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1. Commerce & Transport Department

The Commerce & Transport Department came into existence during the year 1974. This Department consists of two wings i.e., Commerce wing and Transport wing.

1.1. Commerce Wing

The Commerce Department oversees two key Directorates: The Directorate of Printing, Stationery & Publication in Cuttack, and the Directorate of Ports & Inland Water Transport in Bhubaneswar. Additionally, it manages a Gazette Notification cell responsible for publishing all extraordinary government gazettes on the official website. This cell handles notifications regarding name changes, partnership deeds, and various resolutions and notifications from government departments, public undertakings, and universities among others.

The Directorate of Printing, Stationery & Publication (DPS&P) is a Quasi-Industrial Service Organisation which delivers different services like printing of Scheduled & Non-Scheduled Forms, State Government Gazettes, Government Publications, Printing of Govt. Diary, State Govt. Budget, etc.

The Directorate of Ports & Inland Water Transport (DP&IWT) oversees non-major port development and non-nationalized waterways in Odisha. The state published its Port Policy in November 2022 to holistically develop the maritime sector.

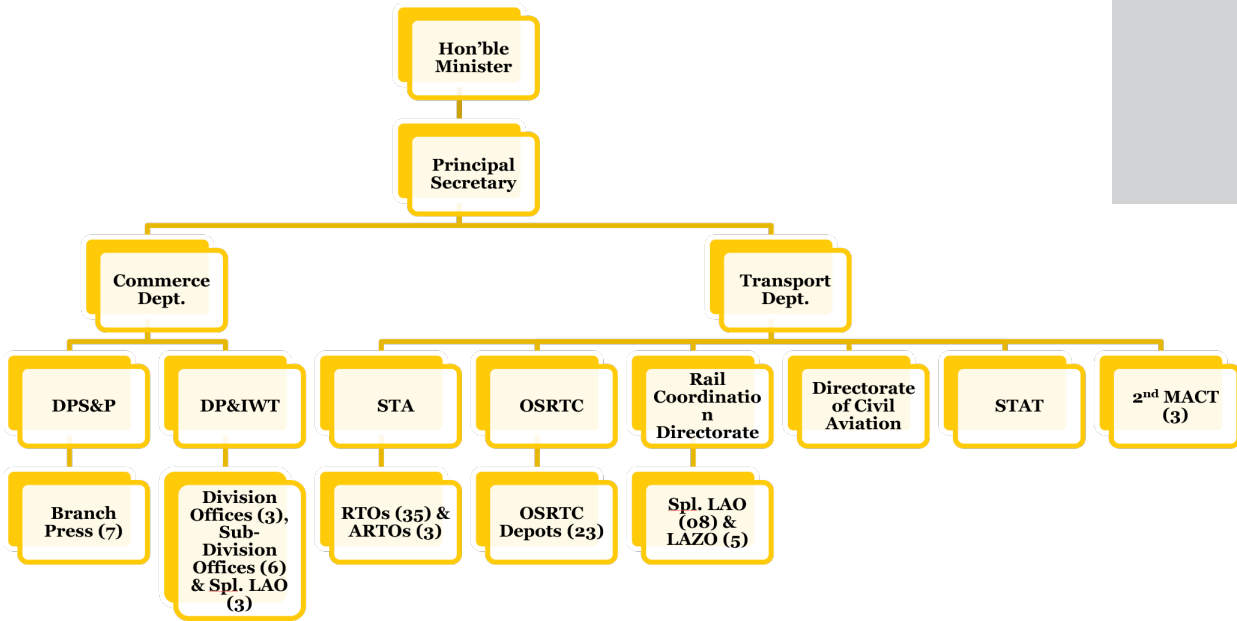
The Crew Training Institute in Chandbali, operating since 1979, is the sole government institute providing training for inland vessel operations. Graduates find employment in various government departments and maritime sectors as launch drivers, serangs, seacunnies, boatmen, and launch khalasis.

The Odisha Maritime Board (OMB), established in August 2022, coordinates non-major port activities, optimizes efficiency, and aims to become a leader in port development and management. It promotes sustainable port development practices.

1.2. Transport Wing

The Transport Department is entrusted with the matters relating to road transport regulatory, rail coordination and aviation sector. This Department administers the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988, Motor Vehicles Taxation Act, 1975 and Rules made there under. The Department also supervises, regulates the working and functioning of the various bodies such as, the State Transport Authority (STA), Regional Transport Offices (RTO) and Directorate of Civil Aviation. There is also a corporation namely, Odisha State Road Transport Corporation (OSRTC) is functioning under this Department. Besides, there are Tribunals namely, State Transport Appellate Tribunal (STAT), Cuttack, 2nd Motor Accident Claim Tribunals (MACT) at Cuttack, Sambalpur and Berhampur which mainly look after finalization of motor accident claims cases.

1.3. Organogram



2. Directorate of Ports & IWT

2.1. Maritime Sector in Odisha

Odisha, a key maritime state on India's east coast, features a roughly 575 km shoreline, stretching from Bichitrapur (Talasari) in Balasore district, north, to Bahuda Mouth in Ganjam district, south. Its coast provides favourable, unique, natural, and strategic port locations, and each coastal segment offers diverse ecological niches and habitats. This strategic position has long facilitated sea trade, with ancient Kalinga (present-day Odisha) engaging in extensive voyages to Southeast Asia.

The Odisha Maritime Board (OMB), a statutory body by the Government of Odisha under the Odisha Maritime Board Act 2020, coordinates the development and operations of 14 non-major port sites, optimises port efficiency, reduces port and waterway congestion, and delivers integrated solutions for port operations and management.

The Odisha Port Policy 2022 was created to advance the Maritime and Inland Water Transport sector. It promotes a holistic approach, encompassing ports, industrial and infrastructure growth, and inland waterways.

The Government of Odisha has identified 14 potential sites for non-major port development. Dhamra Port and Gopalpur Port are operational, while Subarnarekha Port and Astaranga Port are under construction. A Captive Jetty at Jatadhar Muhan is also in the planning stages.

Odisha has an extensive network of rivers, lakes, canals, breakwaters, and creeks. Inland Water Transport (IWT) is an important, alternative economic, fuel-efficient and environment-friendly mode of transport. Passenger Launch Services are being provided by the Directorate of Ports and Inland Water Transport under the Commerce & Transport Department in 6 (Six) different water routes in two sectors, i.e., (1) Chandabali and (2) Balugaon. Efforts are underway for developing the Inland Water Transport as an alternative and a cheaper mode of transport. Various routes across major river systems and dams in Odisha have been identified for connecting through inland waterways, thus, saving time and distance travelled by roadways.

For the development of National Waterways, the Government of India has enacted the National Waterways Act, 2016, in which 111 nos. waterways have been declared as National Waterways (NW), out of which 6 nos. waterways, i.e., NW-5, NW-14, NW-22, NW-23, NW-64 & NW-96 are in the State of Odisha. An SPV named Inland Waterways Consortium of Odisha Limited (IWCOL) consisting of the Government of Odisha, Inland Waterway Authority of India and Paradip Port Authority has been formed for the development of NW-5 & NW-64 in the State.

Thus, with the development of Ports and Inland Waterways, an optimal modal mix of road, rail, inland water transport and ports shall be achieved, providing an efficient and cost-effective transport infrastructure in the State.



(Ports and Inland Waterways in Odisha)

Table: Available Notified Port locations in Odisha with co-ordinates

S. No.	Name of the Port Locations	District	Co-ordinates	Gazette of Odisha Notification No. & Date
1	Bichitrapur (Talashari)	Balasore	Lat: 21°35'30.21"N Long: 87°26'54.82"E	No.1704, Dtd.25.11.2009
2	Bahabalpur	Balasore	Lat: 21°29'8.09"N Long: 87° 5'15.52"E	No.1238, Dtd.22.08.2015
3	Chandipur	Balasore	Lat: 21°27'6.25"N Long: 87° 2'18.61"E	No.470, Dtd.11.04.1997
4	Inchuri	Balasore	Lat: 21°19'52.28"N Long: 86°54'30.24"E	No.470, Dtd.11.04.1997
5	Chudamani	Bhadrak	Lat: 21° 2'37.62"N Long: 86°51'48.76"E	No.470, Dtd.11.04.1997
6	Baliharichandi	Puri	Lat: 19°49'10.00"N Long: 85°54'41.79"E	No.470, Dtd.11.04.1997
7	Palur	Ganjam	Lat: 19°26'8.38"N Long: 85° 7'48.16"E	No.470, Dtd.11.04.1997
8	BahudaMuhan (Sonepur)	Ganjam	Lat: 19° 6'38.54"N Long: 84°46'59.76"E	No.470, Dtd.11.04.1997

2.2. Operational Ports

Dhamara Port and Gopalpur Port are currently under operation.

2.2.1. Dhamara Port

Dhamra Port is located on the north of mouth of river Dhamra at the Latitude of 20°49'42.45"N and Longitude of 86°57'51.21"E. The Port is situated about 100 Nm south of Haldia major port and about 50 Nm north of Paradip major port. Dhamra falls in proximity to the mineral rich industrial states of Odisha, Jharkhand and Chhattishgarh.

The 2nd phase expansion is under progress. Land measuring to 756.042 Ac. has been handed over to the development for 2nd phase expansion. After completion of the 2nd phase, port capacity will be enhanced to 109 MTPA with total 13 nos. of berths. At present, 04 berths have been completed and further developmental work is going on with an expenditure of more than ₹7,500 Cr.

