

77TH REPUBLIC DAY CELEBRATIONS

VARIOUS industrial houses, state-owned enterprises and government organisations across the State celebrated the 77th Republic Day with gaiety and patriotic fervour as follows.

VEDANTA: Vedanta Aluminium, India's largest aluminium producer, marked India's 77th Republic Day across its operations with inclusive celebrations bringing together employees, families, students and local communities.



This year, India's 77th Republic Day was celebrated under the theme "100 Years of Vande Mataram (Bharatmata Ka Mahatva)", honouring the historic national song and its role in the freedom struggle. Across Vedanta Aluminium's locations, the celebrations reflected values of unity, national pride and collective responsibility through participation of employees, families and local institutions, reinforcing strong community connect.

Speaking on the occasion, Rishi Kumar, CEO, Vedanta Aluminium, said, "Republic Day is a powerful reminder of the ideas that guide our nation's progress. At Vedanta Aluminium, we celebrate this day by engaging closely with our people and communities, strengthening the spirit of unity and reflecting our commitment to contributing meaningfully to India's growth and development."

Across its operations at Bargarh and Langurh, the celebrations featured leadership-led flag hoisting, coordinated parades, vibrant presentations developed by employees across departments, and cultural performances by employees' children and students from DAV Vedanta International School. At Langurh, the programme also included a vibrant presentation organised by the security team. Together, these activities highlighted collective contributions, discipline, and national pride, reinforcing the company's emphasis on inclusive participation across its workforce.

At the company's Mirza location, Republic Day was commemorated through school and community engagement programmes. In the Mirza periphery, over 1000 children were distributed to 25 schools, reaching over 3,500 children. The Jamshidi and Chugchupali teams, along with employee volunteers, supported the schools and 17 Angamwadi Centres through the distribution of sports trophies, certificates and school-bag items, benefiting over 1,000 students, teachers and community members.

Vedanta Aluminium not only supplies high-quality aluminium to key industries across India but also drives broader regional growth. Through employment generation, social initiatives, well-planned residential clusters, and thriving local businesses around its operations, the company has created a multiplier effect. Investments in critical infrastructure has accelerated development in these areas, bringing previously remote regions into the socio-economic mainstream.

PPA: Paradip Port Authority (PPA) celebrated the 77th Republic Day with patriotic fervour at the Port premises, where the National Flag was unfurled by P. L. Hazareddy, Chairman, PPA, in the presence of Deputy Chairman T. Venu Gopal, employees, CSE personnel and stakeholders.

Addressing the gathering, Hazareddy said that under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, India is emerging as a global economic powerhouse. He stated that Paradip Port has become the "Gateway of India's Growth", recording a compounded annual growth rate of 9 per cent over the last three years, higher than the national average.

He highlighted that Paradip Port remains its position as India's No. 1 cargo-handling major port by handling 130 million metric tonnes (MMT) of cargo in the last financial

year. The port continues to lead in efficiency, with berth productivity nearly double the national average, and handles nearly one-third of India's coastal cargo.

Outlining future plans, the Chairman said Paradip Port is transforming into a mega port and is on track to cross 200 MMT capacity within the next year, with a long-term target of 300 MMT by 2030. The Western Dock Project is progressing ahead of schedule, while capital spending to handle Cape Size vessels is slated for completion by March 2026. The port is also investing towards 100 per cent mechanisation to enhance productivity and sustainability.

On green initiatives, Hazareddy said Paradip Port is positioning itself as the Green Hydrogen Hub of western India, having signed memoranda of understanding worth Rs 1.5 lakh crore for green hydrogen and e-methanol projects. The port is expected to become a green port within the next five months, supported by renewable energy initiatives, a 10 MW solar power plant and one million tree-coverage. By December 2026, all port houses will operate on green hydrogen.

The Chairman also announced employee welfare measures, including salary and allowance hikes for regular and contractual employees, and the provision of subsidised piped natural gas connections to port quarters.



On local development, he announced plans for the Kalanga Maritime Museum, a commercial complex with a multiplex and food court, a separate commercial mall, and large-scale development of Sector 22 with marine and housing facilities. A 2.5-km flyover has been constructed to improve traffic flow and safety.

He further informed that PPA is developing a 100 MMT coalfield port at Nabada in Ganjam district and a shipbuilding and ship repair facility of 1.5 million gross tonnes near Paradip.

