



A timeless destination
and a source of myriad journeys.

27th March 2026
Bhubaneswar



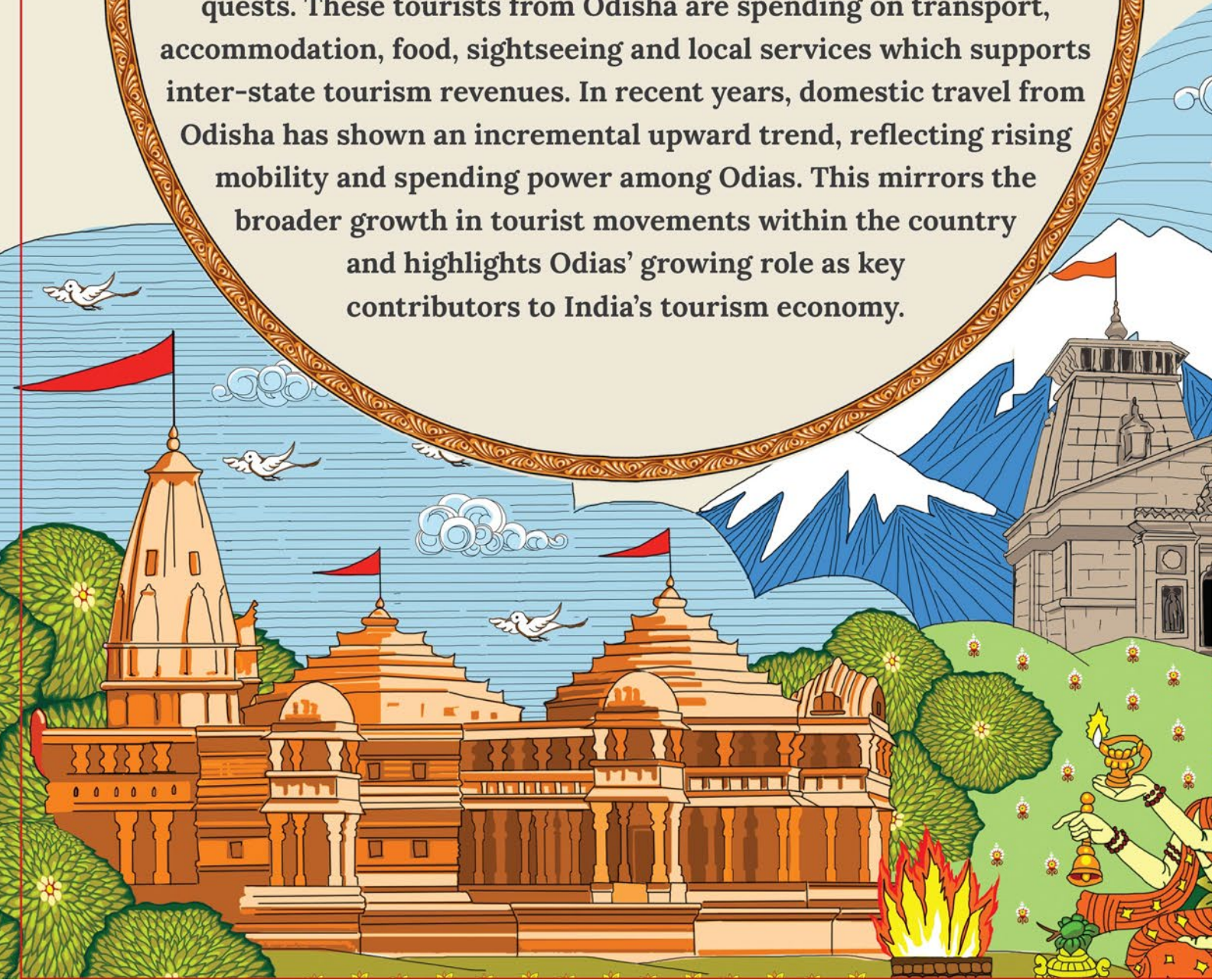
ARGUS
Presents
**CHALO
Dekhein
APNA
Desh** **5**
SEASON
THE TOURISM CONCLAVE
27th March | BHUBANESWAR

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INDIAN TOURISM THE LANDSCAPE

Odisha is emerging as a force that is actively fuelling India's domestic tourism economy, with its people travelling across to various states for their leisure, spiritual, adventure, and wildlife quests. These tourists from Odisha are spending on transport, accommodation, food, sightseeing and local services which supports inter-state tourism revenues. In recent years, domestic travel from Odisha has shown an incremental upward trend, reflecting rising mobility and spending power among Odias. This mirrors the broader growth in tourist movements within the country and highlights Odias' growing role as key contributors to India's tourism economy.