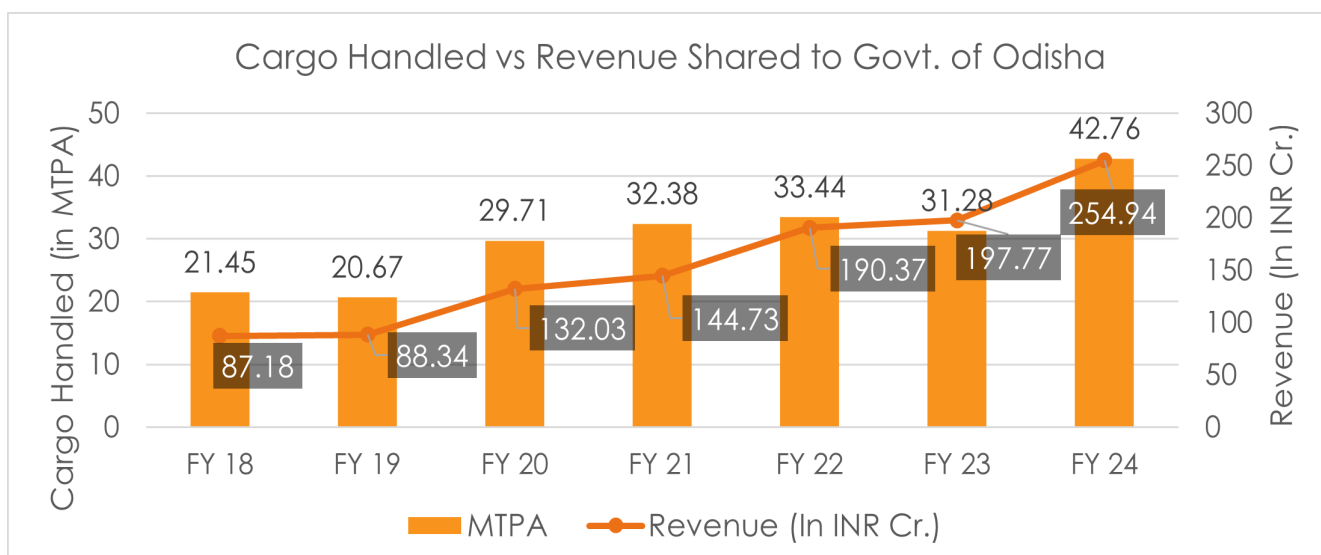
LNG Terminal with a capacity of 6.5 MTPA expandable to 10 MTPA at has been set up at the Dhamra Port premises commissioned on 21st May 2023. It is strategically located to cater to energy requirements of Eastern India states like Assam, Bihar, Odisha, Uttar Pradesh, and West Bengal.



2.2.1.1. Cargo handling

Table: Cargo handled, and revenue shared with the Government of Odisha

FY	Cargo Movement (in MMT)				Revenue Share of Govt. of Odisha
	Import	Export	Coastal Shipping	Total	
2024-25	23.66	7.55	7.20	38.41	₹10,660,783,633 (Till October'24)



2.2.1.2. Employment status

Table: Cargo handled, and revenue shared with the Government of Odisha

S. No.	Skill Type	Bhadrak District	Outside Bhadrak District	Total (Odisha)	Outside Odisha	Grand Total	Total % (Local)	As per MoU (%)
	Total	2,412	1,115	3,527	646	4,173	-	-

2.2.2. Gopalpur Port

Gopalpur Port was operated by the Government of Odisha as a seasonal lighterage Port from 1986-87. The Port was awarded to the developer i.e., Gopalpur Ports Limited to converting it to an all-weather direct berthing port through international competitive bidding process on PPP mode on a BOOST basis. The Concession Agreement between Government of Odisha and Gopalpur Ports Limited was signed on 14th September 2006. The port started its all-weather directing berthing commercial operation w.e.f. 29.03.2013 with a berth length of 225m. After restoration work, the port re-commissioned its commercial operation on 31.10.2015. 03 nos. berths have already been completed to accommodate multiple vessels at a time to handle cargo of 20 MTPA. Simultaneously, other ancillary works are also in progress. An expenditure of ₹2,301.95 Cr. has already been made.

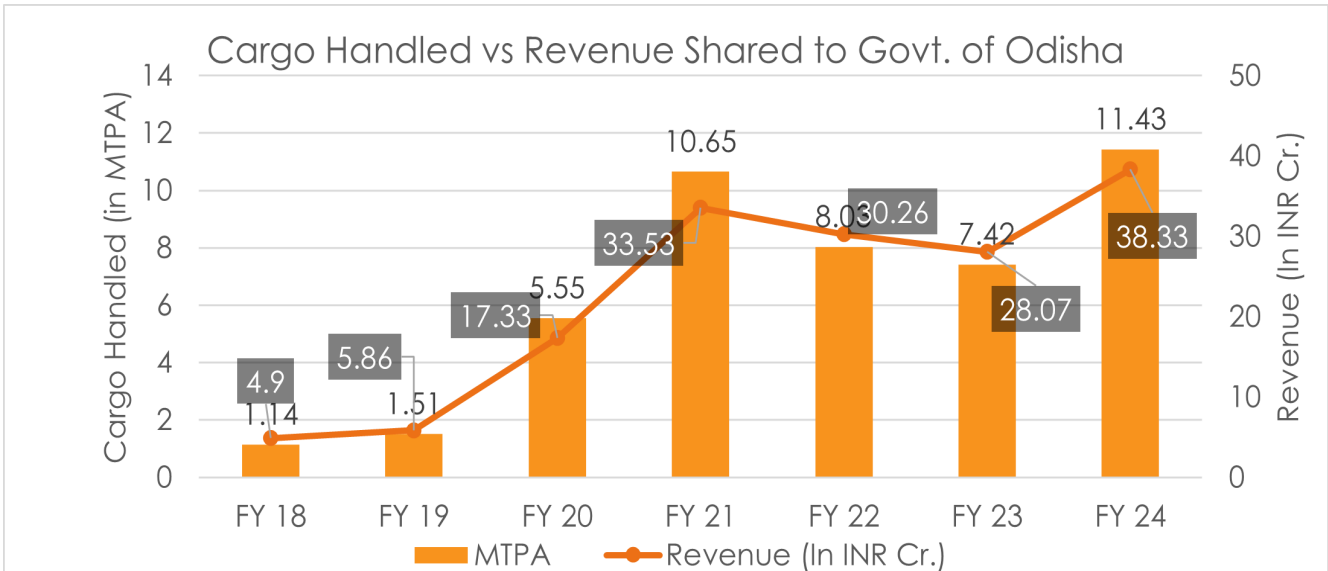
The Cabinet has approved the shareholding change of the Gopalpur Ports Limited to transfer 95% of the equity share to the Adani Ports & SEZ. Orissa Stevedores Limited (OSL) to have the remaining 5% of the equity.



2.2.2.1. Cargo handling

Table: Cargo handled, and revenue shared with the Government of Odisha

FY	Cargo Movement (in MMT)				Revenue Share of Govt. of Odisha
	Import	Export	Coastal Shipping	Total	
2024-25	2.22	2.66	0.26	5.14	₹1,594,405,457 (Till October'24)



Cargo Handled and Revenue Share Details of Gopalpur Port

2.2.2.2. Employment status

Table: Employment at the Gopalpur Port for Operations & maintenance

S. No.	Category	Ganjam District	Outside Ganjam District	Total (Odisha)	Outside Odisha	Grand Total
	Total	4,609	127	4,736	24	4,760

2.3. Ports under development

2.3.1. Subarnarekha Port

The Government of Odisha signed the Concession Agreement with the Creative Port Development Private Limited (presently, Subarnarekha Ports Private Limited (SPPL)), Chennai on 11th January 2008 for the development of a port at Subarnarekha Mouth (Kirtania) in Balasore District. TATA Steel has already acquired a major stake in SPPL. It is planned to develop the port with cargo handling capacity of 25 MTPA to 55 MTPA. Pre-constructional Activities are under progress. An expenditure of ₹74.25 Cr. has already been made.

2.3.2. Astaranga Port

Government of Odisha has signed the Concession Agreement with Navayuga Engineering Company Limited for development a port at Astaranga on 22.11.2010 on BOOST basis under PPP Mode. Steps are being taken for obtaining Environment Clearance and CRZ clearance from MoEF, Government of India. It is planned to develop the port with cargo handling capacity of 17.7 MTPA to 71.3 MTPA. The estimated cost of the project is ₹7,417 Cr. The land alienation/acquisition process for development of Port is in progress. An expenditure of about ₹80 Cr. has already been made.

Details about Astaranga and Subarnarekha Ports

#	Name of the Port	Location	Port Operator	Projected Capacity (in MTPA) [First Phase]	Cargo Handled (in MTPA) [Final Phase]	Proposed Investment (in ₹ Cr.)
1	Subarnarekha Port	Balasore	Subarnarekha Port Private Limited	25	55	5,000
2	Astaranga Port	Puri	Navayuga Engineering Company Limited	17.7	71.3	7,417
Total				42.7	126.3	12,417

2.3.3. Riverine Port

Government of Odisha proposes to develop a Port on the left bank of the River Mahanadi at Akhadasali village, Mahakalpada Block of Kendrapada district in Odisha through Public Private Partnership (PPP) on Build, Own, Operate, Share & Transfer (BOOST) basis.

In addition to the Port, the Government of India through Paradip Port Authority is looking forward to develop a ship-building and repair facility.

2.4. Inland Water Transport in the State

2.4.1. Passenger Launch Service

Inland Water Transport services are being provided by Directorate of Ports and Inland Water Transport under Commerce & Transport Department for better transport facilities to the inaccessible areas where there is no road or rail transport facilities. Passenger Motor Launch Services are present in 6 (Six) different water routes in two sectors i.e, (1) Chandabali & (2) Balugaon.



