in the contribution to the Employees' Provident Fund (EPF). The state will now contribute Rs 1,950, up from the previous amount of Rs 1,443, to each teacher's EPF account, further enhancing the financial security of these educators. "Our government is committed to enhancing the welfare of teachers, who are pivotal to our state's development," Chief Minister Majhi said in a statement. Worth mentioning, Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi had handed over appointment letters to 16,009 junior teachers (Schematic) in various primary and upper primary schools of the state on October 5, 2024. The CM handed over the certificates in a special programme organized by the School and Mass Education Department at Kalinga Stadium and guided the newly-appointed teachers for quality teaching in the future.





76th Republic Day celebration among government officials, all level leaders, high value public and students is good. But our camera has hooked the ground reality of forest department at Keonjhar district. Due to mismanagement of "Social-forest" funds at Keonjhar district, poor and needy persons are cutting the jungle for their livelihood in question. And also lack of duty of the forest department cannot be ignored. Due to compulsion, they are caring illegal wood without celebrating 76th Republic Day. Forest Minister and DFO (District Forest Officer) were within 100 meters of the illegal wood carriage by rackets. It can only possible due to anxious among forest staffs and the wood mafias. It is clearly identified by our camera lance is that, forest checking are only for poor people and eye wash. It is not applicable for wood mafias.





IIT baba Abhay Singh clarifies he was asked to leave 16 Madi ashram at Maha Kumbh Mela

Abhay Singh, known as the 'IIT Baba' for his shift from a prestigious engineering career to a spiritual life, has denied allegations suggesting that he was expelled from the 16 Madi Ashram at the ongoing Maha Kumbh Mela in Prayagraj. He refuted reports claiming that he left the ashram suddenly and called them false.

In a late-night interview with Aaj Tak on Friday, the aerospace engineer-turned-spiritual figure rejected claims that he left the ashram abruptly, accusing the seers there of spreading rumors about him. IIT Baba clarified that he had been asked to leave the ashram by its operators late at night. He believes it might be because he has "become famous" and he might "expose something" about them. He further suggested that the seers were now claiming he had gone for secret meditation in an attempt to cover up the real reason for his departure. He called these claims baseless. He also emphasized that he was still present at the Maha Kumbh Mela and had not gone to any other undisclosed location.

Other seers at the ashram reportedly found IIT Baba's frequent media appearances were negatively impacting his mental state, leading to what they described as "inappropriate" comments. They also made accusations about his alleged drug use. Consequently, Juna Akhara decided that it would be best for him to leave the ashram.



The making of Naga Sadhus begins at Maha Kumbh



The process of initiating new Naga Sadhus has commenced at the Akharas along the banks of the Sangam as part of the preparations for Mauni Amavasya during the Maha Kumbh. Both Udasi Akharas and the seven Shaivite Akharas, including Juna, Mahanirvani, Niranjani, Atal, Agni, and Awahan, are set to welcome more than 1,800 new Naga San'yasis into their fold. The intricate rituals began today at Juna Akhara and will culminate in the Tang Tod (breaking of ties) ceremony within 48 hours. For the Akharas, the Kumbh Mela is not only an occasion for the holy Amrit Snan but also a crucial opportunity for expansion and spiritual renewal. The initiation of new Naga San'yasis is a significant event, especially during the Maha Kumbh,

which holds immense importance for trainee ascetics. Mahant Ramesh Giri of Juna Akhara shared that the rituals began on January 17 with a 24-hour period of penance under the Dharma Dhwaaja (religious flag), during which the aspirants abstain from food and water. Following this, the candidates are led to the Ganga banks by the Akhara Kotwal to commence the initiation process.

The initiation begins with the aspirants taking 108 dips in the sacred Ganga, symbolizing purification. This is followed by a head-shaving ceremony and the Vijay Havan (victory offering). The Acharya Mahamandleshwar of the Akhara leads the San'yas Diksha (renunciation initiation), wherein five senior gurus bestow essential items upon the aspirants. The final rituals will take place on the morning of January 19, when the aspirants will shed their loin cloths and fully embrace their new identities as Naga San'yasis.