Odisha Beckons

Odisha is fast emerging as a compelling destination for travellers from across India and the world. A land of rich contrasts, it offers a vibrant melange of pristine beaches, ancient temples, diverse wildlife, lush flora and fauna, distinctive cuisine, exquisite art and crafts, and deeply rooted culture, theatre, and living traditions. At the same time, Odisha is a perennial source of tourism, with a growing community of travellers exploring destinations across the country and globally—reflecting a state that both welcomes the world and journeys beyond its own borders.

Chief Guest



Smt. Pravati Parida
Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister
of Odisha

Why does Odisha offer a large potential of tourists?

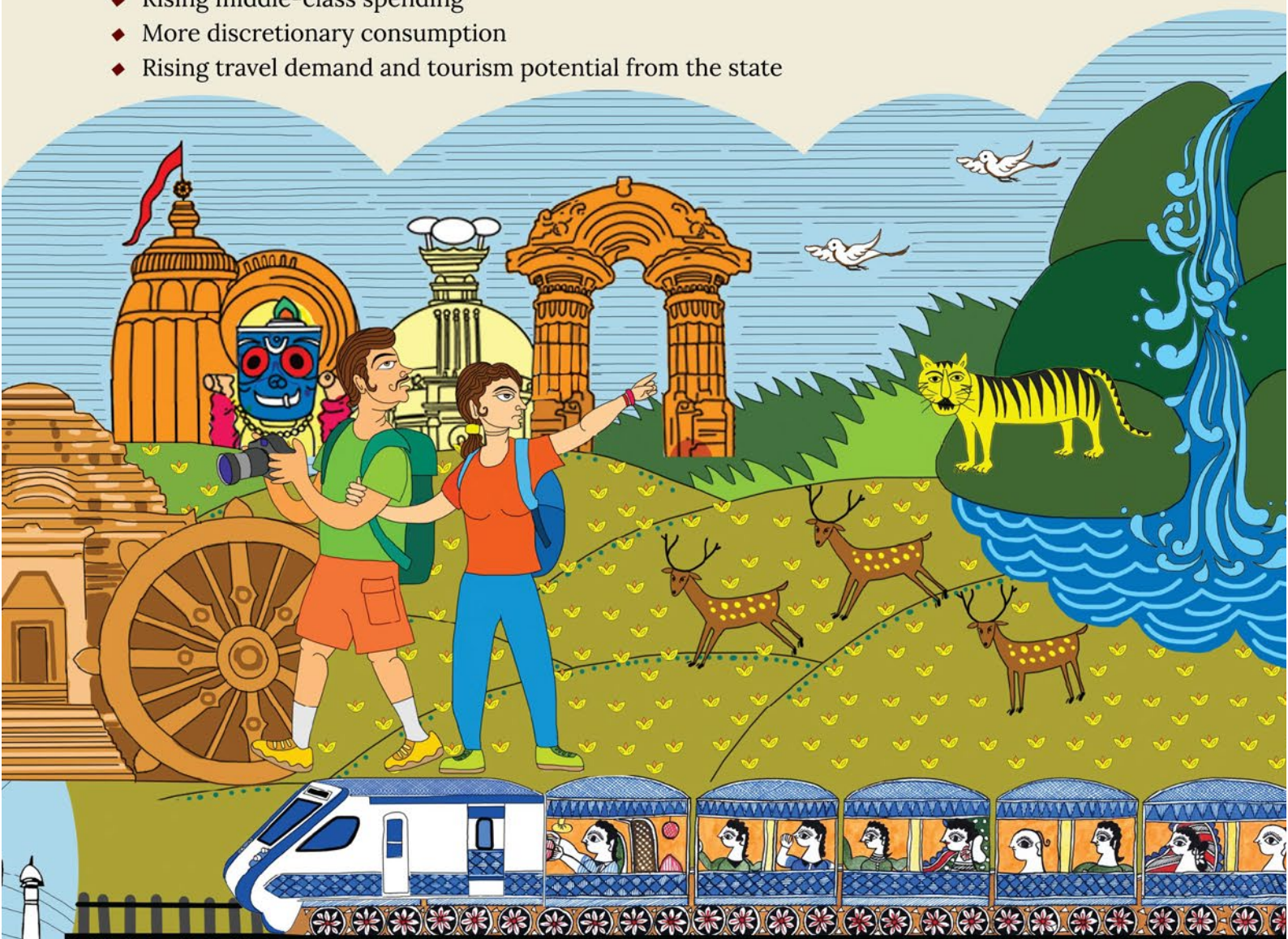
- ◆ Growing travel culture in Odisha
- ◆ Travel for leisure, pilgrimage, holidaying is gaining importance
- ◆ Domestic travel (out of Odisha, within India) is fast becoming the order of the day



Growing per-capita income

An indication of economic resilience and structural transformation

- ◆ Greater individual earning capacity
- ◆ Rising middle-class spending
- ◆ More discretionary consumption
- ◆ Rising travel demand and tourism potential from the state



What makes Odisha an attractive tourist destination?