(a) Table: Details of Passengers and fare collection in last year

S. No.	Financial Year	No. of Passenger (Till January 2025)		Total
		Chandabali Sector	Balugaon Sector	
01.	2023-2024	88,237	52,960	1,41,197

2.4.2. Survey & Registration of Boats

Government of Odisha has formulated "The Odisha Boat Rules-2004" to ensure registration and proper checking of all types of Boats in the state. As per Odisha Boat Rules-2004, Registering Authority under this Directorate is being issued the Registration Certificate to the Boats.

Commerce & Transport Department, Government of Odisha have developed a user-friendly online software application i.e., Boat Information & Management System (BIMS) for online registration/ renewal of Boats plying in the State and till 31.03.2024, 1801 nos. application has been received.

2.4.3. Sahid Baji Rout Noujatra Surakshya Yojana

Commerce & Transport Department has introduced a Scheme named "SAHID BAJI ROUT NOUJATRA SURAKSHA YOJANA" for procurement and distribution of the lifesaving equipment (Lifebuoy, Life Jacket and Fire Extinguisher) among the private passenger boat owners as one time assistance on subsidy (95%) to the private boat/ launch operators/ owners and free of cost to Government of Odisha & PSUs operated boats/ launches to ensure the safety of passengers.

Table: Detailed list of total Procurement of life saving equipment

DETAILS OF PROCUREMENT (till January 2025)			
Life Saving Equipment	Total Procurement	Total Distribution	Balance In Stock
Lifebuoy	5,121	4,247	874
Life Jacket	26,864	24,135	2,729

DETAILS OF PROCUREMENT (till January 2025)			
Life Saving Equipment	Total Procurement	Total Distribution	Balance In Stock
Fire Extinguisher	1,900	1,612	228

2.4.4. Certificate of Competency

The executive engineer (Mech) of Ports & IWT, North Division, Cuttack for Inland Engineer, Engine Driver, and Serang of Mechanically Propelled Vessels conducts the certificate competency examination.

2.4.6. National Waterways in the State

For development of Inland Water Transport, Government of India have enacted the National Waterways Act, 2016 in which 111 nos. waterways have been declared as National Waterways (NW), out of which 6 no. waterways i.e., NW-5, NW-14, NW-22, NW-23, NW-64 & NW-96 are in the State of Odisha.



(National Waterways in Odisha)

2.4.7. SPV for development of National Waterways in Odisha

The existing SPV named, Inland Waterways Consortium of Odisha Limited (IWCOL), has been repurposed for the development of National Waterways in the State. The Technical and Financial studies are undergoing currently to understand the feasibility of NW-5 & 64 by the Inland Waterway Authority of India.

2.4.8. Crew Training Institute, Chandbali

The Crew Training Institute, Chandbali, which is geographically and topographically very conducive for a training institute like this kind. The Crew Training Institute, Chandbali is a Government Institute of its kind in Odisha since 1979 under the administrative control of Commerce & Transport Department, Government of Odisha. This Institute imparts training program of Inland Vessels to the Crews unemployed youth of the state for operation & maintenance of inland vessels. At present the Institute conducting 2 (Two) types of training courses.

- 1) 10 (Ten) Months Regular Course (Deck & Engine Rating Course) for 30 students every year.
- 2) 03 (Three) Months Refresher Course (Deck & Engine Rating Course) for 10 nos. in-service candidates in every quarter.



(Administrative Building of Crew Training Institute Chandbali)

The annual student intake is 50 out of which 25 students get recruited by the companies. The students who complete the above course are skilled in nature and can be employed as Launch Driver, Seacunny, Boatman and Launch Khalasi in fishing vessels, passenger boats, seagoing vessels as well as ships

Detail candidate list

Year	10 Months Regular Course		3 Months Refresher Course	
	No. of Students Admitted	No. of Students Passed	No. of Students Admitted	No. of Students Passed
2023-2024	30	29	20	20
2024-2025	30	22	20	Course Continuing

One Officer Of the Watch Simulator and one Inland Vessel Simulator have been installed at CTI, Chandbali to enhance the students' learning. The simulators provide students with near-real-world experience for training purposes.



(Students being Trained with the Simulators)

The Institute has also planned for a new campus in the vicinity that is in line with the D.G. Shipping guidelines for setting up the General-Purpose Rating Courses.

3. Directorate of Printing, Stationery & Publication

3.1. About the Press

The Directorate of Printing, Stationery and Publication, Odisha widely known as “Odisha Government Press” is a service providing Heads of Department of State of Odisha, established in the year 1936. This aims at catering to the printing requirements and statutory need of all departments of Government of Odisha, Government Undertakings, Corporations and Commissions etc. Prior to 1936, Odisha Government Press was functioning under the jurisdiction of erstwhile Bihar-Odisha State.

After becoming a separate State in 1936, the Odisha Government Press started functioning independently at Choudhury Bazar, Cuttack. Subsequently, with the increasing demand of printing works, the Press was shifted initially to BuxiBazar, Cuttack and then finally to Madhupatna, Cuttack. In the year 1962, the Odisha Government Press was declared as a “Heads of Department” and named as “Directorate of Printing, Stationery and Publication, Odisha”.

Now, it is functioning under the administrative control of Commerce and Transport Department of Government of Odisha.



(Main Press Unit of Directorate of Printing, Stationery and Publication, Cuttack)

Odisha Govt. Press was established in the year,1936 with an objective to meet the printing demands of all the Govt. Offices of entire State. It has mainly located at Cuttack and functioning with four important wings viz; Press Proper, Forms, Publication and School Units. Besides, eight nos. of Branch Presses are located at Bolangir, Bhawanipatna, Keonjhar, Deogarh, Khandapada, Chhatrapur, Secretariat Branch Press and Rajbhawan Press at Bhubaneswar.

The main activities of the Press is to meet the printing needs of Govt. departments viz: statutory, obligatory and non-obligatory jobs of Govt. such as Budget documents, Gazettes, Plan and Non-Plan documents, A.G Reports, different Bills and Acts, Debates of OLA, Annual activities reports of all Govt. departments, Annual Diary and Calendars, Envelopes, Pads of all the Ministers including His Excellency (Hon'ble Governor) etc. This apart, 4800 varieties of standard forms under 42 schedules are also printed and supplied to the Indenting officers of the State for day-to-day printing of the Govt. offices. It also shoulders the responsibilities for sale and distribution of Govt. Publication including Annual Govt. Diary and Calendars etc.

The following jobs have been executed during the period from April- 2024 to December 2024 in this

Directorate:

1. Books - 45,90,449
2. Loose - 1,60,14,988
3. Envelop - 11,01,635
4. Pad - 6,790

The revenue collected during the period from 01.04.2024 to 30.11.2024 comes to Rs.1,96,56,000/-by executing non-obligatory jobs of different paying department and selling of Forms, Diaries, Calendars etc.

4. State Transport Authority (STA)

4.1. Motor Vehicle Revenue (Tax & Fees)

As per the provisions of Odisha Motor Vehicles Taxation Act, 1975, and the Odisha Motor Vehicles Taxation Rules, 1976; MV tax are levied on each motor vehicle used or kept for use within the State of Odisha, as per the rate specified in the Schedules. Collection of MV Revenue for the last six years (taxes and fees) is listed below. Till Feb25, 2302.23 Cr is collected against the target of 2,727 Cr allocated for the FY 2024-25.

Table: MV revenue collection for the last six (06) years

Year	Target in Crore	Collection in Crore	% of Collection	Growth Rate
2019-20	2,025	1,891.67	93.42	7.14%
2020-21	No Target fixed due to Covid - 19	1,534.63	---	-18.87%
2021-22	1,763.83	1,672.95	94.95	9.01%
2022-23	2,007.54	2,121.13	105.66	26.79%
2023-24	2,230.00	2,268	110.67	16%
2024-25 (Till Feb 2025)	2,727.00	2302.23 (Till Feb 2025)	84.42%	--

4.1.1. Arrear MV Tax & Amnesty Scheme

Over the years, the Government of India has observed that vehicle owners are not paying the Motor Vehicle Tax, Additional Tax, and Penalty on time. To address this and promote the Voluntary Vehicle-Fleet Modernization Program, the MoRTH, Government of India had advised State Governments to announce a one-time waiver of pending taxes.

In line with this, the Government of Odisha has introduced an Arrear Amnesty Scheme in FY 2023-24. This initiative aims to reduce penalties on tax defaulters and incentivize owners of old vehicles (more than 15 years) to opt for scrapping, thus contributing to pollution reduction efforts.

For all Transport Vehicles except Agricultural Tractor, Tractor & Trailer combinations and Three wheelers Goods/ passenger vehicle

S. No.	Period of non-payment of tax/ Addl. Tax	Quantum of Penalty to be Exempted	Quantum of Tax/ Addl. tax to be Exempted	Remarks
1	01.04.2020 to 31.03.2022	Full exemption	No exemption	As per the conditions mentioned in the scheme
2	01.04.2010 to 31.03.2020	Full exemption	No exemption	
3	01.04.1992 to 31.03.2010	Full exemption	50%	
4	31.03.1992 and before	Full exemption	Full exemption	

For Agricultural Tractor, Tractor & Trailer combinations

S. No.	Period of non-payment of tax/ Addl. Tax	Quantum of Tax/ Addl. tax to be Exempted	Remarks
1	01.04.2017 to 31.03.2022	₹3,000/-	As per the conditions mentioned in the scheme
2	01.04.2010 to 31.03.2017	₹5,000/-	
3	01.04.1992 to 31.03.2010	₹7,000/-	
4	31.03.1992 and before	Full exemption	

For Three wheelers goods/ passenger vehicle

S. No.	Period of non-payment of tax/ Addl. Tax	Quantum of Tax/ Addl. tax to be Exempted	Remarks
1	01.04.2017 to 31.03.2022	₹1,000/-	As per the conditions mentioned in the scheme
2	01.04.2010 to 31.03.2017	₹2,000/-	
3	01.04.1992 to 31.03.2010	₹3,000/-	
4	31.03.1992 and before	Full exemption	

4.2. Enforcement Activities

The RTAs and STA have their independent Enforcement Wings. The primary responsibility of the Enforcement Wings is to check vehicles that are disobeying/ breaching various MV Acts and Rules and to issue e-Challans in response to Motor Vehicle violations.