The initiation of over 1,800 new Naga Sadhus during Maha Kumbh 2025 highlights the enduring significance of this ancient spiritual tradition. The newly initiated Nagas will participate in their first Amrit Snan alongside their respective Akharas on Mauni Amavasya, marking the culmination of their transformative journey.

For the Akharas, these rituals reinforce their spiritual legacy and expand their cadre of ascetics who bear critical administrative and financial responsibilities. As the Sangam witnesses this sacred event, the Maha Kumbh continues to uphold its reputation as a confluence of faith, tradition, and renewal.

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Utkarsh Odisha has an unprecedented benchmark.

The Utkarsh Odisha-Make in Odisha Conclave 2025, held in Bhubaneswar, has set an unprecedented benchmark by securing a staggering Rs 16.73 lakh crore in investment intents—far surpassing its initial target of Rs 5 lakh crore. With 595 proposals spanning across 20 sectors, the conclave has proved to be a resounding success. Speaking to the media about the outcome of the landmark event, Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi expressed immense pride in the overwhelming participation and the massive investment interests shown by global and domestic investors. He highlighted that 145 investment-related memoranda of understanding (MoUs) were signed during the summit.



"The Utkarsh Odisha-Make in Odisha Conclave 2025 has exceeded expectations in every way. We saw unprecedented investor participation, and the volume of investment proposals has been remarkable. Prominent business magnates from across the globe have not only committed to setting up new projects but also expanding their existing operations. The proposed investments cover diverse sectors such as chemicals and petrochemicals, textiles, mining and metallurgy, renewable energy, IT/ITeS, tourism, and food processing."

The Chief Minister added that once the investment proposals come to fruition, they are expected to generate over 12.88 lakh employment opportunities, further boosting Odisha's economy and industrial landscape. The Rs 16.73 lakh crore in investment commitments made at the 2025 conclave sets a new record, surpassing the total investment proposals garnered in the previous three editions of the summit. In past conclaves, the Odisha government, under the leadership of former Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik, secured investment proposals of Rs 2.03 lakh crore in 2016, Rs 4.19 lakh crore in 2018, and Rs 10.5 lakh crore in 2022. The summit also saw Vedanta Limited making a bold move by signing an MoU to invest Rs 1 lakh crore in Odisha. The company's investment will focus on a 6 MTPA alumina refinery, a 3-MTPA green aluminum plant, and the development of an aluminum park in Rayagada district.



The JSW Group, led by Sajjan Jindal, also made a significant commitment by signing an MoU to establish a 5 MTPA steel plant in Keonjhar, CM Majhi's home district, with an investment of Rs 35,000 crore. Jindal hinted at the possibility of collaborating with POSCO, another major player interested in establishing a steel plant in Odisha, which could lead to significant synergies between the two companies. As Odisha continues to establish itself as a global industrial hub, the Utkarsh Odisha Conclave has attracted a growing number of both domestic and international investors across a wide range of industries. CM Mohan Charan Majhi praised the event, calling it a testament to the state's determination to emerge as a major industrial powerhouse on the world stage. In another exciting development, Naveen Jindal, Chairman of Jindal Steel and Power (JSP), announced plans to upgrade the company's existing 6 MTPA steel plant in Angul to an extraordinary 25 MTPA by 2030, with an investment of Rs 70,000



crore. "Next year, we will double our capacity to 12 MTPA, and by 2030, we aim to reach 25.2 MTPA. This will make it the world's largest and greenest steel plant, positioning us as global leaders in green steel production," Jindal explained. He also highlighted that JSP has already invested over Rs 1 lakh crore in the state, underscoring its commitment to Odisha's growth. With these substantial investments, the Utkarsh Odisha-Make in Odisha Conclave 2025 has reinforced the state's position as a key destination for industrial investment and development in India.



