

Commerce Minister Meets World Bank Team



Minister of Commerce and Industry, Suresh Prabhu, met with the World Bank team in New Delhi on Thursday. The team was led by Ms. Caroline Freund, Director of Trade, Regional Integration and Investment Climate and Junaid Ahmad, Country Director for the World Bank in India. Discussions were held to explore ways to strengthen World Bank support towards India's development with collaboration in specific areas of trade, logistics and investment.

The Minister highlighted the work being done by the Ministry for developing a National Integrated Logistic Policy (NILP). The Policy will focus on increasing the capacity of storage and warehousing and other value added services. Multimodal logistics parks, integrating

various transportation modes, are also being developed right up to the district level. The Minister also highlighted the work being done by the Ministry towards identifying specific products and markets to increase India's exports by USD 100 bn. He underlined the need for understanding product specific supply chains for India to integrate effectively into global supply chains. The (NILP) will reduce the cost of goods and make Indian product more competitive.

In the meeting it was agreed that a workshop will be conducted with World Bank and concerned Ministries in order to identify specific interventions required to streamline logistics in the country with an aim to integrate Indian products into Global value chains.

182 School Drops out and Madrasa students have successfully completed the Bridge Course

Union Minister for Minority Affairs Shri. Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi will tomorrow distribute certificates to those students who have been successful in "Bridge Course", jointly conducted by Ministry of Minority Affairs and Jamia Millia Islamia, for school drop outs and those students who are pursuing their studies in Madrasas.

Ministry of Minority Affairs, in collaboration with Jamia Millia Islamia University, had started "Bridge Course" to bring Madrasa students and school drop outs into mainstream education system.

This year, a total of 260 students had been trained under "Bridge Course" out of which 182 students have successfully completed the course and they will be given their certificates tomorrow.

Besides, Ministry of Minority Affairs has also started a training programme to link Madrasa teachers with the mainstream education system.

Minority Affairs Ministry, in collaboration with Jamia Millia Islamia University, has been organising residential training programme for Madrasa teachers. These teachers are providing mainstream education like Science, Maths, Computer, Hindi, English etc.

On the occasion of certificate distribution tomorrow, besides Shri Naqvi, Minority Affairs Minister Secretary Shri A. Luikham; Aligarh Muslim University Vice Chancellor Shri Tariq Mansoor; Jamia Millia Islamia Vice Chancellor Shri Talat Ahmad; Chairman Guru Harkishan Public School Society Shri S. Manjit Singh GK; representative of Diocese of Delhi-Church of North India Bishop Collin Theodore; Secretary Mhabodhi International Meditation Centre Leh-Ladakh Ven Nagasena; Secretary Maulana Azad Education Foundation Shri R. Rahman and other dignitaries will be present.

Border population is our strategic asset: Rajnath Singh

The Union Home Minister Shri Rajnath Singh had interaction with Field and State Level Officers implementing Border Area Development Programme (BADP), here today. During the interaction, relevant issues regarding implementation of BADP and to make it more effective were discussed in detail. Shri Rajnath Singh stressed that the border population is strategic asset to the country and important element to maintain border security. He emphasised that all out efforts must be made to improve social and economic infrastructure to ensure that these people continue to live in border villages. He mentioned that the government accords utmost priority to social and economic well-being of border population and to provide them all facilities like connectivity, safe drinking water, schools, hospitals and other facilities to ensure sustainable living in these

areas. He assured Centre's continued assistance to States to strengthen infrastructure and development activities under the BADP. The outlay under this Programme has been increased to Rs. 1,100 crore in 2017-18 from Rs. 990 crore in 2015-16. For comprehensive and all-round development of border villages, it has been decided to develop 61 model villages for which Rs. 126 crores have been released to the State Governments. Additional funds will also be made available as per requirement. Each model village will provide all basic facilities like primary health centre, primary education, community centre, connectivity, drainage, drinking water, etc. to enable sustainable living in border areas. On the occasion, Shri Rajnath Singh launched BADP Online Management System for better planning, monitoring and implementation of various projects under BADP.



The Union Minister for Road Transport & Highways, Shipping and Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation, Shri Nitin Gadkari laying the foundation stone and inaugurating the National Highways and Port Connectivity projects, in Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh. The Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, Shri N. Chandrababu Naidu and the Minister of State for Finance and Shipping, Shri P. Radhakrishnan are also seen.

Water storage level of 91 major reservoirs of the country goes up by four percent

The water storage available in 91 major reservoirs of the country for the week ending on July 12, 2018 was 38.157 BCM which is 24% of total storage capacity of these reservoirs. This percentage was at 20% for the week ending on July 05, 2018. The level of water storage in the week ending on July 12, 2018 was 107% of the storage of corresponding period of last year and 99% of storage of average of last ten years.

The total storage capacity of these 91 reservoirs is 161.993 BCM which is about 63% of the total storage capacity of 257.812 BCM which is estimated to have been created in the country. 37 Reservoirs out of these 91 have hydropower benefit with installed capacity of more than 60 MW.

The northern region includes States of Himachal Pradesh, Punjab and Rajasthan. There are six reservoirs under CWC monitoring having total live storage capacity of 18.01 BCM. The total live storage available in these reservoirs is 3.07 BCM which is 17% of total live storage capacity of these reservoirs. The storage during corresponding period of last year was 33% and average storage of last ten years during corresponding

period was 35% of live storage capacity of these reservoirs. Thus, storage during current year is less than the corresponding period of last year and is also less than the average storage of last ten years during the corresponding period.