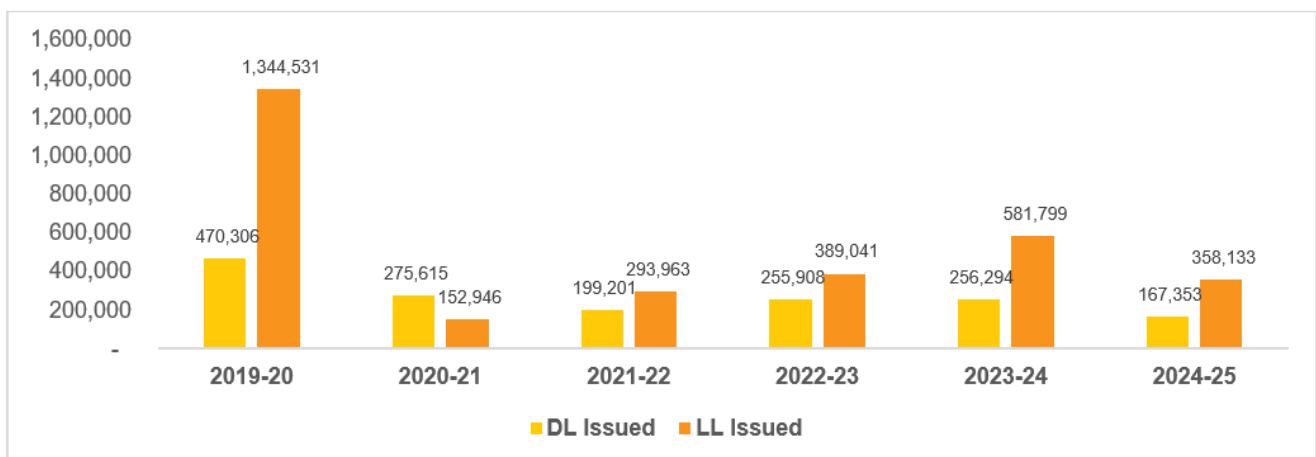
Table: Amount of Compounding Fees (CF) collected in the last five years

Year	e-Challan Issued	C.F. Collected (In Crore)
2020-21	2,40,321	₹36.61
2021-22	3,77,784	₹55.14
2022-23	5,41,880	₹74.95
2023-24	7,60,465	₹83.56
2024-25 Till Feb 2025	7,35,457	₹69.54

4.3. Licensing of Individuals

All the process relating to the issue of Learner's License (LL) and Driving License (DL) have been made on- line. Applicants can book slots, pay fees and download the LL on-line. The LL service has been made visit-less. Any person can appear for the LL test at any CSC or any location having security features stipulated by the Department, without going to the RTO office. The applicant can download the approved DL at his / her own convenience.

Table: DL and LL issued during the last six (06) years



4.4. Registration for Vehicles

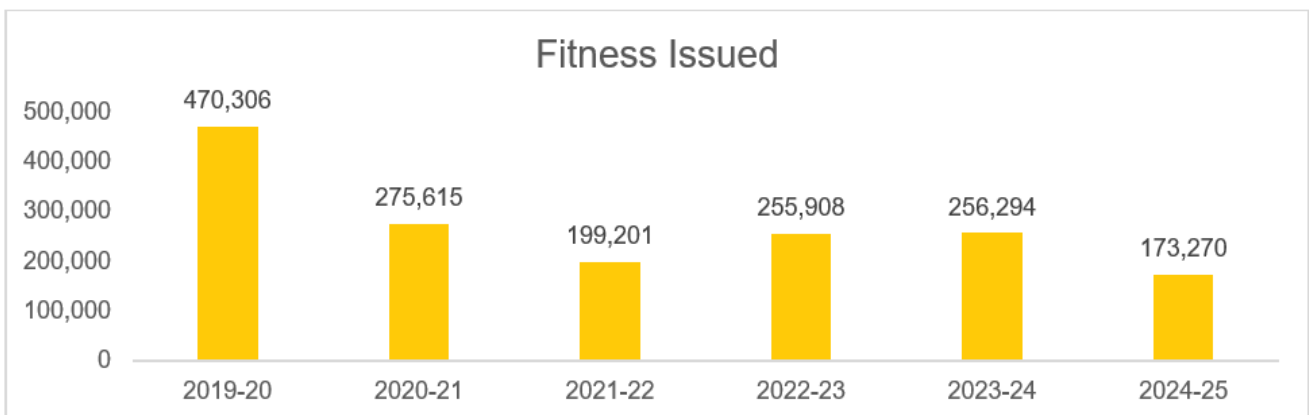
Every motor vehicle is required to be registered under the provisions of M.V. Act, 1988.

Table: No. of vehicles registered in the last six (06) years

Year	Registered Vehicles Count
2019-20	8,11,351
2020-21	5,35,980
2021-22	5,28,638
2022-23	6,53,773
2023-24	7,79,551 (52,204 EVs)
2024-2025 (Till Feb 2025)	7,24,033 (57,602 EVs)

4.5. Issue of Fitness certificate

No. of fitness issued



As per Section 56 of MV Act- 1988 each transport vehicle must obtain a certificate of fitness from a competent authority, otherwise its registration will not be valid. As per the orders of Hon'ble High Court, Orissa, buses which are more than 10 years old are jointly inspected by the Deputy Commissioner Transport and concerned MVI before grant of fitness.

4.6. Issuance of Permits to Transport Vehicles

Permits are crucial in preventing overcrowding on specific routes and ensuring the overall efficiency of transportation systems. To mitigate unhealthy competition among operators and maintain an equal time gap between stage carriages, STA has initiated steps to rationalize the timing of buses.

- Route Rationalization - Timing has already been rationalized in 33 different routes.
- Final Rationalization Timing of Cuttack/ Bhubaneswar-Balugaon-Keshpur-Berhampur/Aska/ Polasara has been published.
- Final Rationalization Timing of Bhubaneswar/ Cuttack-Trisulia-Jatamundia/ CDA-Naduapada-Bhapur-Rasol-Maidharpur-Angul Route has been completed and implemented on 31.03.2025.
- Draft Rationalization timing of Bhadrak-Chandbali route has been published on 15.02.2025.

Table: No. of permits issued in the last six years

Year	Permanent Permits (Nos.)	Temporary Permits (Nos.)
2019-20	83,248	54,712
2020-21	40,895	18,053
2021-22	45,937	18,078
2022-23	72,715	39,793
2023-24	73,023	43,958
2024-2025 (till 28-02-25)	69,779	52,726

4.7. Road safety

4.7.1. State Level observance of National Road Safety Month-2025

The Minister of Road Transport & Highways has declared 1st to 31st January -2025 as National Road Safety Month. The theme of this year's Road Safety Month was "Come Home Safe". The State Level inauguration of the National Road Safety Month was done by Hon'ble Chief Minister on 04.01.2025 by taking pledge on Road Safety. The event also witnessed flagging off the Road Safety Ratha followed by a walkathon from Mahatma Gandhi Marg, Bhubaneswar to Ram Mandir Square, Bhubaneswar. The Audio message of Hon'ble Chief Minister, Deputy Chief Minister and Hon'ble Minister Commerce & Transport Department was released on this day.



(Hon'ble Chief Minister inaugurated the State Level NRSM-2025 and urged all to take "Safety Oath")

During the inaugural ceremony, eye check-up for drivers, free spectacle distribution, first aid counter, road safety street play, felicitation to Good Samaritan and Suvahak were organised.

4.7.2. Education

For a comprehensive IEC campaign on Road Safety, an MoU has been executed with the IIT-Madras on 23rd December 2024. The IIT-M is the Centre of Excellence (CoE) on Road Safety for the Ministry of Road Transport & Highways (MoRT&H), Govt. of India. The IIT-M will devise comprehensive campaigns focused on 4Es topped with Empathy (human factor) for result-oriented outcomes for a period of 3 years.



4.7.3. Engineering

STA focuses on road engineering, encompassing the auditing of road signage and markings on highways and other roads to mitigate the risk of accidents and injuries. The Black Spot and vulnerable accident spot data are being analyzed by the Lead Agency and shared with the concerned Road owning agencies for required remedial measures to minimize damage and enhance road safety.

4.7.3.1. Identification of Black Spots

As per MoRTH guidelines, based on Road accident data, 325 black spots have been identified for the year 2022

Sl. No.	Department	No of Blackspots Identified during 2021
1	NHAI	175
2	NH PWD	82
3	DPI Roads	68

4.7.3.2. Road Signage Audit

Audit of Road signage is being conducted by Third party agencies to ensure placement of accurate road signages & markings on Highways and other roads. M/S TransLink (Package-1) and CRAPTS (Package-2) have been appointed to conduct the road signage audit for 3059 kms road of NH & SH in Phase-I.

The audit for 3059 kms have been completed by the concerned Agencies and the reports have been shared with NHAI, Works Department and concerned District Administration for implementation. Road signage audit recommendations has been implemented in 1358 kms.

Further, the second phase of Road Signages audit for 5000 km of roads have been started in the year FY 2024-25, out of which audit of 3583 kms has been completed.

4.7.4. Enforcement

- The State Transport Authority (STA) plays a pivotal role in road safety enforcement, ensuring compliance with traffic laws and regulations.
- STA have their independent Enforcement Wings. The primary responsibility of the Enforcement Wings are to check vehicles that are disobeying/ breaching various MV Acts and Rules and to issue e-challans against the MV violators.
- STA's road safety enforcement efforts are instrumental in promoting safe driving practices and enhancing road safety for all.

