

676 Women Leaders Empowered Through First-Ever 'Subhadra Shakti Leadership Summit'

Bhubaneswar, 12/03/2026: The six-day Subhadra Shakti Leadership Summit, organised for the first time by the Department of Mission Shakti at Konark, concluded successfully, marking a significant step towards strengthening women's leadership in Odisha. Deputy Chief Minister Pravati Parida attended the closing ceremony as the chief guest and addressed the participants, praising the crucial role of women in building a developed Odisha. Addressing the gathering, Deputy CM said that Mission Shakti has evolved beyond a government programme and has become a powerful women-led transformation movement in the state. She noted that the summit aimed to equip women



with leadership skills, emotional intelligence, capacity building and knowledge about start-up opportunities, which would guide Odisha towards a progressive future. It is noteworthy that, for the first time in the history of Mission Shakti, President &

Secretary of 338 Block level Federations totalling 676 members participated in the summit. The programme began on March

7. Officials stated that the government remains committed to transforming Self-Help Groups (SHGs) into sustainable micro-enterprises and empowering women economically and digitally. Mission Shakti Commissioner-cum-Secretary Manasi Nimbal, Director Dr Monica Priyadarshini, along with other officers of the department and dignitaries were present at the closing ceremony. On the final day, 174 representatives from Jharsuguda, Nuapada, Sundargarh, Deogarh, Subarnapur, Balangir and Mayurbhanj districts shared their experiences. The summit is expected to become a milestone in advancing self-reliance and leadership among women in Odisha.

Government and Administration Fully Committed to Public Support



Bhubaneswar, March 12, 2026: A high-level meeting was held today at the Annapurna Conference Hall in Lokseva Bhavan under the chairmanship of the Hon'ble Minister of Food Supplies and Consumer Welfare, Shri Krishna Chandra Patra. The meeting focused on reviewing the availability and supply chain of Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG), Petrol, and Diesel across the state. In attendance were Shri Sanjay Kumar Singh, Principal Secretary of the Department, Shri K. Sudarshan Chakraborty, Managing Director of the Odisha State Civil Supplies Corporation, and senior officials of the department, alongside representatives from major oil and fuel mar-

keting companies including IOCL, BPCL, HPCL, Reliance, and GAIL. During the session, hon'ble minister Shri Patra assured the public that there is a sufficient stock of cooking gas and fuel available in the state. He advised citizens not to succumb to panic or anxiety regarding the supply. The hon'ble minister conducted a thorough review of the distribution process to LPG distributors and retail outlets, directing officials to remain vigilant so that consumers do not face any hardships. To ensure seamless monitoring, District Collectors have been instructed to submit daily reports on the supply situation in their respective regions.

- ▶ Discussion held with oil company authorities regarding availability of cooking gas and fuel in the state
- ▶ Hon'ble Minister urges citizens not to panic

Addressing global concerns, the Hon'ble Minister urged the people of Odisha to remain alert but calm despite the ongoing situation in the Middle East. He issued a stern warning against black marketing and hoarding, noting that departmental officers have been deployed to conduct raids. He further instructed that strict legal action be taken immediately upon receiving any reports of such illegal activities. Principal Secretary Shri Sanjay Kumar Singh added that the department is maintaining comprehensive data on the daily requirement and availability of fuel. In this regard, the Collectors of each district will provide daily reports. Marketing officers have been specifically tasked with monitoring sensitive government institutions, such as SCB Medical College in Cuttack, as well as various educational centers. He reaffirmed that the State Government is taking all necessary steps to ensure that domestic consumers face no disruptions in their daily lives.

Odisha Advocates 'University Townships' Linked to Economic Zones at National Webinar



Bhubaneswar, 12.03.2026: Odisha participated in a national Post-Budget Webinar organised by the Ministry of Education, Government of India, where the state strongly advocated the development of "University Townships" aligned with emerging economic and industrial zones. Representing the State, Smt. Usha Padhee, Additional Chief Secretary, Housing & Urban Development Department, highlighted Odisha's strategic vision of creating integrated university townships that combine higher education, research, innovation and urban development. The webinar followed the Union Budget 2026-27 announcement proposing the establishment of five specialised university townships along ma-

major industrial and logistics corridors across the country. Smt. Padhee suggested that such townships in Odisha could be strategically located in alignment with emerging growth centres such as the BCPPER region and City Economic Zones in Western and Northern Odisha to ensure balanced regional development clusters anchored around Rourkella, Sambalpur and Koraput enabling stronger collaboration between academia and industry. She emphasised that these townships should be developed as well-planned satellite urban centres with modern infrastructure, research facilities, student housing and strong connectivity, creating a vibrant academic ecosystem capable of attracting global talent.

