

Clip: 1 of 1

'Odisha cement industry growing at 7-8 per cent'

DEBASISH ACHARYA, OP

Bhubaneswar, Dec 29: The cement industry in Odisha is growing at a rate of 7 per cent to 8 per cent this fiscal, an official from JK Lakshmi Cement told **Orissa POST**.

Despite the implementation of GST and RERA, the industry has maintained its growth trajectory, he said.

"The cement industry in the state is growing at an average rate of 7 per cent to 8 per cent and is expected to maintain the momentum for the next three months," Susim Patra, vice pres-



ident, (marketing), JK Lakshmi Cement, said.

JK Lakshmi has been growing at a rate of 15 per cent due to its increasing customer base as well

as the introduction of new products, he pointed out.

Commenting on the industry's performance last fiscal, Patra said it has witnessed a

The consumption of cement in the state is 8.5 lakh tonne by volume per month. It is expected to grow further next year

growth of 18 per cent to 20 per cent and JK Lakshmi had maintained its impressive growth trajectory.

The cement consumption in the state is at 8.5 lakh tonne by volume per month. It is expected to grow further especially con-

sidering the government's focus on infrastructure, Swachh Bharat scheme and private investment.

The implementation of GST has minimal impact on the industry as the tax rate before GST is almost the same post-GST while the removal of Octroi collection will boost the industry.

He said the ban on petcoke usage will have an adverse impact on those industries which fully depends upon the mineral.

"The cement prices might go up due to the rise in import duty of petcoke, but the increase would be minimal," Patra added.