During the programme, prizes were awarded to winners of various competitions held among local school children, officers and employees. Winner and runner-up trophies were presented to marching contingents, while the CSE unit, PPA, conducted a dog show and fire drill demonstration. The celebrations also included an exhibition-cum-match among PPA employees and a pre-meet at the Officers' Club organised by Jagannath Ladd Kola Banarai. In the evening, inter-school patriotic dance competitions were held at Raja Convention Centre.



RSP: Bunkela Steel Plant (RSP) observed the 77th Republic Day of India with patriotic fervour, with more than 2,000 students and employees participating in celebrations held at Ispat Stadium, witnessed by thousands of residents of Bunkela.

Alok Verma, Director In-Charge, RSP, presided the occasion, unfurled the National Flag and took the salute at an impressive march past by 82 contingents to the tune of the Gyan Gyan Public School band. Scouts, Guides, combat and civilian troops from various city educational institutions, contingents from CSE including RSP Fire Services, Narsing Training Institute and BAIL, Hockey Academy added colour to the parade. Students of Delhi Public School rendered the national anthem, in the presence of Retiree

Karnist, DCL, CSE, senior officials and employees.

In his Republic Day address, the Director In-Charge said, the spirit of patriotism resonated across the Steel City on the occasion. He highlighted the 150th anniversary of Vande Mataram and referred to Odisha's role in India's freedom movement, including the Pasha Rebellion of 1857 and contributions of freedom fighters such as Viree Raj Behera and Viree Sumudra Das.

Quoting freedom fighter Karmadevi's words on equality, he noted that women accounted for nearly 30 per cent of participants in the Bunkela Half Marathon. The Director In-Charge congratulated RSP employees and stakeholders for achievements during the calendar year 2025, which saw new records, benchmarks and additions to the product basket.

He also presented All Odisha and Jharkhand awards to CSE personnel, Jeevan Awards, RSP Gandhi Awards and awards to best-performing contingents.

A similar function was held at Sector-22 Mini Stadium, where Verma unfurled the National Flag and took the salute of a march past by 36 contingents. Awards were presented to the best contingents, while special awards of Rs 5,000 each were announced for Junior Boys Saransathi Saba Vidya Mandir, Karmabesha, and the girls' team of Bina Maunda Alankar High School.

MCL: The 77th Republic Day was celebrated with great patriotism, fervour and gaiety at all operational units and headquarters of Mahanadi Coalfields Limited (MCL), the leading coal producer in the country.

Uday Anant Karik, Chairman-cum-Managing Director unfurled the Tricolor at the corporate headquarters and took the salute from marching contingents of MCL Security, CSE, MCC, Scouts, Guides, and school children. The celebration was marked by enthusiastic participation from MCL employees and children from various local schools.



CNO: In his address, he highlighted the invaluable contributions of coal miners in ensuring the country's energy security. He emphasised on MCL's progress in First Mile Connectivity projects with average rake loadings through Silkulbils increasing to nearly 42 tonnes per day. He also extended the company's focus on sustainable mining, renewable energy and community development through CSR initiatives.

Prominent among senior officers present were Keshav Rao, Director (Personnel), PE Patel, Chief Vigilance Officer (CVO), and AE Babbar, Director (Finance) S.K. Das, Director (Tech) O.P. Dey. Vice Presidents of Jagriti Matela Mandal were also present on this occasion.

The celebrations also featured vibrant cultural performances by school students, adding colour and enthusiasm to the event. Prizes were awarded to the winning teams by the dignitaries.

Senior Republic Day celebrations were organised across MCL's operational units and areas in the districts of Angul, Bargarh, and Sundergarh in Odisha, celebrating the spirit of unity and patriotism among the employees and local communities.

TATA STEEL: Tata Steel Kalinganagar marked the 77th Republic Day with enthusiasm at Kalinganagar.

The event began with the national flag hoisting by Uday Singh, Vice President (Operations). Senior officials, union members, employees, and community leaders attended the ceremony.

Following the flag unfurling, a ceremonial parade and specialised mock drills were



conducted by security personnel, formal security personnel were allocated for their heavy and exemplary commitment to duty.

The celebrations also featured patriotic cultural programmes performed by employees and their family members, reflecting India's diverse traditions through music and dance.