Practical Training Underway for Second Batch at BPI Airport

Bhubaneswar, 12.03.2026: The practical training programme for the second batch of trainees under the Aviation Training Basic Course is currently underway at BPI Airport, Bhubaneswar. As part of the training schedule, hands-on sessions are being conducted at the airport to provide practical exposure and operational understanding to the participants. The 15-day training programme, similar to the first batch, is primarily meant for security personnel deployed at the airports of the State. The programme is being organised by the Commerce and Transport Department in collaboration with the Regional Di-



rector, Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (RDBCAS) and the Home Department, with participation from security personnel of all four airports in Odisha. Senior officials and trainers from the concerned departments were present during the session and guided the trainees throughout the training programme.

Over 1 Lakh Citizens Witness the Historic “Nyaya Sanhita” Exhibition as Bhubaneswar Becomes the Epicentre of India’s New Justice Era

BHUBANESWAR | MARCH 12, 2026 – The Odisha Police today successfully concluded its week-long mega exhibition on the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, marking a historic milestone in public legal awareness and community policing with an unprecedented total footfall of over 1 lakh visitors. Held at the IDCO Exhibition Ground, Unit-III, Bhubaneswar, the closing day was graced by a prestigious gathering including the Hon’ble Speaker of the Odisha Legislative Assembly, Smt. Surama Padhy, MLA Pipili Shri Asrit Pattanayak, Dr. Manoj Kumar Sahoo, Shri Saswat Mishra, ACS to HCM, Smt. Chithra Arumugam, ACS, Labour & ESI Department, and noted actor Sabyasachi Mishra. The final day saw a vibrant surge of energy as students from Utkal University joined forces with personnel and families from the RPF, CISE, and CRPF, all eager to witness the transformation of India’s legal landscape. This massive public response followed a two-day extension granted by Chief Minister Shri Mohan Charan Majhi, who recognized the event as a vital tool for demystifying the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita—the landmark laws that replaced colonial-era statutes on July 1, 2024, to establish a more transparent, efficient, and citizen-centric justice system. The exhibition, conceptualized by a high-level committee under the Director General of Police, Odisha Yogesh Bahadur Khurania, moved away from traditional lectures to offer an immersive “Journey of Justice.” Visitors were guided through a meticulously designed sequence



of pavilions, starting with a realistic Crime Scene setup where forensic experts demonstrated the “Golden Hour” of evidence collection. The journey continued through a high-tech Police Control Room, showcasing the integration of the Dial 112 helpline and GPS-enabled dispatch, into the Police Station segment, which highlighted modern transparency tools like digital case management and the registration of Zero FIRs. The transition through the Hospital and Forensic Laboratory pavilions emphasized the state’s shift toward scientific, objective evidence, leading into a recreated District and High Court environment. Here, visitors witnessed the

mechanics of trials and appellate procedures before concluding at the Prison pavilion, which focused on the reformative aspects of the new laws, such as vocational training and social reintegration for offenders. Beyond the judicial process, the exhibition featured specialized displays of the Odisha Police’s multifaceted capabilities. Following the high-intensity demonstrations by the Special Operations Group (SOG) and the Odisha Disaster Rapid Action Force (ODRAF), visitors were treated to a unique display of the force’s Pigeon Service and Communication Services. This segment showcased the legendary Police Carrier Pigeon Service—the only one of its

kind in the world—highlighting Odisha’s commitment to preserving heritage while maintaining emergency communication links that remain resilient during total technological blackouts. Complementing this was the Modern Communication Stall (ERSS), which featured satellite communication tools, encrypted digital radio networks, and the CCTNS-linked infrastructure that ensures seamless data flow across every police station in the state, symbolizing a blend of tradition and cutting-edge technology. The sheer scale of public engagement was reflected in the diverse background of the attendees, spanning every layer of society. The event drew

bureaucrats, members of the judiciary, lawyers, and legal professionals, alongside educationists, professors, and youth representatives. It resonated equally with the grassroots, attracting slum dwellers, labourers, ASHA and Anganwadi workers, and members of Self-Help Groups (SHGs). The presence of film personalities, social influencers, and media professionals helped amplify the message, while athletes, senior citizens, bankers, and members of the transgender community added to the inclusive spirit. To bridge the gap between complex legal jargon and the common man, professional artists performed daily dramatic skits in Odia, translating the provisions of the Nyaya Sanhita into relatable stories. The entire exhibition was conducted under the able supervision of DGP, Crime Branch, Shri Vinyotosh Mishra, whose leadership and guidance ensured the smooth and successful execution of the program. Several retired IPS officers and other senior officers from across the state also visited the exhibition during the week, interacting with visitors and encouraging public participation in understanding the new criminal laws. With a 166% surge in Zero FIR registrations and conviction rates rising to 87.6% in the past year, the exhibition has served as a powerful catalyst for public trust and awareness, reinforcing the commitment of Odisha Police to ensure a transparent, efficient, and citizen-centric justice system, while partnering with the people in the journey toward a “Viksit Odisha.”