Major road safety enforcement activities during FY 2024-25:

- 6,129 cases of mobile phone use while driving detected
- 7,947 drunken drivers detected
- 1,15,563 over speed cases detected
- 1,15,714 helmet law violations detected
- 37 Interceptor vehicles and 508 Breathe Analyzers supplied to field officials for detection of over speeding & drunken driving

To intensify the enforcement activities, ensure awareness among the citizens and reduce the risks of road accidents, the scope of enforcement through e-Challan system has been widened.

During FY 2024-25, a total no of 7,35,457 e-challans were issued against the MV Act offenders.

4.7.4.1. Enforcement through IEMS

Under the Intelligent Enforcement Management System (IEMS), e-Challans are generated against violation of excessive speed at 17 locations along the NH from Panikoilli to Rameswar. Recently other offences like Wrong side driving, Helmetless driving & Triple riding have been added. In FY 2023-24, this pilot project yielded significant results, with a 50% reduction in accidents and a 41% decrease in fatalities on the implemented stretch. Building on this success, the project will be expanded to 548km across Odisha which will cover 49 gantry locations including:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Girisola to Rameswar● Panikoili to Lakshannath● Bhubaneswar to Puri● Bolangir to Turekela	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Paradip to Cuttack● Puri to Konark● Konark to Pipli
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In FY 2024-25, the Hon'ble Commerce and Transport Minister inaugurated and implemented the Intelligent Enforcement Management System (IEMS) along the 63 km Bhubaneswar-Puri stretch of NH 316. The system has also been successfully implemented on the Puri-Konark (25 km) along NH 316 A and Konark-Pipili (40 km) along SH 13, which are equipped with 19 gantry points. These gantry points utilize Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) cameras, radars, and other field devices to monitor and enforce traffic violations, including:

- Excessive Speeding: Driving vehicles above the speed limit.
- Wrong-Way Driving: Driving against the flow of traffic.
- Triple riding: Riding more than two people on a two-wheeler.
- Helmet Violations: Riding without helmet by both driver and pillion rider

Additionally, 2 Variable Message Displays (VMDs) have been installed to display important messages to passengers.



(Hon'ble Minister, C&T inaugurated IEMS)

4.7.4.2. Enforcement through e-Detection System

E-Challans against vehicles plying without tax, permit and fitness are generated automatically through e-Detection system at the Toll Gates of National Highways. In FY 2024-25, through e-detection system, 1,33,740 no's vehicles were detected plying without permit, fitness and tax.

4.7.5. Emergency Care

Road Accidents can be reduced if adequate and timely treatment is given to the accident victims in Golden Hour, i.e. within one hour of accidents. In FY 2024-25, following activities were carried out:

- A standard operating procedure (SOP) has been prepared by H&FW department for golden hour management and reduction of response time for ambulances.
- At present, 106 Trauma care facilities have been established: 88 Government Trauma Care Facilities and 18 Private Trauma Care Facilities.
- Steps have been taken by Health & Family Welfare Department to integrate all ambulances and TCFs through an APP so that any referral to a higher facility is alerted to remain in readiness to receive the patient for immediate treatment. The 1st responders 'Rakshak' who are trained in emergency care are integrated in the App so that they are intimated when an accident occurs.

4.7.6. Solatium Fund

Solatium fund has been created to compensate the victims of 'Hit & Run' motor accident cases. Rs.2.00 lakh is being paid in case of death and Rs.50,000/- to the individuals sustaining grievous injury. During FY 2024-25, 346 beneficiaries have been compensated under this scheme till February 2025.

4.7.7. Good Samaritan Policy

To protect the Good Samaritans from harassment on the actions being taken by them to save the road accident victims at Hospitals or by the police without any reasonable cause, Good Samaritan Policy has been formulated. The Good Samaritans were felicitated at various district level and state level functions.

4.7.8. Awards & Nominations

The State Transport Authority was awarded the esteemed FICCI Road Safety Award for its Project Suvahak which aims to enhance the driving skills of Heavy Motor Vehicle (HMV) drivers. Under project Suvahak, HMV drivers are trained in safe driving practices, Traffic Education, Vehicle Mechanism and Repairs (fuel efficiency), Heavy Vehicle Driving Practice, Vehicle Maintenance and Handling emergencies. For both Fresher and Refresher training, the State Govt. is bearing all costs including wage compensation.

4.7.9. Other Activities

- **Free Tea Campaign:** Free Tea Campaign were organized along Highway side tea stalls for drivers during night and early morning time in the month of December-24 & January-25 to rejuvenate the drivers from fatigue.
- **SOP for Vehicles going to picnic & pilgrimages-** To reduce accident rates near picnic spots, the Transport Department has introduced a Standard Operating Procedure (SoP) for vehicles travelling to these spots. The SoP touches upon measures like special permits, thorough vehicle inspections, joint enforcement by RTO and police personnel, accident emergency response plans, and Information, Education and Communication (IEC) activities with distribution of leaflets, posters and banners near picnic spots.

- **Enforcement Action Plan from November to February:** Keeping in view the increasing accident trend during winter season i.e. November to February, a detailed enforcement action plan with special measures to enhance awareness among road users and enforce stringent regulations during critical winter months was prepared and shared with the enforcement agencies.
- **SOP for Post Crash Assistance:** A SoP was prepared detailing the role and responsibilities of STA, RTO, Police, Health care, first responders, command control center and public. This will help in ensuring an effective and coordinated response.
- **Fog Advisory:** In response to this issue and to raise awareness about safe driving practices during winter fog, the State Transport Authority disseminated advisories on fog across multiple social media platforms. These advisories highlighted essential precautions such as reducing vehicle speed, ensuring sufficient distance between vehicles etc. Additionally, daily weather forecast reports were shared on various social media channels aiding citizens in planning their travel accordingly.

4.8. Modernization

4.8.1. Automated Driving Testing System (ADTS)

As a road safety initiative, the Government of Odisha has taken steps to introduce Automated Driving Testing System (ADTS) across the state. Recognizing the importance of leveraging technology to ensure transparency, efficiency, and accuracy in the process of issuing driving licenses, the State Transport Authority (STA) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Akshara Nipun JV on 1st March 2023, to implement the ADTS project in 38 RTOs/ARTOs.

The objective of implementing ADTS is to modernize and streamline the process of testing driving skills for individuals applying for driving licenses. By incorporating advanced technology and automation, the government aims to:

- Enhance road safety by ensuring that only competent drivers receive licenses
- Minimize human interference and manipulation in the testing process
- Provide a transparent efficient testing mechanism that aligns with international standards
- Reduce road accidents and fatalities by promoting skilled driving practices
- During FY 2024-25 (till Feb-25), ADTS have been implemented at 12 locations. At present ADTS are operationalized at 18 locations - Angul, Dhenkanal, Rourkela, Sundergarh, Keonjhar, Ganjam, Chandikhole, Kalahandi, Bhanjanagar, Sonapur, Baripada, Rairangpur, Phulbani, Talcher, Malkangiri, Nayagarh, Deogarh and Bolangir.

4.8.2. Automated Testing Stations

As per guidelines of the MoRTH, the fitness test of the vehicle shall be conducted mandatorily only through an Automated Testing Stations (ATS), effective from 1st April 2025. Steps have been initiated in the State to adhere to the deadline. Automated testing stations (ATS) use standardized mechanical equipment to automate the various tests required to check the fitness of a vehicle like e- functionalities, steering mechanism, emissions, brakes, suspension, lighting, physical structure as CMVR norms.

Those who qualify for the test will get the certification. So, the quality of the vehicles plying on the roads will be improved by reducing the unfit quality vehicles.

Contract has been awarded to successful bidder for establishing ATS at 21 locations across various RTOs including Boudh, Jharsuguda, Bargarh, Kendrapara, Sundargarh, Nayagarh, Nabarangpur, Ganjam, Sambalpur, Balasore, Koraput, Nuapada, Jagatsinghpur, Mayurbhanj, Rourkela, Keonjhar, Angul, and Bhubaneswar RTO-2, Kalahandi, Chandikhole along with an additional ATS in Cuttack.

In a significant step toward ensuring transparency and efficiency in motor vehicle fitness testing, first ATS (completely owned and operated by the State) has been registered and made operational under Cuttack RTO at Arilo, Cuttack.

4.8.3. EV Charging Station

In order to establish EV Charging Stations across Odisha, LoA has been issued to M/s Zivah International Pvt. Ltd. for establishing EV Charging Station at 100 locations. Additionally, in Bhubaneswar, 21 locations have been identified for establishing EV charging stations.

4.8.4. Truck Terminal: A Milestone in Transport Infrastructure

Roadside illegal parking of vehicles is an issue of concern. Many fatal accidents occur due to hit with illegally parked vehicles on Highways. To address the issue, Truck Terminals are being constructed across Odisha to provide designated parking space to Heavy Motor Vehicles along highways. On March 6th, 2024, the Hon'ble Minister of Water Resources and the C & T Department laid the foundation stone for Truck Terminals through a virtual ceremony for 18 districts and 23 Locations. These terminals aim to alleviate traffic congestion and reduce accidents resulting from illegal parking. These Truck terminals will offer a range of amenities including parking facilities, eateries, restrooms, healthcare services, and training programs. Additionally, there will be designated areas for heavy motor vehicle (HMV) drivers to rest, cargo transfer points, and fuel stations to cater to the needs of truck drivers and ensure smoother logistics operations.

The Department has signed an MoU on 29.01.2025 with National Highways Logistics Management Ltd. (NHLML) during Utkarsh Odisha - Make In Odisha Conclave 2025 for operation and maintenance of truck terminals which are adjacent to NH.

