## NABAKALEBAR RATHA YATRA BY PURI POLICE DISTRICT.



01	Area	Puri Police District
02	Nature of Good Work	Successful Police Arrangement during Nabakalebar Ratha Yatra 2015
03	Police Station and District Unit / Battalion	Puri District Police
04	Date of Good Work Done	17.07.2015 to 29.07.2015

## 05 | Brief of Work Done :-

## Nabakalebar Ratha Yatra by Puri Police District.

Puri also known as Shree Khetra, located on the east coast of India in the state of Odisha, is regarded as one of the "Four Dhams" (Char Dham) of Hindus. The presiding deities of Puri are Lord Jagannath, Goddess Subhadra and Lord Balabhadra, who all adorn the sanctum of Shri Jagannath Temple, Puri, and the 12th century architectural marvel.

Rath Yatra is the annual festival of presiding deities, who are taken on giant chariots (Rath) dragged by thousands of devotees. The celebration continues for 11 days during which period about two million of devotees congregate in the Holy Dham of Puri.

Nabakalebar, the periodical ceremonial re-embodiment of the wooden idols of Lord Jagannath, Devi Subhadra, Lord Balabhadra and Lord Sudarshan, normally falls after a gap of 19 years though on certain occasions it takes place after a gap of 12 years. The last Nabakalebar of the deities took place in the year-1996. Due to improvement of infrastructure including road and railway connectivity to Puri, more than five million congregations was anticipated during Nabakalebar-2015.

Keeping in view the safety, security, law and order and traffic management of mega festival, Nabakalebar-2015, elaborate Police arrangements were made by the Odisha Police for this occasion. Around ten thousand Police personnel including three thousand Home Guards were engaged for the duty during Nabakalebar Rath Yatra which was celebrated from 18<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> July, 2015.

With long-term planning, coordination with various agencies and proper execution of the Police arrangement the festival was by and large incident free. A record six million devotees congregated in the holy city Puri during this period for dragging chariots, to have 'Darshan' of Lords during their stay at Gundicha temple and to witness the 'Gold Attire' – "SunaBesha" of the Lords.

The successful conduct of Nabakalebar festival once again vindicates our stand that Odisha Police is committed to the service of the people and can successfully handle such mega- festivals.