The Eastern region includes States of Jharkhand, Odisha, West Bengal and Tripura. There are 15 reservoirs under CWC monitoring having total live storage capacity of 18.83 BCM. The total live storage available in these reservoirs is 3.22 BCM which is 17% of total live storage capacity of these reservoirs. The storage during corresponding period of last year was 19% and average storage of last ten years during corresponding period was 19% of live storage capacity of these reservoirs. Thus, storage during current year is less than the corresponding period of last year and is also less than the average storage of last ten years during the corresponding period.

The Western region includes States of Gujarat and Maharashtra. There are 27 reservoirs under CWC monitoring having total live storage capacity of 31.26 BCM. The total live storage available in these reservoirs is 5.56 BCM which is 18% of

total live storage capacity of these reservoirs. The storage during corresponding period of last year was 23% and average storage of last ten years during corresponding period was 21% of live storage capacity of these reservoirs. Thus, storage during current year is less than the storage of last year and is also less than the average storage of last ten years during the corresponding period.

The Central region includes States of Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh. There are 12 reservoirs under CWC monitoring having total live storage capacity of 42.30 BCM. The total live storage available in these reservoirs is 9.65 BCM which is 23% of total live storage capacity of these reservoirs. The storage during corresponding period of last year was 28% and average storage of last ten years during corresponding period was 24% of live storage capacity of these reservoirs. Thus, storage during current year is less than the storage of last year and is also less than the average storage of last ten years during the corresponding period. The Southern region includes States of Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, AP&TG

(Two combined projects in both states), Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu. There are 31 reservoirs under CWC monitoring having total live storage capacity of 51.59 BCM. The total live storage available in these reservoirs is 16.66 BCM which is 32% of total live storage capacity of these reservoirs. The storage during corresponding period of last year was 14% and average storage of last ten years during corresponding period was 24% of live storage capacity of these reservoirs. Thus, storage during current year is better than the corresponding period of last year and is also better than the average storage of last ten years during the corresponding period.

States having better storage than last year for corresponding period are Rajasthan, West Bengal, Tripura, Maharashtra, AP&TG (Two combined projects in both states), Andhra Pradesh Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu. States having equal storage than last year for corresponding period is Uttarakhand. States having lesser storage than last year for corresponding period are Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Jharkhand, Odisha, Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and Telangana.

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REGION WISE STORAGE STATUS:-

NORTHERN REGION
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EASTERN REGION
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CENTRAL REGION
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Century's Longest Total Lunar Eclipse on July 27-28

A total lunar eclipse will occur on July 27-28, 2018 with a totality duration of 1 hour 43 minutes. The duration makes it the longest total lunar eclipse of this century (2001 AD to 2100 AD).

On July 27, the red planet Mars, will also be at opposition, meaning that the Sun and Mars will lie opposite to each other, keeping the Earth in the middle. This will result in Mars coming close to the Earth, causing it to appear brighter than normal and it will be seen from evening to dawn towards the end of July. The brighter Mars will remain very close to the eclipsed Moon in the sky on July 27-28 and can be spotted very easily with the naked eye. However, the red planet will reach closest to the Earth on July 31, 2018. The planet Mars comes at opposition at an average interval of 2 years and 2 months when the planet comes close to the Earth and becomes brighter. Mars opposition that had occurred in August 2003 brought the two planets closest distance in approximately 60,000 years. The closest approach of Mars on July 31, 2018 will bring the two planets closest and the planet Mars to be seen brightest since 2003.

The partial eclipse of the Moon will begin at 23h 54m

IST on July 27. The Moon will be gradually covered by the Earth's shadow and the totality phase will begin at 1h 00m IST on July 28. The total eclipse will last upto 2h 43m IST on 28 July. Then the Moon will start to gradually come out of Earth's shadow and partial eclipse will end at 3h 49m IST on July 28.

In this particular eclipse, the Moon will pass through the central part of the Earth's umbral shadow. Furthermore, the Moon will be at apogee, means at farthest from the Earth in its orbit, on July 27 and will be moving at a slower speed in its orbit. This slower moving full Moon will take longer time and greater distance of Earth's umbral shadow cone to travel, making it the longest duration of total eclipse of this century.

Such long duration of total lunar eclipses had earlier occurred on July 16, 2000 for totality duration of 1 hour 46 minutes and another one on June 15, 2011 for totality duration of 1 hour 40 minutes.

The entire eclipse will also be visible from all parts of India. The eclipse will also be visible in the region covering Australia, Asia, Russia - except the northern part, Africa, Europe, east of South America and Antarctica.

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Sl. No.	Name of MSOs	DAS notified Areas Which Will Be Affected	Reason for Disconnection
1	Lucky Cable Network	Daman	Non-Renewal & Non-Payment

All areas serviced by the aforementioned MSO(s) are likely to be affected.
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Sl. No.	Name of MSOs	DAS notified Areas Which Will Be Affected	Reason for Disconnection
1	Suraj Cable Network	Rajkot	Non-Renewal & Non-Payment
2	Lucky Cable Network	Daman	Non-Renewal & Non-Payment

All areas serviced by the above parties are likely to be affected.
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