Similar celebrations were also organised at Nustachal Ispat Nigam Limited (NINL) and Tata Steel Downstream Products Limited (TNDPL), where the national flag was unfurled by Padmaraj, MD & CEO, NINL and Rajesh Chaudhary, Chief, TNDPL, Kalinganagar, respectively.



TPNODL: TP Northern Odisha Distribution Limited (TPNODL) celebrated the 77th Republic Day with enthusiasm across its office establishments in the region. At the corporate office, the national flag was unfurled by Shant Chandra Mahalik, Engineer-in-Chief, TPNODL, in the presence of senior officials and employees.

As part of the occasion, TPNODL extended heartiest wishes to its customers, Bhadrak, Kambhat, Japur and Bargarh circle offices who have availed benefits under the PM Surya Char Mithi Bidhi Yojana (ULM).

The celebration recognised their participation in the transition towards clean and renewable energy solutions.

TPSODL: TP Southern Odisha Distribution Limited (TPSODL) marked the 77th Republic Day with patriotic fervour at its corporate office here.



At the corporate office, the national flag was unfurled by CEO Anil Kumar Gang in the presence of senior officials, employees, and stakeholders.

Addressing the gathering, the CEO underscored the vision at Viksit Bharat and highlighted TPNODL's role in supporting the national grid through improved service delivery, sustainability initiatives, and community-focused programmes.

Gang further highlighted, the company's progress in rural electrification, renewable energy integration, and the adoption of innovative solutions to strengthen the power distribution network across southern Odisha. He also encouraged employees to uphold the values of integrity, safety, and excellence while contributing to nation-building.

As part of the celebrations, Utility-Led Aggregation (ULA) beneficiaries were invited for their contribution towards promoting solar energy and sustainable practices. Similar celebratory programmes were organised at the circle level across TPNODL's operational areas, reinforcing the organisation's commitment to green energy adoption and community participation.

TPCODL: TP Central Odisha Distribution Limited (TPCODL) celebrated the 77th Republic Day with patriotic fervour at its corporate office. The national flag was hoisted by Arvind Singh, CEO, TPCODL, in the presence of senior officials and employees.

As part of the celebrations, TPCODL honoured 30 "Green Champions" - environment-conscious consumers who have adopted



40 rooftop solar systems under the PM Surya Char Mithi Bidhi Yojana through the Utility-Led Aggregation (ULA) model. These consumers have installed 1 kW solar systems, availed subsidies and reduced their electricity bills. The honoured group included the consumers from each operational circle and five from the corporate office.

Addressing the gathering, Singh said the transition to clean energy begins with informed and responsible choices by citizens. He stated that the Green Champions demonstrate how rooftop solar adoption under the PM Surya Char Mithi Bidhi Yojana benefits households while supporting national clean energy objectives, and extended TPCODL's commitment to promoting such initiatives across Central Odisha.

ECCL: East Coast Railway celebrated the 77th Republic Day at its headquarters in Bhubaneswar with patriotic fervour. The General Manager, Traineeship & Welfare, unfurled the National Flag and extended Republic Day greetings to railway employees and their families.

Addressing the gathering, the General Manager highlighted East Coast Railway's contribution to nation-building and outlined major achievements of the zone in railway operations, infrastructure development and passenger services, attributing the progress to the collective efforts of the workforce.

He emphasised initiatives focused on passenger convenience and safety, capacity augmentation, introduction of modern LHB coaches, and progress in new line, doubling and multi-tracking projects. Stress was also laid on safety enhancement through time-structure upgrades, elimination of level crossings, commissioning of road over bridges and implementation of passenger-centric works.

The General Manager also highlighted services provided by Railway Protection Force (RPF) personnel of East Coast Railway. Four RPF personnel were awarded the President's Medal for their contributions. Prakash Chandra Panda, Inspector, and Prakash Chandra Das, Inspector, received the President's Medal, while Popendra Satishna Rao, Sub Inspector, and D. V. Murdli Krishna, Assistant Sub Inspector, were conferred with the Mahatma Service Medal.

Senior officials, staff, and the President of East Coast Railway Women's Welfare Organisation, Kavita Jankiwal, were present on the occasion. A cultural programme by school children and volunteers of Bharat Scouts & Guides was also organised as part of the celebrations.