4.9. Odisha Motor Transport Drivers & Workers' Welfare Board

The Government of Odisha has formed the Odisha Motor Transport Drivers and Workers' Welfare Board with an objective to enhance the welfare of unorganized transport drivers and workers. Members of the Board can get their claim in case of death, grievous injury, permanent disability, etc. Hon'ble Minister, Commerce & Transport, is the Chairperson of the Board. In FY 2024-25 (Till Feb 2025), Rs. 2,76,00,000 payments were given to 135 claim applicants.

5. Odisha State Road Transport Corporation (OSRTC)

5.1. About the Corporation

- The aim and objective of the Corporation is to provide safe and assured public transport facilities across the state and beyond.
- The Corporation started functioning with share capital contribution from the State Government and the Central Govt. in the ratio of 2:1. Later, the Central Government stopped share capital contribution from 1990-91.
- The Corporation safeguards the government's interest during market strikes / Bandh calls demonstrated by private operators / associations.
- OSRTC is a prominent operator that provides transport services to the people of inaccessible and LWE areas.
- It offers concessional travel fare various groups of the society such as the Persons with Disabilities (PwD), students, and women among others as per the directives of the Government. OSRTC also provides transport facilities to police personnel based as per requirements.

5.2. Traffic & Operations

- The Gramanchal Paribahan Seva (GPS) Scheme in Odisha is designed to transform public transportation by connecting all Gram Panchayats, thereby advancing accessibility, safety, and service efficiency. This initiative aims to bridge the rural-urban divide, ensuring equitable access to markets, education, and healthcare, with a special focus on women's safety. By fostering public-private partnerships and prioritizing sustainable practices, GPS not only boosts tourism and economic growth but also builds a more inclusive and interconnected community fabric.



- Gramanchal Paribahan Seva (GPS) Scheme in Gross Cost Contract (GCC) mode has been introduced by the Government of Odisha. GPS buses connect the Gram Panchayats (GP) with respective Block Headquarters (BHQ) as well as untapped areas where there is no public transport service with integrated public transport system through bus services.



- Under GPS, a total of 1,422 buses have been delivered as of December 2024 out of which 1,326 were operational. By end of December 2023, it has achieved total ridership of above 6.1 Crore with highest daily ridership of above 3.86 lakhs. Average female ridership has been around 65%.
- GPS significantly enhances education accessibility, connecting 62,291 educational institutions and aiding especially rural and female students, with transport aligned to academic schedules. The bus timings and schedules of GPS are synchronized with the timings of schools and colleges, this strategic alignment ensures that education remains uninterrupted by transportation constraints. This initiative is set to create 37,000+ jobs, contributing to the state's economic growth.



- Women's Empowerment: A unique feature of GPS Scheme is its focus on community participation and women's empowerment.
- In every district, designated routes will be managed by women-led Self-Help Groups (SHGs), taking on roles in maintenance, management, and operations. This strategy not only promotes women's empowerment but also fosters community welfare, making GPS a beacon of social change. This empowerment transcends beyond providing employment; it instils confidence and fosters leadership qualities among women, contributing to societal change.



- **Tourism Boost:** Tourists, both domestic and international, can now easily access Odisha's rich cultural and natural heritage. This is due to the GPS initiative, which is expected to significantly boost tourism in the state. By including popular tourist attractions in its network, GPS will make it easier for visitors to explore the region. This improved connectivity is likely to attract more tourists, which will not only benefit regional tourism but also support the local communities by creating more livelihood opportunities.
- **A Beacon of Socio-Economic Growth:** Gramanchal Paribahan Seva (GPS) scheme is more than just a transport scheme; it is a vision for a connected, inclusive, and prosperous Odisha. By enhancing connectivity, it not only breaks down barriers that have kept rural communities isolated but also unlocks a myriad of opportunities. This initiative represents a significant step towards achieving the state's socio-economic development goals, ensuring that every citizen, irrespective of their location, has access to essential services and opportunities. GPS stands as a testament to Odisha's commitment to building a more connected and inclusive future for all its people.



- The Corporation has distributed Laptops and printers to their field staff for better monitoring of the smooth operation of the Bus Operation in each corner of Odisha.
- Apart from the GPS scheme, New Inter-State routes were introduced with AC Deluxe service to smoothen the transportation of the BSF personnel and General public in the LWE affected areas.

- Multiple routes have been extended to the Swabhiman Anchala (Panasput, Bonda Ghati) of Malkangiri district enabling many locales to avail the bus service for the first time to reach their Block HQ.
- A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed with TSRTC for operation of Inter-State buses between Odisha and Telangana.
- Furthermore, OSRTC has onboarded 80 high-end super premium 15M multi-axle buses to facilitate safe & comfortable long journeys for the people of Odisha. OSRTC has been operating these buses both for intra-state & inter-state services. In line with the Govt. of Odisha effort towards strengthening inter-state connectivity to boost pilgrimage & tourism, OSRTC is planning to operate new Inter-state pilgrimage services. In this regard, in the first phase, pilgrimage bus services from Puri to Ayodhya and Puri to Tirupati are in the process of commencement.



- Apart from these above initiatives, based on public demand OSRTC has constantly been introducing new bus services. Some of the recently initiated new bus services are showcased below:

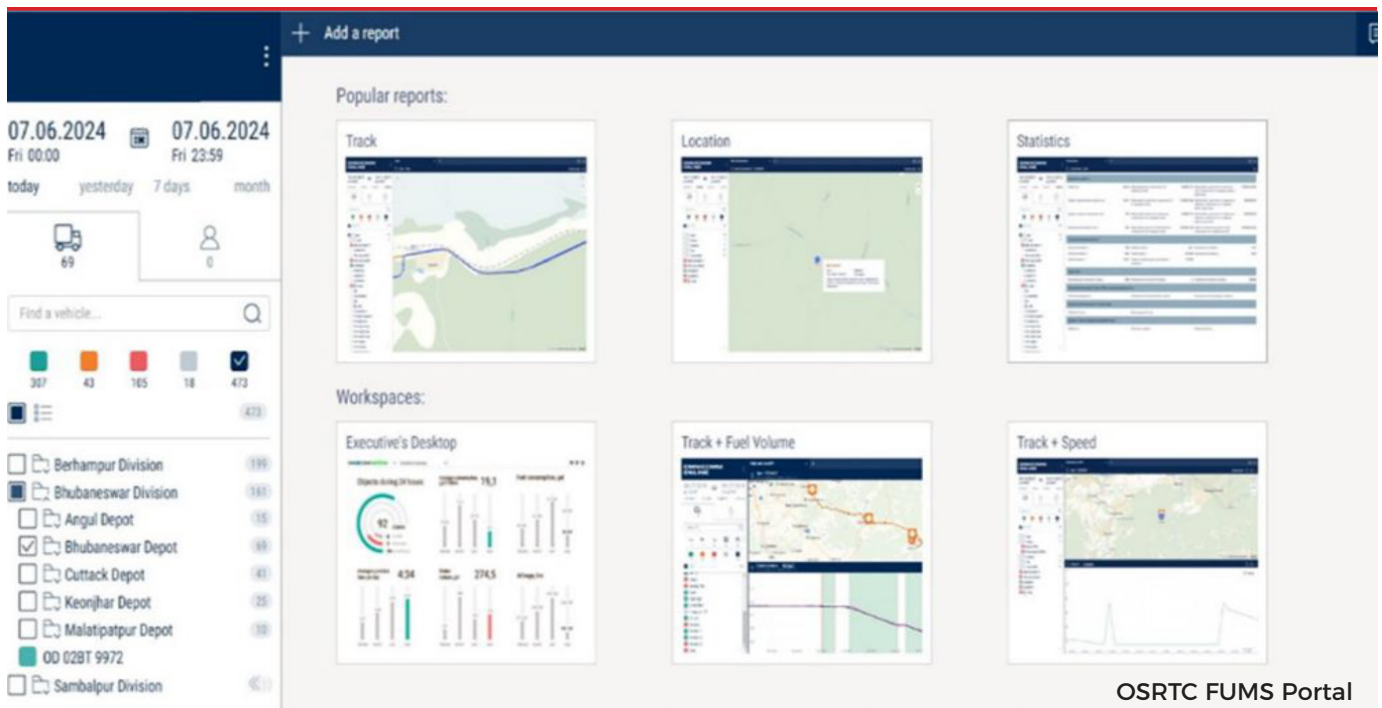


- OSRTC flagged off the Special Bus Services for the Maha Kumbh Mela providing 50 per cent fare concession for women passengers. The Special Bus Service connects Puri, Sambalpur, Bhawanipatna, and Berhampur to Ayodhya via Varanasi and Prayagraj. The Odisha Government's initiative aims to make the spiritual journey to the Maha Kumbh Mela more accessible, comfortable, and memorable.