- **Growing tourism demand** - Record 1.13 crore tourist arrivals in 2024-25, up from about 1 crore in 2023-24¹
- **Strong Government spending & policy push** - Approx. ₹800 crore allocated to tourism in 2024-25, with approx. ₹445 crore for tourism infrastructure development and promotional spending of about ₹279 crore²
- **Major investment pipeline** - Over 5,000 acres of land identified for tourism development in priority destinations³
- **Infrastructure** - A new greenfield airport in Puri costing approx. ₹5,631 crore (capacity 4.6 million passengers annually) coming up. Large connectivity schemes being implemented⁴
- **Destination development & eco-tourism focus** - Projects of approx. ₹199.9 crore being developed around Satkosia and Hirakud³



Chalo Dekhein Apna Desh - Season 5

Chalo Dekhein Apna Desh - Season 5 is a one-day Conclave being held in the Temple City Bhubaneswar on 27th March 2026, that will host administrators, policymakers, thought leaders, travel and tour operators, hoteliers, innovators and other stakeholders. It will act as a platform for collaborative learning, insightful discussions, and exchange of ground-breaking ideas and actionable strategies towards creating an impact in the world of travel.

THE CONCLAVE SESSIONS

Emerging Odisha - A timeless destination and a source of myriad journeys.

| SESSION - I | SESSION - II | SESSION - III |
|--|---|--|
| <p>Emerging Odisha: India's Next Tourism Growth Engine</p> <p>Unlocking policy dynamics, infrastructure growth, connectivity, and private sector participation to accelerate tourism-led economic development</p> | <p>Challenges, Choices & the Road Ahead for Indian Tourism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> From Destinations to Experiences: The New Tourism Paradigm, building a base for Resilient, Responsible & Receptive Tourism in India | <p>From Odisha to India: Towards Smarter and Inclusive Tourism Flow</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Rise of the Odia Traveller: Changing Preferences, New Destinations, New Opportunities |

Argus News

Argus News is Odisha's fastest-growing news channel and one of the most trusted voices in the world of news. Committed to responsible, reliable, and responsive journalism, Argus upholds the highest standards of truth and credibility. Powered by state-of-the-art technology, it reaches the farthest corners of the state and connects deeply with the Odia diaspora across India and the world. Argus News truly stands as Odisha's True Voice that is driven by the power of truth.

Session Speakers

Guest of Honour



Shri Sudarshan Sahoo
Padma Vibhushan,
Eminent Sculpture Artist

Guest of Honour



Shri Babu Singh
Hon'ble MLA,
Ekamra Bhubaneswar

Honorable Chief Guest



Smt. Pravati Parida
Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister, Odisha and
Minister of Women & Child Development,
Mission Shakti and Tourism

INAUGURAL SESSION

SESSION - 1 Guest Speakers



Mr. J.K. Mohanty
Chairman & M.D, Swosti Group,
Chairman, HRAO & IATO



Mr. Debasish Patnaik
Managing Director,
The Crown,
IHCL SeleQtions,
Bhubaneswar



Mr. Benjamine Simon
Founder, Travel Link,
Former Board Member,
Odisha Tourism and
Eco Tourism



Mr. Anutosh Kanoria
Architect,
Rambha Palace,
Ganjam

SESSION - 2 Guest Speakers



Ms. Anshu Pragyan Das
DFO, Hirakud WildLife Division



Mr. Pushendra Pal Khanna
President, Association of
Domestic Tour Operators
of India (ADTOI)



Mr. Manash Kumar Sahoo
International Sand Artist



Dr. Sabir Bux
Eminent Scuba Diver,
Marine Explorer & Three times
Limca Book of
World Records Holder

SESSION - 3 Guest Speakers



Mr. Jagdeep Bhagat
President & Founder Member,
Tourism India Alliance (TIA)



Mr. Vanoo Mitra Acharya
Independent Director
Odisha Forest Dept. Corporation



Mr. Ram Krishna Das
Founder-Waldenwoods
Foundation

Tourism Partners



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