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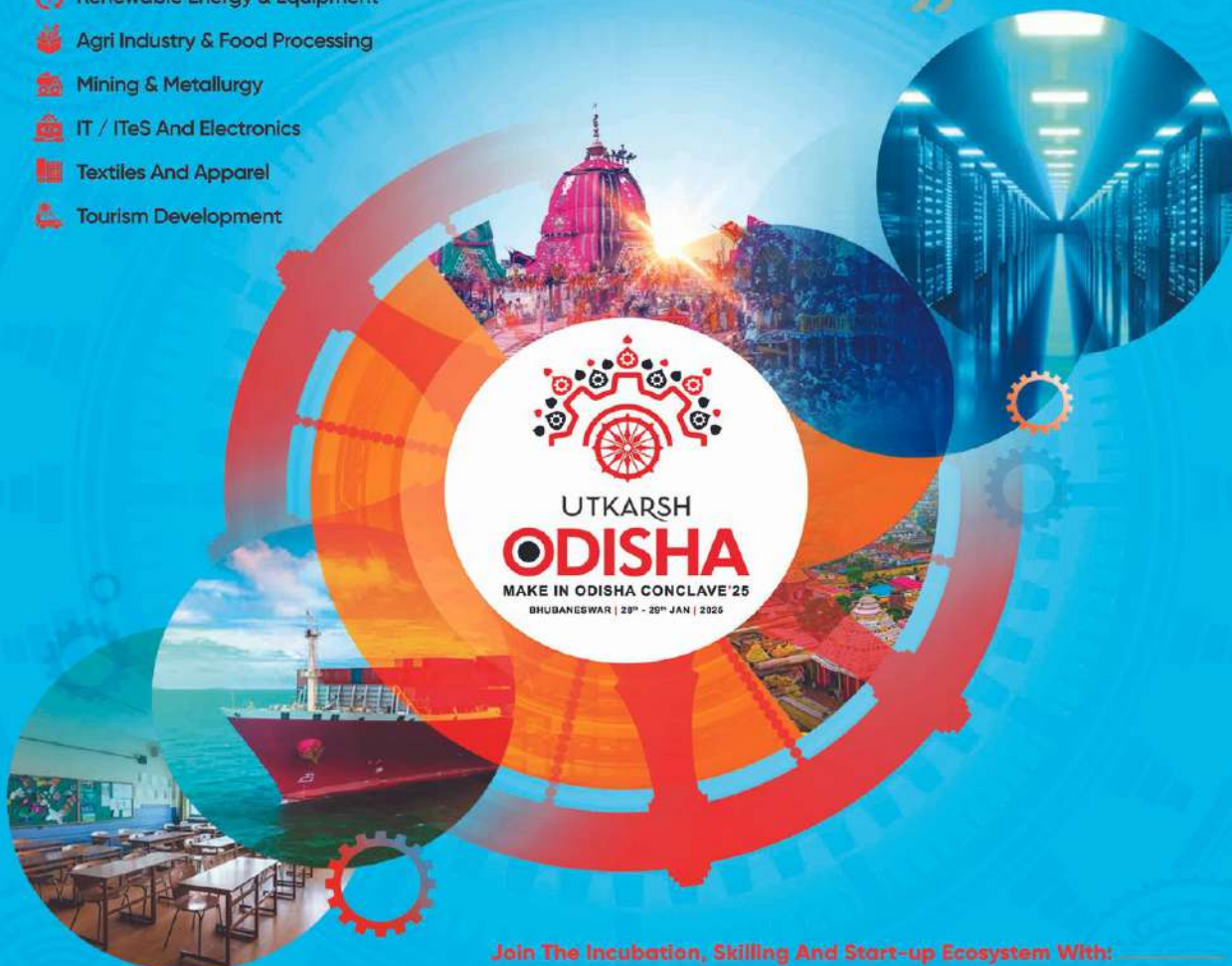
Shri Narendra Modi
Prime Minister

Shri Mohan Charan Majhi
Chief Minister, Odisha

“As we aim for Viksit Bharat 2047, Odisha will play a pivotal role in driving this ambition forward. Its investor-friendly policies and strategic location make it the anchor for our Purvodaya Vision.”

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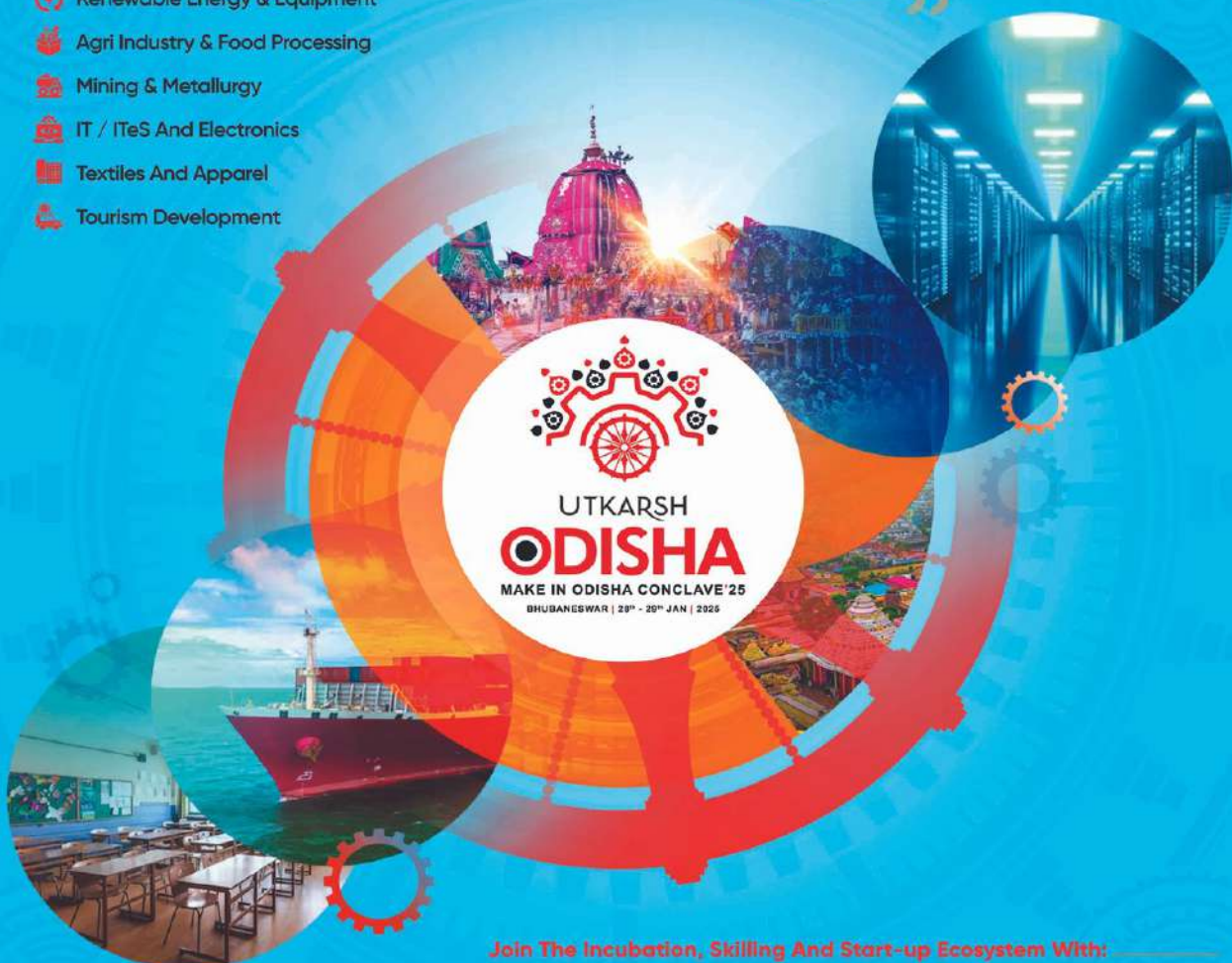
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SCHOOL, ALUMNI AND THEIR INVOLVEMENT

Diamond jubilee celebration has created old memories among the students of Gov. High School Unit-6, Bhubaneswar. Teacher, taught and environment make a school perfect. In our school alumni's are caring for teacher and environment of the School. But aluminise are lacking to involve toughs for better studies without involving themselves in other works. Parents' supports to the students in Government school in Bhubaneswar are very poor. Alumni should educate and mobilize the parents to attentive for their next generation education to be a better educated than him in future.



A school is a place where students learn and develop skills and knowledge. The Schools are organized spaces purposed for teaching and learning. The class rooms where teachers teach and students learn are up Central importants. Class rooms may be specialized for certain subject such as laboratory class room for science smart class and work shop for industrial arts education



Secondary education building on primary education typically with more oriented curriculum. But Secondary education refer for formal education that follows primary education and proceed higher education. It aims to provide students with a well-rounded education



Every educational institution should have good relation with the alumni, so that the school in its wider range spells and publishes its performance officially and publicly. The infrastructural and academic support may also be sought from the alumni.



The School was bounded with 7 acres land. At that time the Government decided to divide the play ground to use it for other Government purposes, which seriously affecting the interest of students physical education. Feelling in convinicies of students Alumni decided to protest against the Government decision. **Surya Narayan Das, Mahendra Kumar Rout** and all other members filed a case before the Hon'ble Court to protect the interest of the students as well as the School. Finally, the Hon'ble Court passed ordere not to divide the land and to maintain Statusquo as it was.



Make Odisha a dowry-free state, Odisha Deputy CM asks SDMs



Deputy Chief Minister Pravatī Parida on Friday asked all sub-divisional magistrates (SDMs) to strictly enforce the Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961 to make Odisha a dowry-free state. Parida, who is in charge of the Women and Child Development Department, issued this instruction to sub-collectors or SDMs, who are designated as Dowry Prohibition Officers here during a meeting on implementation of the Dowry Prohibition Act.



Addressing the conference, Parida said dowry is not a tradition, not a culture or a personal matter but a social stigma. Even after 60 years of the enactment of the Act, dowry tradition still prevails in the society, she said.

The Dy CM said that there is a need for a grass-roots discussion and debate on the issue under the supervision of the SDMs to make Odisha a dowry-free state.



It is the responsibility of the administrative officers to effectively implement the laws intended to protect the citizens. Therefore, as the Dowry Prohibition Officer, the role of the sub-collector is very important for strict implementation of the Act, she pointed out.

Under this Act, the Dowry Prohibition Officers have been empowered to take preventive measures, investigate and collect evidence in dowry cases. The successful enforcement of every Act depends on proper and timely implementation and widespread public awareness, Parida said. In today's digital era, she directed the Sub-Collectors to create public awareness about the dowry law through social media.

Wildlife Department to serve notices to illegal constructions surrounding Sultanpur Bird Sanctuary



The Wildlife Department will soon serve notices to over 100 illegal construction owners who built illegal structures in the restricted area of Sultanpur Bird Sanctuary in Gurugram.

For this, the department has written a letter to the Tehsildar and sought information about all the people doing illegal construction. After getting the information, notices will be issued to everyone to remove the illegal construction within 15 days. After this, a demolition drive will be conducted. Notable, any kind of construction work is banned within a 5 km radius of Sultanpur Bird Sanctuary located on Jhajjar-Farrukhnagar Road. Despite this, builders and dealers have illegally built over 100 illegal constructions farmhouses and societies.



Last year, a survey was conducted by the Department. It was revealed that over 100 constructions have been done without the permission of the Ministry of Environment within the 5 km restricted area of Sultanpur Bird Sanctuary. These include nine societies, most of the farmhouses and a school. The central government has declared Sultanpur Bird Sanctuary as an Eco-Sensitive Zone-1 (environmentally sensitive area). In such a situation, construction within a radius of 5 km has been completely banned.

The Town and Country Planning (TCP) Department has issued licenses to nine builders to build group housing societies. The license has a condition that they have to obtain a no objection certificate (NOC) from the Ministry of Environment. But without taking prior permission few builders made construction in the restricted zone.

The survey has also revealed the collusion of the officials of the concerned department. Nine societies have been built within this area. It is being said that the TCP Department approved the maps of these societies without checking the NOC. Occupancy certificates were even issued to most of the societies. Now about 7,000 families have started living in the flats built in these societies. However, After the survey conducted by the Wildlife Department, the construction work of the two societies has been stopped.

These societies are being built under the Affordable Housing Policy, which has about 1500 flats. These societies have been built in villages Dhorka, Wazirpur and Gopalpur.

Pravasi Bharatiya Divas highlights India will fulfill world's demand for skilled talent,says PM Modi



Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the 18th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas convention on Thursday, January 9, 2025. This significant event, celebrated once every two years, honoured the contributions of the Indian diaspora to their homeland.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday inaugurated four exhibitions at the 18th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas 2025 convention, showcasing India's cultural heritage, traditions and the contributions of its diaspora.