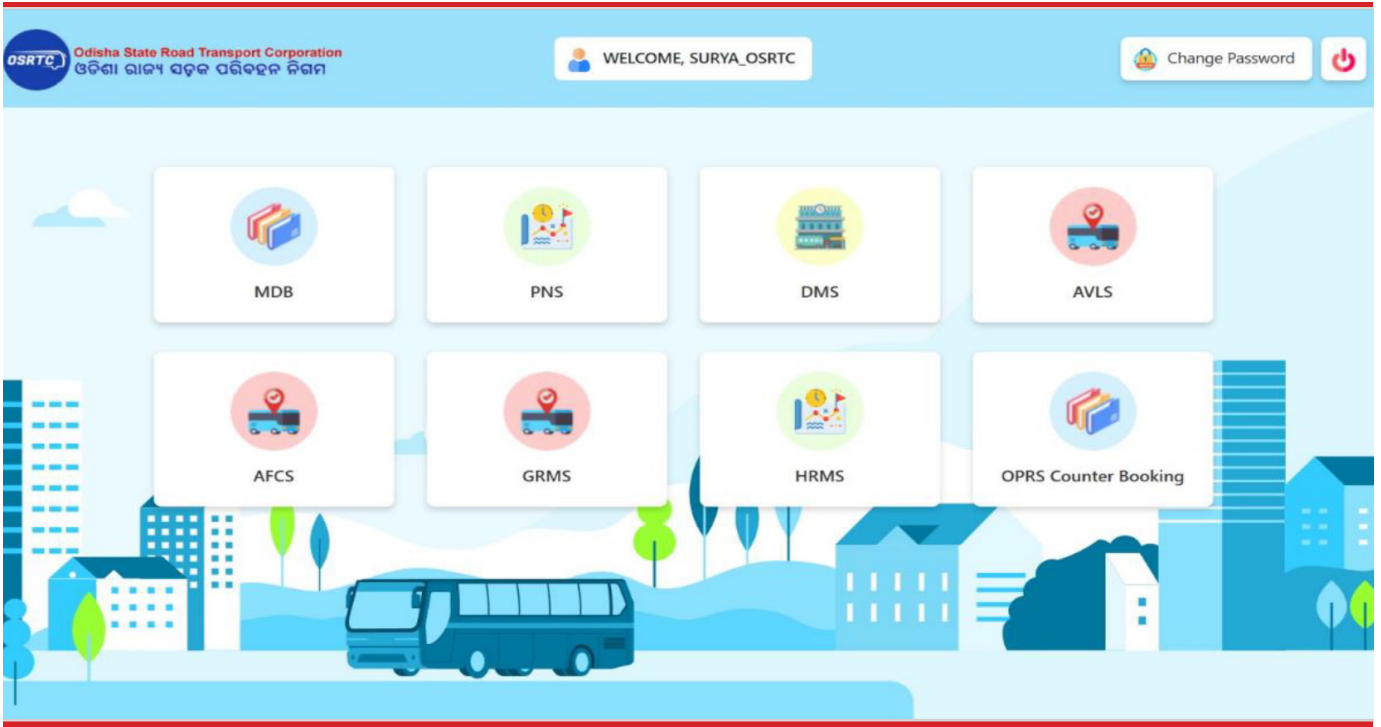
5.3. IT & MIS

- QR codes were installed around all the OSRTC ticket booking counters across the State for cashless UPI payment.
- To enhance the OSRTC ticket booking facility, API has been shared with the State Government portal.
- Implementation of a Fuel Utilization Management System (FUMS) in OSRTC Fleets to mitigate fuel theft activities and maintain a decent fuel average in its fleet.



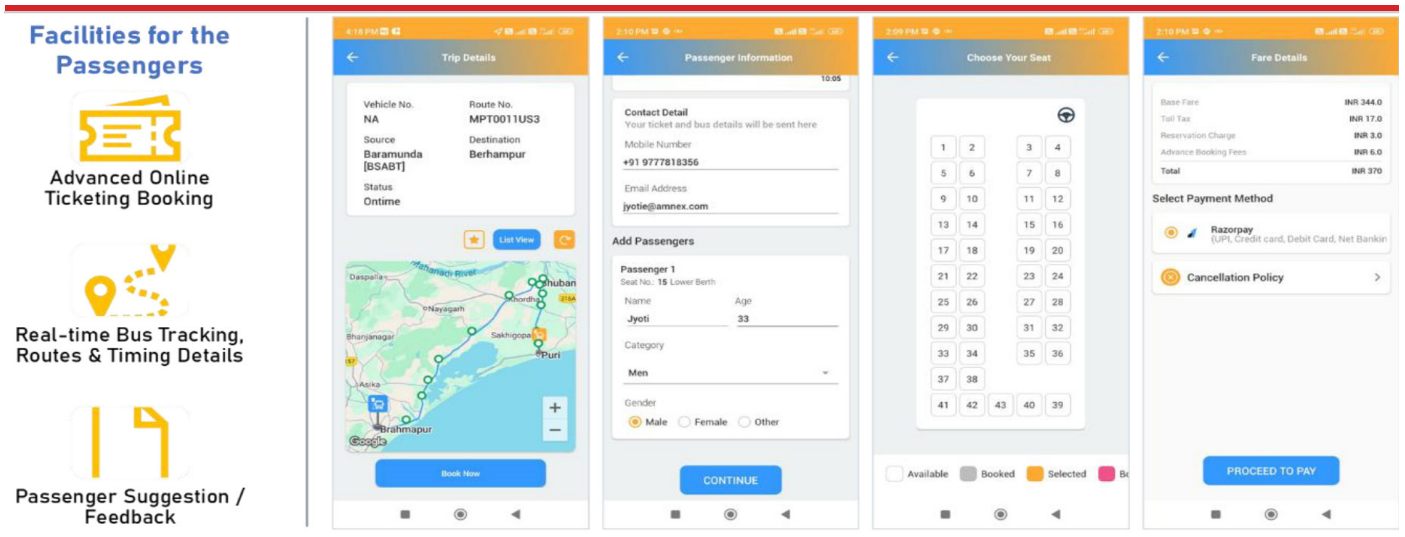
OSRTC FUMS Portal

- Integrated Transport Management System (ITMS) in OSRTC will integrate all its applications i.e., Automatic Fare Collection System (AFCS), Automatic Vehicle Locating System (AVLS), Grievance Redressal Management System (GRMS), Human Resource Management System (HRMS), and Online Passenger Reservation Management System (OPRS) among others.



(Comprehensive Modules of ITMS)

- Dedicated mobile application (both Android & IOS based) has been made live to facilitate advanced online ticketing booking, real-time bus tracking, route & scheduling details, passenger feedback management as well as to streamline & automate the fare collection process, fare revenue management, cashless transactions.



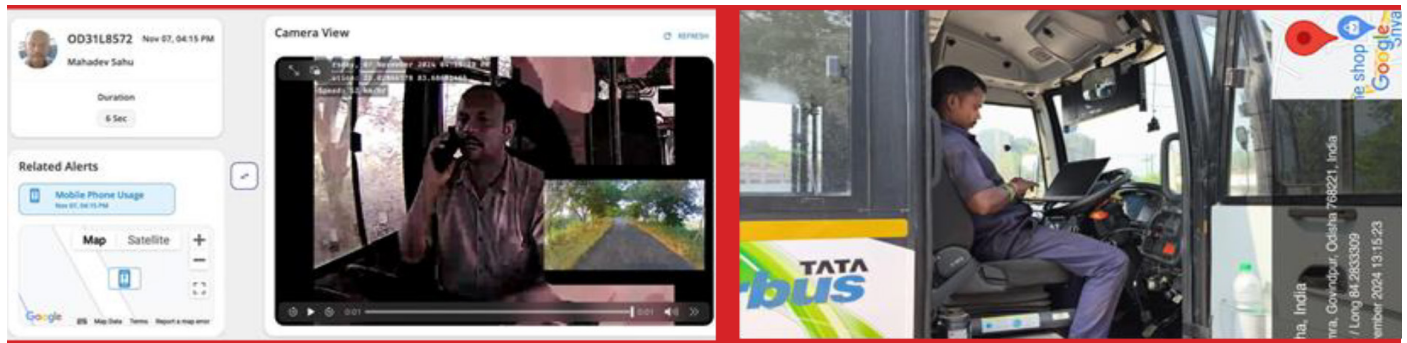
(Snapshots of OSRTC Mobile Application)

- A dedicated Command Control Centre to monitor all above applications of ITMS for smooth Operationalisation of OSRTC & GPS fleet.



(Integrated Command & Control Centre (ICCC) at OSRTC HQ)

- In view of road & passenger safety, OSRTC has taken significant steps to instal Advanced Driver Assistance System (ADAS) that utilizes sensors & cameras to monitor and provide alerts regarding vehicle functions as well as drivers behavior. It helps with continuous monitoring and tracking driver's behavior, Forward Collision Warning System, Lane Departure Warning, Headway Monitoring & Warning etc. which can be key elements in preventing casualties. Initially in the first phase of deployment, about 1,000 buses under GPS Scheme have been installed with ADAS.



(ADAS Dashboard & Hardware Installation)

5.4. Infrastructure

- By the end of the December,2024, OSRTC has a fleet size of 645 buses out of which 499 are on-road Building & infrastructure.
- In the Ama Bus Stand Phase I, 51 Ama Bus Stands has been operationalised in various Districts. Further, 3 more Ama Bus Stands are ready for inauguration in following locations:



Basta Bus Stand, Balasore

Dhamra Bus Stand, Bhadrak

Basudevpur Bus Stand, Bhadrak

- In the Ama Bus Stand Phase II, 133 lands have been identified for the construction of bus stands. Out of that 95 Ama Bus Stands construction has been started. Construction of 95 bus stands has been started under Phase II. Out of 133 bus stands, land for 128 sites have been demarcated.
- The construction work of Integrated Command-and-Control Centre (ICCC) building at OSRTC HQ has been completed and ready for inauguration.

5.5 Awards & Recognition

OSRTC's commitment to innovative public transport solutions and citizen-centric initiatives has been recognized at the national level by Association of State Road Transport Undertaking, an apex body under the Ministry of Road Transport & Highway (MoRTH), Government of India on 8th March 2025.

- ASRTU Non-Traffic Revenue Award (2024-25): Recognizing OSRTC's success in generating sustainable revenue streams beyond passenger fares, reinforcing financial resilience and operational efficiency.
- ASRTU Digital Transaction Award - Runner-up (2024-25): For achieving 25.95% of the total gross revenue through digital payment modes.
- Further, two women conductors of OSRTC, were also awarded for their efforts and inclusivity in the Public Transport sector.