A Tsunami of Women Empowerment Has Arrived, Odisha is Marching Ahead on the Path of Progress: Deputy Chief Minister Pravati Parida



Bhubaneswar, 07/03/2026: On the eve of International Women’s Day, a special programme was organised at Mayfair Convention, Bhubaneswar, to felicitate distinguished women who have made remarkable contributions in various fields. The event was held under the able vision

and guidance of Hon’ble Deputy Chief Minister and Minister of Women & Child Development, Mission Shakti and Tourism, Mrs.

Pravati Parida. The programme was graced by the presence of Mrs. Kambhampati Jayasree, First Lady of the State and wife of the Hon’ble Governor; Dr. Priyanka Marandi, wife of the Hon’ble Chief Minister; Mrs. Surama Padhy, Hon’ble Speaker of the Odisha Legislative Assembly; Mrs. Anu Garg, Chief Secretary of Odisha; Mrs. Sulochana Das, Mayor of Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation; Dr. Mrinalini Darswal, Commissioner-cum-Secretary, Department of Women & Child Development; and Mrs. Manasi Nimbhal, Commissioner-cum-Sec-

retary, Mission Shakti Department, along with several distinguished guests and accomplished women from across the state. The programme commenced with the ceremonial watering of a tree by the dignitaries, symbolising growth, hope and the spirit of women’s empowerment. On this occasion, Chief Secretary Mrs. Anu Garg is felicitated in recognition of her exceptional leadership and remarkable contribution to public administration. In her address, the Deputy Chief Minister stated that the presence of such a large number of accomplished women from diverse fields at the event is a strong testament to the progress of Odisha. She emphasised that women in today’s Odisha are not merely participants in the state’s development but are leading the transformation and shaping a new trajectory of growth for the state. The celebration concluded on a vibrant cultural note with soulful performances by eminent vocalist and Sangeet Natak Akademi Awardee Mrs. Susmita Das, along with State Sangeet Natak Akademi Awardee Dr. Adyasha Das, which added charm and grace to the occasion.



Global Summit on Blue Economy 2026 Inaugurated in Bhubaneswar

National and global leaders convene in Bhubaneswar to advance innovation, partnerships, and sustainable growth in the Blue Economy.

Bhubaneswar, Odisha | 13 March 2026 Smt. Anu Garg, IAS, Chief Secretary, Government of Odisha, inaugurated the Global Summit on Blue Economy 2026 today at the Convention Centre, Lok Seva Bhawan, presenting the state's vision under Viksit Odisha @2036. Highlighting the potential of ocean-based sectors to drive economic growth, she emphasized Odisha's EDGE in economy, demography, geography, and ecosystem, along with its 575 km coastline. She outlined the ambition for Odisha to contribute 5% to the country's GDP by 2047, with key contributions expected from fisheries, maritime infrastructure, coastal tourism, and marine biotechnology through OMBRIC. She concluded by reiterating the vision of "Think India, Think Odisha," positioning the state as an emerging hub for Blue Economy growth and innovation.

Providing the national perspective under Viksit Bharat @2047, Dr. M. Ravichandran, Secretary, Ministry of Earth Sciences, Government of India, highlighted the vast potential of the oceans, noting that over 95% of the deep ocean remains unexplored globally. He emphasized both the opportunities in sectors such as offshore energy and marine biotechnology, and the challenges of climate impacts, coastal erosion, and marine pollution, stressing the need for stronger research and innovation to sustainably harness ocean resources.

His Excellency Karlito Nunes, Ambassador of Timor-Leste to India, shared insights on his country's focus on strengthening marine



and coastal sectors and highlighted the importance of international cooperation and partnerships in advancing Blue Economy initiatives.

Sh NBS Rajput, IAS, Principal Secretary, Commerce & Transport Department, Government of Odisha, addressed the audience by highlighting the strategic importance of Odisha's coastline and maritime resources. He emphasised the need for stronger collaboration, improved infrastructure, innovation, and sustainable practices to strengthen key sectors such as fisheries and aquaculture

and support coastal livelihoods.

The two-day summit is being organised by the Bhubaneswar City Knowledge Innovation Cluster (BCKIC) Foundation, an initiative of the Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India, under the guidance of PM-STIAC, in association with the Commerce & Transport Department, Government of Odisha. The inaugural plenary began with a welcome address by Dr Mrutyunjay Suar, Chairman, BCKIC Foundation, who underscored the importance of collaboration and innovation in advancing

India's Blue Economy.

The inaugural session witnessed participation from over 500 attendees, including policymakers, industry leaders, researchers, startups, and students. During the session, the Blue Economy Technology Compendium was released, along with an academic Abstract Book, and the Startup Showcasing Pavilion was inaugurated, highlighting key innovations and technological advancements by 26 startups across the coastal region of Odisha, contributing to sustainable ocean-based development.

Over the two-day programme, the discussions will cover key sectors including fisheries and mariculture, marine biodiversity, climate resilience, maritime security, marine pollution, offshore energy, deep-sea mining, marine biotechnology, and AI-enabled ocean intelligence. Participation from students, researchers, and faculty forms another key component of the event, with abstracts published in the Conference Abstract Souvenir. Selected research contributions will have the opportunity for publication and excellence recognition in association with Taylor & Francis.

The summit aligns with India's vision of Maritime India Vision 2030 and Viksit Bharat @2047, while highlighting Odisha's growing role in advancing sustainable ocean-based development. With its long coastline and strategic maritime position, Odisha is increasingly emerging as a hub for innovation and sustainable ocean-based industries.

Three-Day's "Fit India Carnival" at Puri Beach from March 21; Minister Shri Suryabanshi Suraj Reviews Preparations



Bhubaneswar, Odisha — March 13, 2026: The pristine shores of Puri are set to host a three-day "Fit India Carnival" from March 21 to March 23, 2026. This initiative aims to transform Puri beach into a premier hub for healthy lifestyle promotion and sports-based awareness. In a high-level review meeting held today via video conferencing, the Minister for Sports and Youth Services, Shri Suryabanshi Suraj, assessed the preparedness alongside officials from the Sports Authority of India (SAI), Puri District Administration, "MY Bharat," and NSS Odisha. Organized under the Fit India Mission by the SAI Regional Centre (Kolkata) and NCOE Jagatpur, the primary goal of this carnival is to integrate physical fitness into the daily routines of the general public. Given Puri's status as a global heritage city, a massive turnout of participants is anticipated. The Minister emphasized that the core objectives are extensive public outreach and safety. The carnival seeks to foster health awareness not just among the youth, but also among tourists and the general public. It is designed to be a community-driven movement, bringing together residents, students, and visitors to spread the message of wellness against the backdrop of the heritage city.

Odisha Students' Achievement at Tokyo Makes Us Proud: Higher Education Minister Shri Suryabanshi Suraj

Bhubaneswar 13th March, 2026 Students from Odisha who represented the State at the Tokyo Global Financial Forum today paid a courtesy visit to Higher Education Minister Suryabanshi Suraj. The Minister congratulated the students for their remarkable performance and achievements at the international forum.

Appreciating their accomplishment, the Minister said, "We are proud of the success of our students. Through their innovation and entrepreneurial ideas presented at the Global Financial Forum, they have brought pride to Odisha. Students pursuing studies in the general stream are not merely working toward degrees; they are using their creativity to develop solutions to real-world problems. By showcasing their innovative project on a global platform, they have made all of us proud and inspired the youth of the State."

It may be noted that the Government of Odisha, in collaboration with the National University of Singapore – Asian Institute of Digital Finance and the Global Finance & Technology Network, had launched a Certification Programme in Fintech and Insurtech for students of colleges and universities in the State. As part of the programme, 195 students worked on various capstone projects. Among them, a seven-member team that secured the top position was selected to present its fin-



tech project at the Tokyo Global Financial Forum. The team members include B. Simran, Rajeshwari Behera, Pushpanjali Behera, Manisha Lenka and Soumya Ranjan Baithalu from Ravenshaw University; Shivanshi Nayak from Utkal University; and Arniban Kar from Salepur Autonomous College. The students presented their project titled "TranchiFy – A Trust-Based Working Capital Platform for Next-Generation SMEs." The fintech solution aims to simplify and digitize the process through which small and medium enterprises (SMEs) can access working capital and obtain bank loans more easily.

Expressing their happiness, the students said that the Fintech and Insurtech Certification Programme has helped them gain exposure to innovation, entrepreneurship and skill development in the fields of finance and technology. They also acknowledged that the Government of Odisha's initiative enabled them to showcase their project at an international platform.