The third exhibition highlighted the spread and evolution of the Indian diaspora with special focus on the migration from Mandvi in Gujarat to Muscat in Oman. It featured rare historical documents showcasing the journey and impact of Indian migrants.



The fourth exhibition celebrated the heritage and culture of Odisha, showcasing a glimpse into the state's rich traditions, art, and crafts, while emphasising its cultural legacy.

The first exhibition, titled 'Vishwaroop Ram,' highlighted the universal legacy of the Ramayana. It presented the timeless epic through a blend of traditional and contemporary art forms, emphasising its relevance across cultures. The second exhibition focused on the Indian diaspora's contribution to technology and the vision of Viksit Bharat. It acknowledged the contributions of NRIs to the development of technology across the world.



Odisha CM Mohan Charan Majhi flagged off a special pilgrimage train for senior citizens from Bhubaneswar



Shirdi-Nashik special train will cover 10 pilgrimage sites in the country. Odisha Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi on Friday flagged off a special pilgrimage train for senior citizens from Bhubaneswar. A total of 800 elderly pilgrims availed opportunity under Baristha Nagarika Tirtha Yatra Yojana (BNTYY) to visit various places including Shirdi, Nashik, Kamakshya, Varanasi, Kolkata Dakshineswar Kali Temple and Ayodhya.



The state government has made all types of arrangements including accommodation, travel and food from villages to stations and stations to pilgrimage sites for the senior citizen passengers travelling by the special train. A total of 8000 senior citizens will avail the benefits of visiting holy places by the special pilgrimage train in 10 trips in phases this year. Each trip will have 800 passengers under the senior citizen pilgrimage scheme.



University of Cincinnati President Prof. Neville G Pinto Conferred KISS Lifetime Achievement Award



The President of the University of Cincinnati, USA, Prof. Neville G. Pinto, was conferred the prestigious KISS Lifetime Achievement Award on 17th January, 2025 during his visit to the KISS campus. Prof. Pinto expressed his admiration for the institution and its Founder, Dr. Achyuta Samanta, while announcing a significant partnership between the University of Cincinnati, KIIT and KISS.

In his address, Prof. Pinto lauded Dr. Samanta's contribution to education and tribal empowerment. "Dr. Samanta started from utter poverty and hunger, and now look at what he has accomplished. His philosophy of always doing good for others is truly inspiring. Each one of you has the same potential to achieve what Dr. Samanta has achieved. Knowledge provides you with the power to do good, and Dr. Samanta's dedication and passion should be a guiding light for all." He said that his University will forge partnership with KIIT and KISS, saying the suggestion was put forward by none other than the Indian Ambassador to the USA, Taranjit Singh Sandhu. Prof. Pinto expressed hope that this partnership would benefit students and faculty alike, opening new avenues for research, cultural exchange, and academic excellence. "As a 200-year-old institution, we are amazed by what KIIT and KISS have accomplished in just 27 years. UNESCO has recognized you with the Literacy Award, and your remarkable achievements speak volumes about your vision and dedication."



r. Samanta expressed his delight at hosting Prof. Pinto and highlighted the historical significance of this collaboration. "It is a moment of pride for us that an Indian-born academician is leading a prestigious university like the University of Cincinnati, established in 1819. While KIIT and KISS are relatively young, being only 30 years old, we have achieved milestones on par with IITs and NITs. Our tremendous contributions in the fields of academics and sports are a testament to our commitment." The Vice Chancellor of KISS Prof. Deepak Kumar Behera and others were present on the occasion.

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୮-୧୦ ଜାନୁଆରୀ, ୨୦୨୫ | ଭୁବନେଶ୍ୱର

ପ୍ରବାସୀ ଭାରତୀୟ ଦିବସ ସମ୍ମେଳନ



**ବୈଶ୍ୱିକ ରାଜଦୂତମାନଙ୍କୁ
ଆତିଥ୍ୟ ପ୍ରଦାନ ପାଇଁ ଓଡ଼ିଶା ପ୍ରସ୍ତୁତ**