6. Rail Coordination Directorate

6.1. Ongoing Railway Projects

The Railway Section of Transport Department is directly dealing with Land Acquisition for 15 Railway projects as below.

Table-14: List of ongoing railway projects

#	Name of the projects
1.	Angul-Duburi-Sukinda Road NBG Rail Link Project (Commissioned)
2.	Haridaspur-Paradeep NBG Rail Link Project (Commissioned)
3.	Khurda Road-Balangir NBG Rail Link Project (Partly commissioned)
4.	Talcher-Bimlagarh NBG Rail Link Project
5.	Daitari-Bansapani Rail Link Project (Commissioned)
6.	Talcher-Sambalpur Doubling
7.	Sambalpur-Titlagarh Doubling
8.	Lanjigarh Road-Junagarh NBG Rail Link Project (Commissioned)
9.	Cuttack-Paradeep Doubling (Commissioned)
10.	Jeypore-Nabarangpur NBG Rail Link Project
11.	Jeypore-Malkangiri NBG Rail Link Project
12.	Bhadrak-Nirgundi 3rd line
13.	Salegaon-Budhapank-Jarapada 3rd & 4th line
14.	Koraput Singapore Road Doubling Project
15.	Establishment of Electro Loco POH at Narla in Kalahandi District

6.2. Ongoing Railway Projects with State's Financial Participation

The Government of Odisha is involved in the following three (03) Railway projects on cost sharing basis.

- a) Khurda Road - Balangir (289 KM) New BG Rail Link Project: Government of Odisha is contributing 50% of the construction cost and all land free between 112-289 Km for the stretch between Dasapalla-Bolangir as per the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) executed between the State Government and the Ministry of Railways.
- b) Jeypore - Malkangiri (130 KM): Similarly, the State Government will bear 25% share of the entire project cost of Jeypore- Malkangiri Railway project (130KM).
- c) Jeypore - Nabarangpur (38 KM): The State Government will provide free land and bear 50% of construction cost of Nabarangpur-Jeypore Railway projects (38 KM).

6.3. Other Important Projects

- i. A new railway line between Puri and Konark is being taken up under the Railways Act, 1989.
- ii. Government of India has agreed to construct Jaleswar - Chandaneswar New Line within Odisha state modifying the state proposed Jaleswar - Digha Railway Line.
- iii. The railway projects are monitored periodically by high level authorities such as PMO, Cabinet Secretary, Chief Minister, Odisha through Pragati, CCI (PMG), E-Samikshya, and Coordination Committees respectively.

6.4. Recently sanctioned new line projects

The Ministry of Railways, Government of India, in August 2024, has sanctioned eight (08) new railway projects in Odisha, reflecting a significant investment in infrastructure to enhance connectivity and foster regional development. These projects are as follows:

- i. Cunupur – Theruvali New Line (73.62 km)
- ii. Junagarh – Nabarangpur New Line (116.21 km)
- iii. Badampahar – Keonjhar (82.06 km)
- iv. Bangiriposhi – Gorumahisani (85.60 km)
- v. Malkangiri – Pandurangapuram (via Bhadrachalam) (173.61 km)
- vi. Buramara (Mayurbhanj) – Chakulia (Jharkhand) (59.96 km)
- vii. Bargarh Road – Nawapada Road New Line (136 km)
- viii. Sardega (Sundargarh) – Bhalumuda (Chhattisgarh) New Double Line (37 km)

6.4.1. Anticipated impact of the newly sanctioned projects:

These initiatives aim to significantly improve rail connectivity across Odisha, particularly in aspirational districts such as Kalahandi, Nabarangpur, Rayagada, and Malkangiri, benefiting the KBK (Kalahandi-Balangir-Koraput) region. Enhanced rail links will boost economic opportunities by facilitating better access to markets and export channels for key agricultural areas like Bargarh, Bolangir, Nuapada, and Kalahandi, renowned for rice production.

The projects will also enhance industrial connectivity, ensuring efficient transport of raw materials to Odisha's sea ports, crucial for the aluminum and steel industries, and improving coal access for power plants in southern India.

Additionally, tourism is expected to flourish, particularly in Similipal Biosphere Reserve, a UNESCO- recognized site. The creation of a new rail corridor along India's eastern coast will connect major hubs such as Warangal, Bhadrachalam, Jeypore, Titlagarh, Sambalpur, Jharsuguda, Rourkela, Tatanagar, and Asansol, fostering regional economic integration.

These rail projects will also support advancements in health, education, and industrial growth, generating broader socio-economic benefits for Odisha and its neighboring regions.

7. Directorate of Aviation

7.1. New Destination Policy

The Government of Odisha has approved the New Destination Policy to stimulate and facilitate the establishment of air services to new destinations from Airports in Odisha, by providing Viability Gap Funding (VGF) / incentives to kickstart the flight services. Policy for New Destinations for enhancing the air connectivity to Odisha published vide Resolution No. 11387 Dt. 24.10.2024. Under the New Destination Policy :

- Star Air has been awarded routes for operating direct flights from VSS Airport, Jharsuguda to Hyderabad, Raipur and Lucknow;
- Air India Express has been awarded routes for operating direct flights from BPI Airport, Bhubaneswar to Kochi, Jaipur and Lucknow;
- IndiGo has been awarded routes for operating direct flights from BPI Airport, Bhubaneswar to Indore and Dehradun & from VSS Airport, Jharsuguda to Mumbai.

New destination approvals under Policy for New Destinations 2024

Sl. No.	Routes	Frequency (Round trips per week)	Date of Commencement
1	Jharsuguda - Mumbai – Jharsuguda	7	01 March 2025
2	Bhubaneswar - Dehradun – Bhubaneswar	3	06 February 2025
3	Bhubaneswar - Indore - Bhubaneswar	4	07 February 2025
4	Jharsuguda - Raipur – Jharsuguda	3	01 February 2025
5	Jharsuguda - Lucknow – Jharsuguda	3	01 February 2025
6	Jharsuguda - Hyderabad – Jharsuguda	7	01 January 2025
7	Bhubaneswar - Kochi - Bhubaneswar	3	03 January 2025
8	Bhubaneswar - Jaipur – Bhubaneswar	4	03 January 2025
9	Bhubaneswar - Lucknow – Bhubaneswar	3	04 January 2025

7.2. “9th Women in Aviation” event at R.D. Women’s University

Women in Aviation event was organised at R.D. Women’s University on 08.11.2024 by ‘Women in Aviation India Chapter (WAI), Gol in collaboration with the C & T Department to raise awareness regarding advancement of women in the Aviation and Aerospace industries.



(Hon'ble Minister, C&T joined virtually to cheer the gathering)

7.3. Laying of foundation stone of Tusra Airport, Balangir

Hon'ble Chief Minister Shri Mohan Charan Majh has laid the foundation stone on 02.11.2024 for improvement



7.4. Improvement of existing Airstrip at Jamadarpalli

Administrative Approval amounting to Rs. 39.07 Cr was accorded for Improvement of existing Airstrip at Jamadarpalli, Sambalpur to 2B Category on 26.11.2024.

7.5. Laying of foundation stone of Dandbose Airport, Mayurbhanj

Hon'ble President of India, Smt. Droupadi Murmu and Hon'ble Chief Minister Shri Mohan Charan Majhi laid the foundation Stone of Dandbose Airstrip, Rairangpur, Mayurbhanj on 07.12.2024.



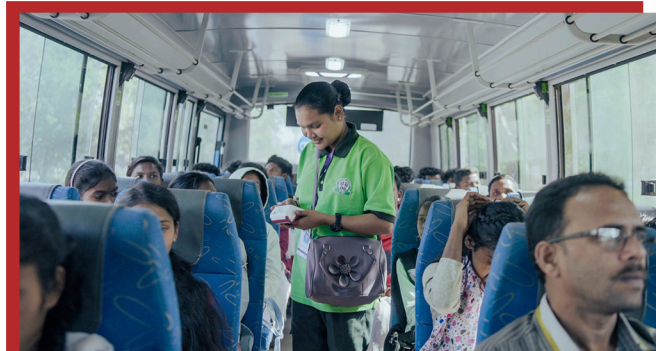
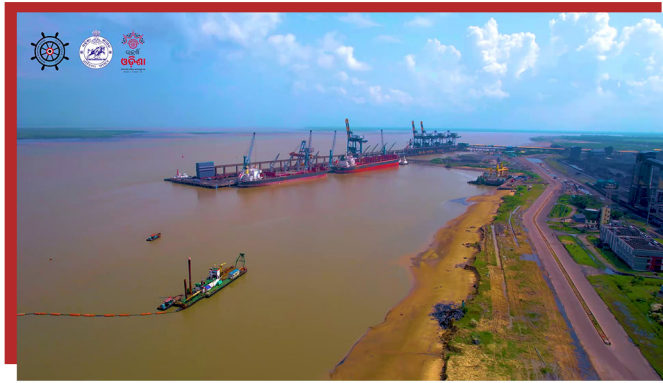
7.6. Exemption of Registration fees and stamp duty

The State Government has approved remittance of stamp duty and exemption of registration fees towards lease deed of land measuring Ac. 107.70 Dec., in mouza Jharsuguda Unit No. 8 (Malimunda), Talmaal & Durlaga under Jharsuguda Tahasil, Jharsuguda town to be executed in favour of Veer Surendra Sai Airport, Jharsuguda on 16.08.2024.

7.7 Signing of MOUs During Utkarsh Odisha 2025

MoUs were signed between the Commerce & Transport Department, Govt. of Odisha and M/s IndiaOne Air for introduction of new flights from Bhubaneswar to Malkangiri and Malkangiri to Visakhapatnam and the Aero Club of India for setting up Aero sports hubs in the State.









Governor of Odisha

COMMERCE & TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT