

37,000 landless families still on wait list for PMAY aid

BHUBANESWAR (KCN): Even as the State government has urged the Centre for sanction of additional 15 lakh houses under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY), nearly 37,000 landless families and 8,575 families under Primitive and Vulnerable Tribal

allotment of housing plots last year, a review on Saturday revealed that 36,198 families are still residing in houses constructed on government lands. As these families have constructed houses unauthorisedly on government land that fall under kisan

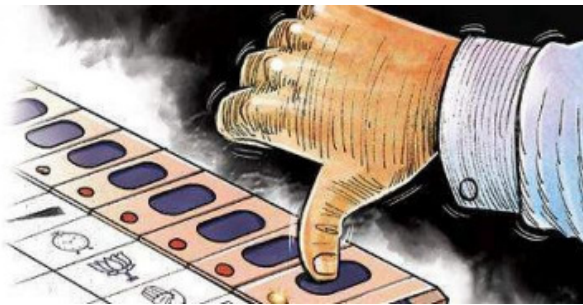


Groups (PVTGs) have been waiting for long to get land under Vasundhara scheme. The State government, though, has claimed to have provided four decimal of residential plots each to around 21,059 landless families since June 2020. While 57,257 homestead landless families were in the waiting list for

(land type) and not fit for conversion for housing, the government had directed the Revenue department to find out a solution by revising the guidelines in consultation with Forest and Panchayati Raj departments. Since the landless families listed in the waiting list of housingschemes CONTINUED ON: P-7

Odisha State Election Commission may announce rural polls on Dec 27

BHUBANESWAR (KCN): Announcement of the three-tier elections till the counting of votes is over. Sources said



panchayat polls is likely to be made next week and the model code of conduct will be in force in all probability from December 27. Going a step ahead towards preparing for the rural elections, the State Election Commission (SEC) has prescribed the model code of conduct for political parties and candidates.

The SEC on Sunday informed that the model code of conduct will remain in force from the date of notification for the

that the SEC will convene the all-party meeting within the next couple of days after which, the elections will be announced.

CONTINUED ON: P-7

Death toll rises to 375, 56 missing after Typhoon Rai slams Philippines

MANILA (KCN): The death toll from the strongest typhoon to batter the Philippines this year climbed to 375, with more than 50 others still missing and several central provinces struggling with downed communications and power outages and pleading for food and water, officials said Monday.

At its strongest, Typhoon Rai packed sustained winds of 195 kilometres (121 miles) per hour with gusts of up to 270 kph (168 mph) before blowing out into the South China Sea on Friday.

At least 375 people were killed, 56 were missing and 500 were injured, according to the national police. The toll may still increase because several towns and villages remained out of reach due to downed

communications and power outages, although massive cleanup and repair efforts were underway.

Many were killed by falling trees and collapsing walls, flash

typhoon, said Rai's ferocity on her island province of more than 130,000 people was worse than that of Typhoon Haiyan, one of the most powerful and deadliest typhoons on record

then hurled them everywhere," Bag-ao said by telephone. "The wind was swirling north to south to east and west repeatedly for six hours. Some tin roof sheets were blown away and



floods and landslides. A 57-year-old man was found dead hanging from a tree branch and a woman was blown away and died in Negros Occidental province, police said. Governor Arlene Bag-ao of Dinagat Islands, among the southeastern provinces first hit by the

which devastated the central Philippines in November 2013 but did not inflict any casualties in Dinagat. "If it was like being in a washing machine before, this time there was like a huge monster that smashed itself everywhere, grabbed anything like trees and tin roofs and

then were tossed back." At least 14 villagers died and more than 100 others were injured by flying roofs, debris and glass shards and were treated in makeshift surgery rooms in damaged hospitals in Dinagat, Bag-ao said. CONTINUED ON: P-7

Maharashtra minister compares roads to Hema Malini's cheeks, creates row

MUMBAI(KCN): Maharashtra minister and senior Shiv Sena leader Gulabrao Patil has kicked up a controversy by comparing the roads in his constituency in Jalgaon district to actor Hema Malini's cheeks, prompting the state women's commission to demand an apology from him.

The video of Patil's remarks, which he made recently while addressing an election meeting for the Bodhwad Nagar Panchayat polls in the district, has gone viral on social media. During the speech, Patil asked his opponents to visit his constituency to see how good the quality of roads there is.

"Those who have been MLAs for 30 years

should come to my constituency and see the roads. If they are not like Hema Malini's cheeks, then I will resign," the water supply and sanitation minister said, apparently targeting former BJP leader Eknath Khadse, who was an MLA from Jalgaon for several years.

However, Rupali Chakankar, the chairperson of the Maharashtra State Commission for Women, took cognisance of the remarks and warned the minister of legal action if he did not tender a public apology. "The commission has taken note of the comment. If the minister doesn't tender an apology, he will have to face legal action," Chakankar said in a video statement.



Air Health Service Launched

Bhubaneswar (KCN): In an aim to ensure availability of super specialized doctors at the nearest district hospital, Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik on Monday launched 'Mukhyamantri Vayu Swasthya Seva' (CM's Air Health Service) for four remote districts of Odisha.

The Chief Minister has launched the service by flagging off the chopper here at Biju Patnaik International Airport (BPIA). Today a six-member team including senior doctors of super specialty de-

partments of SCB Medical College has flown to Malkangiri. The service has been launched for tribal-dominated Malkangiri, Nabarangpur, Kalahandi and Nuapada districts. Specialists such as neurologists, nephrologists and cardiologists will be flown to the district headquarters hospitals (DHHs) to treat the admitted patients. The State government will meet the expenditure to be incurred due to the service, which will be provided free of cost, officials said.

Termining it as a historic move in the field of healthcare, Health

Kishore Das said, "The main objective of the programme is

patients, who are unable to visit cities like Bhubaneswar and

"In first phase the service has been launched for four dis-

tricts. If required we will extend the ser-

vice to other places, which don't have proper communication facilities," Das said. As per requirement of patients listed out by the district healthcare authority, senior doctors will be deployed to the concerned district through the chopper, said State director of health services, Bijay Mohapatra. Required medical equipment will also be supplied to the districts, the director added. Senior physician Datteswar Hota (urologist), a member of the team flown to Malkangiri today,

said, "We will stay in Malkangiri for two days (today and tomorrow) and provide treatment to patients while our second team of doctors will stay for another two days to look after the post-surgery care of the patients."

Last year, the State Government had launched boat ambulance service in Swabhimani Anchal of Malkangiri district and remote areas near Bhitarkanika National Park of Kendrapara district. The service was launched to ferry patients of the remote and interior areas to hospitals and clinics in case of emergency.



and Family Welfare Minister Naba

to provide quality health services to the

Cuttack to avail super specialty care."

tricts. If required we will extend the ser-

Regional Media Forum raise voice against the arrest of journalist at Malkangiri



Barbil (KCN): Regional Media Forum of Barbil condemn on the arrest of working journalist at Malkangiri .It is learnt that on various complain received regarding mismanagement of medical at Malkangiri hospital ,a group of four journalists have

visited to the concerned hospital at night.Their moto was to verify the authenticity of the complain they heard from public.On entering into hospital they felt the reality of people 's complain.On asking doctor about the mismanagement in



the hospital ,doctors on duty abused them and lodged an affair of misconduct at local police station. Though a similar complain was lodged against the doctor at the same police station. In spite of any investigation ,police arrested them from their residence.

Condemning step motherly attitude of police, Regional Media Forum of Barbil handed over a memorandum to the honourable Chief Minister of Odisha demanding a probe into the matter and initiate action against the culprit through Tahasildar, Barbil.

The Neelam Foundation steps up for homeless



Rourkela (KCN): While we are snuggled up in the bed wrapped in warm blankets, there are so many people who are not fortunate enough to have the best of these facilities. The Neelam Foundation steps up to guard against the harsh winters for the homeless people around Rourkela city. On Sunday, the team

geared up late at night throughout the ring road with a small gesture of protection by covering the shelter less people with warm blankets while they were asleep." As the mercury dips in ,people on streets are worst hit by the cold and nothing could had been better a feeling than shielding them with warm woollen blankets "

was said by the energetic executive member of The Neelam Foundation , Sri Rupesh Agarwal. Present on the spot were Ms Gracy David, the vice Chairperson and the executive members : Dr Amit Das , Dr Daulat Saraf ,Rupesh Agarwal, Mv Deepak , Biswaranjan Maharana, Biswajit Rout and Chandrama

Das . " It was immense happiness to see the sensibility of the members who took out their precious time for this kind gesture by The Neelam Foundation " was said by the Chairperson , Pratima Sahoo who also told that in near future they will try to protect more such people.

MLA Begunia Distributed BSKY Smart Health Cards

Khordha (KCN): Begunia

Grampanchayats of Begunia Assembly

transforming the health service in

and more than 200 private hospitals.



Rajendra Kumar Sahoo distributed Biju Swastya Kalyan Yojana (BSKY) Smart health cards to the beneficiaries of 7

Constituency, like Deuli, Gobindapur, Gadamanitri, Dingar, Routpada, Kunjuri and Durgapur. The scheme is aimed at



Odisha. Mentioning the BSKY smart health card will entitle the beneficiaries to free treatment at all government hospitals

Each family can avail of treatment benefits up to Rs.5 lakhs for male members per annum under the schemes and in the case of women fam-

Odisha-Mo-Parivar Collects 68 Units of Blood Through Jeevan Bindu Programme

Khordha(KCN): As per the direction of Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik for continuing it's selfless social services aimed the covid-19 pandemic Odisha-Mo-Parivar collected 68 Units of blood in a single day through its Jeevan Bindu Programme at Manibandh GP and Gadamanitri under Bologarh Block khordha.The camp was organised with the help of Central Blood Bank.The camp was inaugurated by MLA,

Begunia & Chairman Khordha District Planning Committee Rajendra Kumar Sahoo.Biju Yuva Janata Dal State General Secretary Abyakta Harihara Khadanga co-ordi-

nate the programme. Chhotray, Arakhita Paikaray, Bijay Kumar Routray, Raj Shree Routray, Banambara Dhal, Suryakant Khuntia, Sri Kumar Khuntia,

Matia Behera, Jangya Narayan Dhal, Abhishek Singh Samanta, Subha Kanta Mohapatra, Joytiranjana Khadanga, Satya-prakash Sahoo, Aman Champati and others were present at the blood donation camp. MLA, Begunia Rajendra Kumar Sahoo thanked the blood donors, volunteers to Chase the blood scarcity in the blood bank to save precious lives.



CM Opens Longest Bridge

(KCN, Bureau): Chief Minister has inaugurated T-Setu, State's longest bridge constructed over Mahanadi in Cuttack district at a cost of Rs 111 crore. The 3.4 km-long bridge, connecting B a d a m b a Narasinghpur and Baideshwar in Cuttack district, has been built in the English alphabet 'T' shape.

riageway width is 7.5 mtr i.e. two lane with 1.5 meter raised pedestrian footpath on both sides. Moreover there is a

"Unique Infrastructure" both from communication as well as religious and tourism point of view. On comple-

village roads . This important bridge with long straight approach road upto the Banki B a i d e s w a r



The bridge will shorten the distance between Badamba and Banki Baideshwar by 45 km and connect Shinghanath temple, officials said. The High Level Bridge over River Mahanadi at Gopinathpur connecting to Singhanathpeetha and Baideshwar in the district of Cuttack is the longest bridge in the state of Odisha. The bridge is having 86 spans of 36.5 mtr each. Each span consists of 3 prestressed girders and RCC deck slab. The car-

240 mtr length and 4.00 mtr carriageway width ramp bridge connecting the main bridge at 1350 mtr from Gopinathpur side and 1790 mtr from Baideshwar side to the ASI protected f a m o u s Singhanathpeetha Siva Temple Island on the upstream side of the bridge situated inside the Mahanadi river. Thus the longest bridge in Odisha on the biggest river of Mahanadi is a

tion the bridge will serve the district of Cuttack as well as Odisha at large and reduce the distance from Badamba on left side of Mahanadi to Banki on right side by 45 kms. At present the approach road on the Gopinathpur side(left side) is 240 mtr and on Baideshwar side(Right side) is 407 mtr connecting to Badamba and Banki with curvilinear and congested

Kalapathar (ODR) road with approximately 800 mtr on Banki side and 4.00 km straight road on Badamba side to connect with Raja A t h a g a d a Narasinghpur Road (SH-65). It is also proposed to provide tourist amenity centres on both side of the bridge to facilitate to the devotees who are visiting the Singhanathpeetha throughout the year



ily members the limits is Rs.7 lakhs. MLA Begunia,

Rajendra Kumar Sahoo describing the programme as a no

frills system a card holder can avail of all the treatment without

any hassle from a listed hospital. It's a historic and paradigm shift in the system of health care services in India. Where patients will get the best treatment without any expense from their pocket. In this distribution programme Block Development Officer Laxmi Dhara Sahoo, Panchayat Samiti Chairman Janaki Swain, Vice-Chairman, Tanuja Patsani, Executive Officers of GP and other officers were present. Subhakanta Mohapatra Co-ordinated the programme.

CLASSIFIED

CAUTION

Readers are advised to make appropriate enquiries while responding to advertisements in these columns. The Kalinga chronicle publication does not vouch for any claims made by the Advertisers. The Printer, Publisher, Editor and Owner of The Kalinga Chronicle Publications shall not be held responsible/ liable for any consequences, in case such claims are found to be false.



AUTOMOBILE



REAL ESTATE

SALE

Kawasaki Bajaj in tiptop condition for sale. Contact: 2555328

PURCHASE

Required a Marshal/Commandor / Boleto in good condition. Contact 2555763

SALE

Flats ready for possession before Rathayatra at Puri near Seabeach for sale. Contact: 986-1078308

Residential plots at Pahala close to NH-5 and near Pata Railway Station, Bhubaneswar for immediate sale. Contact: 0674-2556733

Residential plots at

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENT TARIFF

Classified advertisements are released daily. The normal classified advertisement is charged @ Rs. 5/- per word up to maximum number of 50 words. Any extra word will be Rs. 8/- per word. The minimum charges for any classified advertisement is Rs. 100/- . The options for bold lettering and outlining are also available and are charged @ 7/- and 10/- per word respectively. Extra charges for photographs Rs.100/- .For Box No. Rs. 100/-

HIRE

For hiring of Car / Jeep / Bus on monthly basis. Contact : 2555763



BUSINESS

Saving 10,000/- for high return, extra earn and Foreign trip opportunity, 9238904001. Independent business work from home, training in Singapore, 9338014287.



MATRIMONIAL

BRIDE WANTED
Wanted bride for Khandayat Boy, 37plus, Caste no bar, 0674-2555763

GROOM WANTED

Wanted Groom any service / business family for a Bramhin Girl. Contact 2555226

Gohira Chhak in front of CV Raman Engineering College beside NH-5, near Tamando. Contact : 9238691168

PURCHASE

Simplex / Duplex building at BBSR contact : 9437002509

ACCOMMODATION WANTED

Required Single / Double / Triple Stored North/East facing building at Puri . Contact 9437143483



TOURS & TRAVELS

We provide luxury coach buses (16,25,32,41,52 seater) for Picnic, Excursion, Marriage. Maa Santoshi Travels, Contact : 9861079437 For Luxury Passenger vehicle, Contact : Sagasity Tours & Travels, Acharya Vihar, Bhubaneswar, Ph. 2540219

WANTED

Required Driver/Peon/Attendant/ Aya

Please Contact-8984600400

ACCOMMODATION WANTED

Required double/Single/ Multi storied Bungalow type North or East Facing Independent building At-Nayapalli, Jayadev Vihar, V.S.S. Nagar, Mancheswar, Rasulgarh, Sallashree Vihar, Niladri Vihar.

Please Contact- 8338870595

“If Farhan Akhtar gives me this title he will not lose anything, and I will be able to save my lakhs of rupees” - Producer director Vine Arora

Mumbai (Sanjay Sharma Raj) Producer-Director Vine Arora alias Vinay Arora had announced

2019 and was preparing for its shooting. Many films on women's empowerment have been made

again. But the issue of men's empowerment is never discussed. Vine Arora wanted to communicate this is-

such we thought that we could register the title with IMPPA after we reach Mumbai. We also thought that the matter has been

not go to Mumbai. Eventually our title registration remained pending." About Farhan Akhtar, Vine Arora said that,

title because this title is most suitable for my film. Whereas Farhan's film is in its initial stage. I have already spent lakhs of



Hindi feature film and the issue of "Jee Le Zara" in a women empower-



press conference in Chandigarh in March ment is being discussed time and

sue after taking into consideration the women's behaviour, their attitude etc. However, the shooting plan had to be aborted due to the covid-19 pandemic. Now he had begun the shooting preparations. But in between he came to know that noted Producer, Director and Actor Farhan Akhtar has announced the film with same title "Jee Le Zaraa". Due to this announcement, Vine Arora received a jolt and he went into depression. As such Vine Arora's friend Director Gurudev Aneja advised him to ventilate his grievance through the media. Now, Vine Arora has aired out his grievance through the media saying that "We were new. As



published in many publications after the press conference so that this title will be ours and no one will produce the film with this title. Hence, we did not do anything in the matter. After that, due the corona virus outbreak we could

"They are big people. I like his films. He may not be aware that I have already prepared for the film with title "Jee Le Zara" and had announced it three years back. As such I urge Farhan Akhtar to please give me this

rupees on publicity, writing and other matter. I am not so rich that I could spend such a huge amount once again. If Farhan Akhtar gives me this title he will not lose anything, and I will be able to save my lakhs of rupees."

'Housefull 4' rakes in Rs 53 crore in first three days



MUMBAI(KCN): Akshay Kumar's "Housefull 4" has earned Rs 53 crore in the first three days of its release, the makers said on Monday. The Farhad

Samji-directed film opened on October 25 to mixed reviews. On the first day, the film raked in Rs 19.09 crore. Producer Sajid Nadiadwala, how-

ever, believes the film will perform better in the coming days as the festive season has concluded. **ALSO READ:** 'Housefull 4' movie review - Akshay

Kumar steals the show in this problematic comedy of errors "The first three days of our film release were like paid previews. People have

come despite the festive season & enjoyed the film. I think we had the best-paid previews with a total collection of 53cr and our actual weekend starts to-

day," Nadiadwala said in a statement. The movie also features Riteish Deshmukh, Bobby Deol, Kriti Sanon, Pooja Hegde and Kriti Kharbanda.

Who was obstructing the workings of justice in the Ram Mandir-Babri Masjid Dispute?

R.K.Sinha

Anyone who knows anything is aware of the dispute over the construction of the Ram temple in Ayodhya. This issue has been ongoing for centuries. However, only a few people know that when the hearing for the case on the issue of the Ram Mandir-Babri Masjid began in the Supreme Court, there were several direct and indirect efforts made to postpone the proceedings and decisions regarding it. These underhanded tricks aimed at either halting or terminating the construction of the Ram temple in Ayodhya.

Now that the establishment of the Ram temple in Ayodhya has finally commenced, it is a sensational revelation that the construction of the Ram temple was disliked by some elements. This disclosure was made by the person himself, who was a member of the Supreme Court bench hearing the Ram Mandir-Babri Masjid dispute and the Chief Justice of the country's highest court.

We are talking about former Chief Justice of India, Ranjan Gogoi. A recent book written by Ranjan Gogoi was published. Its name is 'Justice for Judge'. In this, Ranjan Gogoi explains very clearly and boldly that in the Ram Janmabhoomi case, they advocate for the Muslims Rajiv Dhawan kept making such absurd demands so that the trial of the case could

continue on any pretext.

His fundamental motive was that no decision should be arrived upon while Ranjan Gogoi remained the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court so that he could figure out a way to handle his successor post his retirement. Ranjan Gogoi had announced that the Supreme Court would hear the Ram Janmabhoomi dispute case every week from Monday to Friday. It was evident from this decision that the Supreme Court wanted to give its verdict on this sensitive matter before the second week of November 2019.

Meaning the decision for this case would be made before Chief Justice Ranjan Gogoi retired on 17th November 2019. Gogoi's decision meant that a five-member bench of the Supreme Court would have to conduct daily hearings for 48 days. There was ample time because, in this case, one side Nirmohi Akhara had completed its argument. The Supreme Court had also made it clear that after the arguments of all the parties are over, they will get one more chance to respond. After all these measures, both parties of the case should have been happy with this decision that aimed at concluding a pending case. But that didn't happen. Rajiv Dhawan already started claiming that he would not be able to cross-examine for five consecutive days and they needed a break in between. Then the Supreme Court ruled that he can take leave on Wednesday but on that day some other lawyer would have to come in his place.

In any case, the Supreme Court wanted to complete the hearing within the stipulated time. Due to this, they had extended his daily working

time to 4:00 pm and then further till 5:00 pm despite the work of the Supreme Court being usually over by 3:00 pm in the day. The whole country is aware of the fact that when the hearing on the Ram temple dispute was going on in the Supreme Court, Chief Justice Ranjan Gogoi was accused of sexual harassment by his former junior assistant. This happened or was made to happen so that in some manner this matter could be delayed. On the allegation of sexual harassment, Ranjan Gogoi said that the independence of the judiciary is in grave danger and this is a "big conspiracy" to destabilize the judiciary. Some even go so far as to say that there were some big forces and money in play behind the woman who accused him of sexual harassment.

The woman who made the allegation had sent a letter from the Supreme Court to all the 22 judges, alleging that Justice Gogoi had sexually assaulted, fired from her job if she did not agree to it, and later harassed her and her family in various ways. All this was happening only to influence the verdict on the Ram Janmabhoomi dispute. However, after 40 days of hearing on the matter from August 6 to October 16, 2019, the Supreme Court had reserved its decision. On 9 November 2019, the Supreme Court, after a lengthy hearing, gave its verdict on the temple-mosque dispute in Ayodhya. This dispute, which had been going on for more than 100 years, was given an all-out verdict by the Constitutional Bench headed by the then Chief Justice of India, Ranjan Gogoi, that Hindus have the right over the disputed land. In this way, the most

significant and more than 5-century old dispute was brought to an end. A five-judge constitution bench headed by Chief Justice Ranjan Gogoi delivered the verdict unanimously.

Under this, the entire disputed land of 2.77 acres of Ayodhya was allotted for the construction of the Ram Mandir. Those who know, know that every possible effort was being made by the present leadership of the Congress to deter the Supreme Court's decision. That is why the proceedings of the Supreme Court were continuously disrupted.

Now, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi is preaching knowledge on Hinduism and Hindutva. The country wants to know, that if he is indeed a Hindu, he should provide proof to substantiate his claims. If the people of his family have celebrated any Teej-festival of Hindus, he should share that as well. Wasn't his mother Sonia Gandhi married Christian only after converting to his father's religion and name? How did one whose parents are not Hindu become Hindu?

Did Congress contribute to the construction of the Ram Mandir? Or did they extend any help in the construction of the temple? Rahul Gandhi is working on a strategy to divide Hindus. Rahul Gandhi should know that someone who is a Hindu, is also a Hindutvavadi. If not, then what right does he have to talk about Hinduism and Hindutva?

(The writer is a senior editor, columnist, and former MP.)

Linc Pen reads writings on the wall

Ritwik Mukherjee

With schools, colleges and other educational institutions gradually re-opening, Kolkata-headquartered Linc Pen & Plastics Ltd (which is in the process of rechristening itself as Linc Pen) is hoping to reach pre-

Covid level by the end of the current fiscal and move up further from there. The four and a half decade old company, which makes one of the top three writing instrument brands in India, is also gearing up to tap new price segments and new geographies outside India through innovation. Speaking to Ritwik Mukherjee, Deepak Janan, Managing Director, Linc Pen, tries to read the writings on the wall and shares his thoughts on how he plans to take this home-grown brand to the next level.

Excerpts:
RM: What is the current overall market size of the writing instrument industry in India and what are the shares of organised and unorganised sector in that market?

Jalan: The overall market size of the writing instrument industry in India, at this point in time, is estimated to be nearly Rs 4000 crore. Of this overall market, 70 per cent would be organised and the remaining 30 per cent would be unorganised sector's contribution.

RM: At what rate the industry is growing? And what would be Linc Pen's growth rate?

Jalan: The overall writing instrument industry is growing at 6-8 per cent. And Linc Pen is growing at more or less the same rate.

RM: What is Linc Pen's current market share?

Jalan: Our current market share is 8-10 per cent.

RM: How did the Covid pandemic impact your business? How are things now?

Jalan: The Covid pandemic and prolonged lockdowns did hit us hard. With school and college students being our core target groups, we were impacted very badly. All the institutes remained closed for long and our consumption went down drastically as students were pursuing online classes for this entire period. In 20-21, we notched up 65 per cent of our normal revenues. The first two months of the 21-22 were also bad. We were at 75 per cent of our pre-Covid level. Things have started looking up. And we hope to be at close to pre-Covid level by the end of the current fiscal.

RM: Does the digitization spree pose any serious challenge to the writing instrument industry? Do we need pens anymore?

Jalan: I don't think so. People have been talking about this for more than ten years now. The growth rate of pen and other writing in-

struments may have slowed down, but the market is still there. Pen is still needed and will be needed. No matter how much we digitalise, pen and paper will never go out of fashion. They will always be needed for writing notes of various kinds, signature purposes and others.

RM: So what is your current capacity? Do you have any plans to ramp it up by way of putting up new plants?

Jalan: We have two full-fledged manufacturing units. Our current overall capacity is to make 50 mn pens/month. Besides our own manufacturing units, we also get job works done from several other units, with whom we have contractual agreements. Therefore if we have larger demands, we can always get them manufactured. If the market so demands and we think it fit, we can always think of putting up another plans and ramping up capacity at the existing ones.

RM: At one point of time you had forayed into retailing by way of putting up own signature outlets like Just Linc, Linc Office and so on. What is the current status? Do you still nurture the same ambition?

Jalan: Yes we had started this. But it did not take off the way we had originally envisaged it and then market situations and dynamics also changed. At present we have four company owned signature outlets in Kolkata. It's still too early to expand on this front through the franchise model. However, we are still open to the idea of adding few more company-owned outlets. Hopefully, within next 3-4 months, things will be clearer. We will also have a clearer picture to take a call on this.

RM: Do you still deal with Mitsubishi Uni-ball, from the stable of Mitsubishi Pencil?

If so, how much of your topline comes from that brand?

Jalan: Yes we distribute Mitsubishi Uni-ball



in India. As of now, as much as 15 per cent of our overall revenue comes from Mitsubishi Uni-ball.

RM: Do you have any plans to bring in any premium range from your own stable?

Jalan: No, not in near future.

RM: Have you taken any move/initiative to make up for whatever de-growth the writing instrument industry has been experiencing?

Jalan: As a de-risking option, we have started marketing and distributing office stationery products (calculators, desk organisers and other desk items etc), under the 'Deli' brand across the country. At present, it contributes around 5 per cent of the turnover. Adjacent

gies like sanitisers have also been launched recently. Earlier, we had rolled out a sterilising pen (touch-free device for surfaces like ATMs and lift buttons).

RM: What about exports? Do you export your products also?

Jalan: Yes we export our products to as many as 40 countries, mostly in South East Asian and African countries in our own brand name. Currently, 20 per cent of our total turnover comes from exports. Going forward, we will explore and tap new geographies. And our focus will be on selling products under our own brand name.

RM: What about fountain pens?

Jalan: Fountain pen usage has become insignificant, almost negligible. It has become collectibles or collectors' item. Currently we don't deal in fountain pens.

RM: What is the key challenge to stay competitive in the market?

Jalan: One of the biggest challenges is to offer the best quality products at competitive prices. The market and consumers' perception is that Linc is a mass market brand despite making high quality products. We have to honour that perception.

RM: In the past also you had laid thrust on innovation and came up with new and innovative products. What are you doing now?

Jalan: Recently, we launched our brand, Pentonic, to give users a new feel of a pen. We launched this pen to attract professionals. We made it sleek and long, with a body black in colour in order to give it a different appearance from other pens. But we were surprised to see that besides our target segment, school students liked it a lot and demand for these pens grew. We have lined up plans to extend Pentonic's range to gel ink pens shortly.

Typically, India has seen a flourish of pens in the Rs 5-7 price brackets. Margins on most of these are negligible and brands compete on volume. Linc, through Pentonic (priced at Rs 10 & upwards) is looking to shore up volumes and margins. We are targeting kiranas and mom-and-pop stores with a set of pens under Pentonic brand. The brand has been amongst the highest contributors in terms of value (and margins) to Linc's overall portfolio. One out of every three kiranas has shown interest in stocking Pentonic. The target is to add another 250,000 outlets by the end of this fiscal. This will help us recover some sales volumes.

We are now looking at Rs 30 and above price segment and are gradually building up Pentonic as an aspirational brand. We will soon be rolling out Pentonic BRT and will position it as the smoothest pen in India.

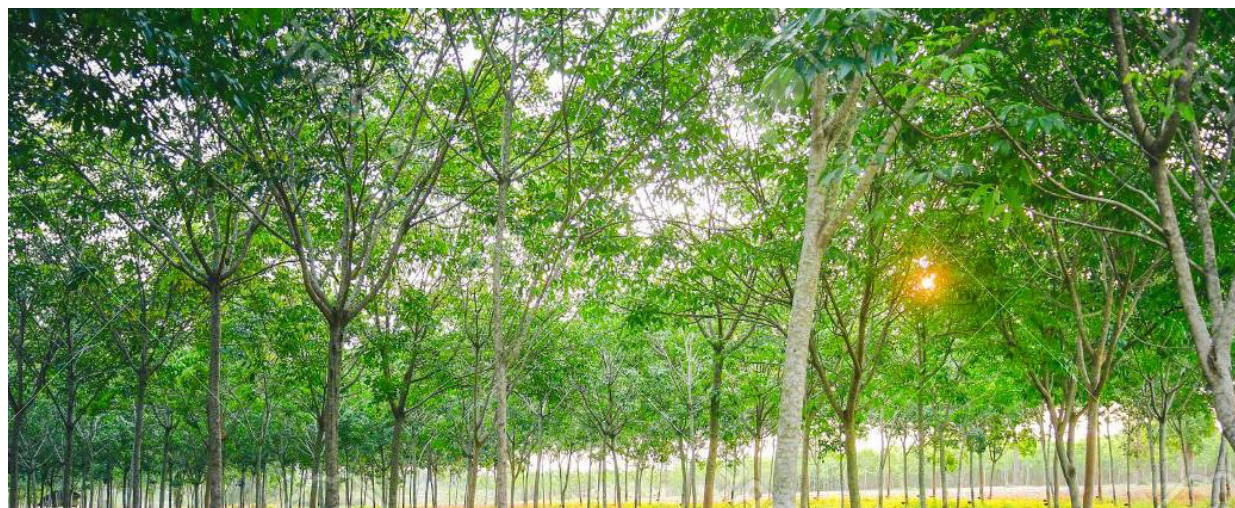
692 Cr Spent for Afforestation

Bhubaneswar(KCN): The State Government has spent funds to the tune of Rs

17, while Rs 66.97 crore spent in 2017-18, Rs 174.10 crore in 2018-19. The expen-

Green Mahanadi Mission (GMM). Highest Rs 302.75 crore has been spent

spent in 2016-17 and 2017-18 under the scheme, which was launched in July



692.59 crore under various schemes of afforestation in the past five years (2016-17 to 2020-21). According to the latest official data of the Department of Forest and Environment & Climate Change, the State has created 12.79 lakh hectares of new forest area and planted trees on road sides along 20,481.33 km of road by utilizing the fund during the five years. The data shows that Rs 147.16 crore has been utilized for afforestation activities during the year 2016-

diture in the activities has been increased to Rs 146.48 crore during 2019-20 and again to Rs 157.86 crore during the last financial year 2020-21. The amount was spent under eight different schemes including Increasing Green Coverage in the State, State Medicinal Plant Board (SMPB), National Bamboo Mission, National Afforestation Program, Green India Mission, Management of Plantation, Ama Jangal Yojana (AJY) and

under the Increasing Green Coverage in the State program during the five years. While Rs 125 crore utilized in 2016-17, Rs 44.53 crore, Rs 60.38 crore, Rs 34.80 crore and Rs 38.03 crore utilized in next four financial years, the sources said. Under the Green Mahanadi Mission, the State has spent a total amount of Rs 140.86 crore, of which Rs 59.48 crore utilized during 2018-19, Rs 50.60 crore in 2019-20 and Rs 30.76 crore in 2020-21. No amount was

2018. Among other schemes, Rs 6.36 crore spent under SMPB, Rs 18.55 crore under National Bamboo Mission, Rs 69.35 crore under National Afforestation Program, Rs 79.70 crore under Green India Mission and Rs 75 crore under Ama Jangal Yojana (AJY). However, the State has not spent a single penny for the Management of Plantation during the five years period.

J&K delimitation: Panel's proposal upsets political parties at Valley

SRI NAGAR/NEW DELHI: Of the seven additional seats that will be created in Jammu and Kashmir following a redrawing of the union territory's assembly seats, the delimitation commission has proposed that six seats will go to the Jammu

43.71%, are in Jammu. The delimitation exercise is being carried out as per the 2011 census. If the proposal goes through, the 90-member assembly will have 43 members from Jammu and 47 from Kashmir. Before the abrogation of

for Scheduled Castes. In the erstwhile J&K, assembly seats were drawn under the J&K constitution and the J&K Representation of the People Act, 1957, which did not have any provision for reservation of seats for STs. It is not clear which commu-

commission appears to have allowed the political agenda of the BJP. Contrary to the promised "scientific approach" it's a political approach," he tweeted. But union minister Jitendra Singh said the draft was objectively prepared. "All



region and only one to Kashmir. The proposal, spelt out at a meeting of the commission with its five associate members in New Delhi on Monday, has expectedly upset Kashmir-based political parties, which had hoped that the panel would increase four seats in Kashmir and three in Jammu. The parties' expectation is based on the 2011 census. As per the census, J&K has a population of 122.39 lakh of which 68.88 lakh, or 56.28%, are in Kashmir and 53.50 lakh, or

Article 370 and the bifurcation of J&K and Ladakh, the assembly had a total strength of 87 with 46 in Kashmir, 37 in Jammu and four in Ladakh. After Ladakh's separation the J&K assembly was reduced to 83 but after the enactment of Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Act, 2019, the strength was increased to 90. For the first time in its history, the J&K assembly will have nine seats reserved for Scheduled Tribes. Seven seats will continue to be reserved

nities will be categorized as STs but the expectation is that Gujjars, Bakerwals, Gaddis and Sippis will get the benefit. While a majority of Gujjars and Bakerwals are in Jammu, many are also in south Kashmir. The Gaddis and Sippis, who are Hindus, are overwhelmingly Jammu-based. (Optional para) Former chief minister and National Conference vice president Omar Abdullah said the draft recommendation was unacceptable. "It is deeply disappointing that the

associate members regardless of the parties appreciated work done by delimitation commission," he said. The delimitation commission headed by Justice (Retd) Ranjana Prakash Desai has five associate members: the NC's Farooq Abdullah, Justice (Retd) Hasnain Masoodi and Mohammad Akbar Lone and the BJP's Jitendra Singh and Jugal Kishore. The associate members have been asked to file their objections by December 31.

Voters' privacy will be compromised: Trinamool slams Centre over Bill on electoral reforms

NEW DELHI: Criticising the Centre for the passage of a Bill in the Lok Sabha on Monday linking electoral roll data with the Aadhaar eco-

In a statement later, TMC national spokesperson Sukhendu Sekhar Ray claimed that neither the Bill has been scrutinised by the de-

exclusion of genuine voters, Ray added. He alleged that everything has been done in a "hush-hush manner and extreme haste".

Monday evening for allocation of time for this Bill passed by Lok Sabha, he said. "Lastly, 12 of Rajya Sabha members were arbitrarily and ille-



system, the Trinamool Congress alleged that the privacy of voters would be compromised if it becomes a law. The Election Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2021, piloted by Law Minister Kiren Rijiju, was passed by a voice vote after a brief discussion during which some opposition members demanded that it be referred to a parliamentary panel for scrutiny.

partment-related parliamentary standing committee nor the government has the legislative competence to enact such a law given the Supreme Court's judgment in the Putuswamy Case whereby the limits of use of Aadhaar card was restricted. Once it is implemented, not only the privacy of voters will be compromised, there is also scope for

"Firstly, no scrutiny by standing committee was done. Secondly, the Election Commission was attempted to be influenced as the PMO (Prime Minister's Office) asked its functionaries to join a meeting, which is unprecedented," he mentioned. Thirdly, all of a sudden, the Business Advisory Committee Meeting of Rajya Sabha was called on

gally suspended keeping an eye on number game for smooth passage of the Bills in Rajya Sabha," Ray, who is the Chief Whip of the TMC in the Upper House, mentioned. He said, "The TMC condemns the way Parliament has been taken for a ride and shall oppose tooth and nail this Bill tomorrow, demanding that the matter be referred to select committee."

Mahua drink is passe, try cake and laddoo made out of the flower

RANCHI: Punia Xalxo, 31, from Susai Maria Toli under Mandar Block in Ranchi earlier used to brew liquor from Mahua at her home to support her family. But now, she

ers are used in almost every tribal village to brew country-made liquor, leading to drinking menace among the tribal households. Mahua is now being

her self-dependent, but has also relieved her from the ogling and comments by men coming to her house for drinking liquor, she says. She is also inspiring other women to

lage under the same block, said, "Over the last few years, gradually the demands for Mahua laddoo has increased so much that we find it hard to fulfill it."



has started making laddoos and cakes out of the very Mahua. Torang Trust trains tribal women to make laddoos out of the Mahua flower, instead of using it to brew liquor. Notably, Mahua is a tree found in abundance in the forests of Jharkhand. Despite health benefits and medicinal values, it has become a curse for the tribal society as its flow-

used for making laddoos, cakes, pickles, jelly, and various other edible products. Punia started making Mahuva laddoos in 2017. "Earlier, it was difficult even to fulfill day-to-day household requirements through brewery business, but after I started making laddoos from Mahua, my income has increased manifold," she says. It has not only made

adopt the business and has also trained hundreds of women living in 12 villages in the neighbourhood. Currently, a group of 40 women are associated with her in making different products of Mahua like laddoos and earning up to `2 lakh by producing around 500 kg of the sweet. Another woman, Sarojini Minz (45) from Mandar vil-

Giving dignity to women According to Torang Trust president Vasavi Kiro, the initiative is not only helping tribal women become self-dependent but also helping in the eradication of alcoholism among the tribal society. "Over 1,000 women in four villages under Mandar Block are engaged in collection, processing, production and marketing of laddoo," she said.

IISER, Kolkata, Pune and Bhopal bag SERB-STAR Award for Outstanding Contributions in Field of Science

Kolkata: Dr Sayan Bhattacharya, Professor, Chemical Sciences, Indian Insti-



tute of Science Education and Research (IISER), Kolkata is one of the recipients of this year's SERB-STAR Awards. The other scientists included, Dr Rajib Kumar Goswami, Professor, Depart-



ment of Organic Chemistry, Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science, Kolkata, Dr Santanu Mukherjee, Associate Professor,



Department of Organic Chemistry, Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Dr Sutirth Dey, Professor, Department of Biology, IISER, Pune, Dr Samridhhi Sankar Ray, Professor, Department of Physical Science, International Centre for Theoretical Sciences, TIFR, Dr Hirak Chakraborty, Assis-



tant Professor, Biophysical Chemistry, Sambalpur University, Dr Pinaki Prasad Bhattacharjee, Professor, Department of Materials Science and Engineering, IIT, Hyderabad and Dr Sourav Datta, Associ-

ate Professor, Biological Sciences, IISER, Bhopal.

SERB Science and Technology Award for Research (SERB-STAR) is a prestigious award instituted by SERB (Science and Engineering Research Board, Department of Science and Technology, Government of India) to recognise and reward the outstanding performance of Principal Investigators (PIs) of SERB Projects. SERB has been supporting basic research in frontier areas of science and engineering through its various programs and schemes. The number of researchers under the ambit of SERB has increased over the years and they contribute significantly towards the progress of science and engineering in the country through their research endeavour. SERB-STAR is an initiative to acknowledge such

exemplary contributions in research and also to motivate the PIs of ongoing projects for outstanding performance.

Dr Sayan Bhattacharya's research interest comprises an interdisciplinary research on functional nanomaterials. His current research interests are: (A) Pho-

to voltaics: Nanocrystal-assisted Metal-halide Perovskite Solar Cells; (B) Electrocatalytic and Photocatalytic Hydrogen Generation, N₂ & CO₂ Reduction; (C) Zinc-air Battery and

Photorechargeable battery. Dr Rajib Kumar



Goswami's research topic is asymmetric synthesis of bioactive natural products, de-



velopment of methods for novel organic transformations and evaluation of bio-medicinal application of natural products and their variants.

Dr Santanu Mukherjee's research interests revolve around various aspects of enantioselective catalysis, with particu-



lar emphasis on the development of new catalytic enantioselective transformation.

Dr Sutirth Dey's topic of research is investigating the ecology and evolution of populations and communities.

Dr Samridhhi Sankar Ray's topic of research is the interface of non-equilibrium statistical physics and fluid dynamics. In particular, his research interests lie in fundamental and applied problems of turbulence and turbulent

transport. Dr Hirak Chakraborty's topic

deals with (i) the role of membrane compositions on the oligomerisation of

membrane-bound peptides and (ii) developing broad-spectrum peptide-based membrane fusion inhibitors.

Dr Pinaki Prasad Bhattacharjee research revolves round Crystallographic texture, deformation and restoration behaviour of metallic materials, bulk ultrafine and nanostructured materials by severe plastic deformation processes and structure-texture-property relationship in such materials and application of high resolution Electron Backscatter Diffraction (EBSD) and Transmission Electron Microscopy (TEM) techniques in materials characterisation. Dr Sourav Datta's research interest revolves round root hairs as a model to study cell growth in plants, root hairs as a tool to improve nutrient assimilation under low nutrient conditions, symbiotic interactions between root and soil microbes to enhance plant growth and productivity and the role of the B-box family of transcription factors in light signalling in plants.

Report of Vishwa Shanti Homyagna

Cuttack (KCN): Foundation Choudwar, On the auspicious organised a Cuttack district of

tion of Gayatri Parivar, Choudwar Branch. The locals joined us merrily and contributed in the programme. Local residents Shri Sagar Hembram and his wife Smt. Rabari Hembram performed the Yagya while becoming the hosts(yajmaan). It was concluded with Purnahuti & Prasadam at 2pm. Shri Janmajey Sahoo(Joint Secretary) and Shri Ashok Kumar Nayak(Karyakarta) coordinated the whole programme. Along with the villagers, other 32 people(invitee) attended the ritual.



occasion of "Vishwa Shanti Odisha. It started Margashirsh Homyagna" at on 10a.m. with Purnima 19th Bherandi Vedic mantras followed by Bhajan Sunday, Anandam Hura(Tribal Village), Agraahat, with the coordina-

MAHARISHI PLAY SCHOOL

Nurturing awareness Moulding Future

ADMISSION OPEN FOR

PLAY GROUP (2+) to Onwards

A great Place to grow @ MPS

Call now for Application:

Laugh
Play
Learn
Share

MAHARISHI PUBLIC SCHOOL

N-3 B/14-15, IRC Village,
Nayapalli, Bhubaneswar

PH. 2558884 / 2550786 / 8984600700 (M)

E-mail : maharishipublic13@yahoo.com

Find us on
facebook.com/maharishiplayschool

FOLLOW US
ON TWITTER
twitter.com/maharishiplayschool

Advent of electric vehicles creating opportunities for smaller players, new entrants, start-ups: Report

MUMBAI: The advent of electric vehicles (EVs) is causing disruptions for incumbents, while creating big opportu-

nities for smaller players, new entrants and start-ups alike, according to a report. It also said the valuations of pure EV businesses are driven by the expected pace of electrification in the segment as well as the competitive landscape in the EV segment. In the Indian context, the speed of electrification can differ sub-

stantially across segments, brokerage firm Motilal Oswal Financial Services Ltd (MOFSL) said in its report on Monday. are expected to see faster electrification — resulting in relatively lower valuations compared to e-PV original equip-

ported by high subsidies from the government, it said. According to the report, the lowest electrification in PVs is

warded companies with either tangible progress on EVs or with the likelihood of a fundraiser in the EV business, the report added. Value discovery from other OEMs making a foray into the EV space is yet to be seen. However, the EV business for these OEMs is at different stages of evolution in a nascent market, it added.

In two-wheelers, in the base case, Motilal Oswal values the EV businesses of incumbent OEMs at 2x FY27E EV/sales; while in commercial vehicles (CVs), in the base case, the report values the EV businesses of incumbent OEMs at 3x FY27E EV/sales. The brokerage firm said it believes that EVs will disrupt the ICE (internal combustion engine) segment rather than expand the underlying market and, therefore, value migration is expected from ICEs to EVs. Thus, the incumbent OEMs would see the loss in value in the existing ICE business as electrification catches up. Net value accretion could occur from the EV disruption for the incumbent OEMs

from an increase in segmental market share and/or sub-segment expansion due to inter-segmental changes, according to the report. In two-wheelers, the scooter segment is the most vulnerable to electrification as around 35 per cent EV penetration is expected by FY27E, it said.

The report added that in the domestic three-wheeler segment, it estimates EV penetration of around 19 per cent by FY27E. In CVs, the brokerage firm said it expects buses (around 23 per cent EVs by FY27E) and light commercial vehicles (around 18 per cent) to see reasonable EV penetration by FY27E.

According to the report, globally, pure EV OEMs are richly valued, driven by the expectation of rapid value migration from ICEs to EVs across segments. Even in India, the recent fundraisings in the EV segment have been at rich valuations for businesses that are at their nascent stage of evolution, it stated.

Markets have also re-

expected due to the lack of the FAME-2 subsidy for personal use and the need for extensive charging infrastructure. It stated that India is still in the early stages of electrification across segments and there has been a de-rating of some stocks in the 2W space due to the risk of electrification.

This will be supported by high subsidies from the government, it said. According to the report, the lowest electrification in PVs is



nities for smaller players, new entrants and start-ups alike, according to a report. It also said the valuations of pure EV businesses are driven by the expected pace of electrification in the segment as well as the competitive landscape in the EV segment. In the Indian context, the speed of electrification can differ sub-

stantially across segments, brokerage firm Motilal Oswal Financial Services Ltd (MOFSL) said in its report on Monday. are expected to see faster electrification — resulting in relatively lower valuations compared to e-PV original equip-

ported by high subsidies from the government, it said. According to the report, the lowest electrification in PVs is

warded companies with either tangible progress on EVs or with the likelihood of a fundraiser in the EV business, the report added. Value discovery from other OEMs making a foray into the EV space is yet to be seen. However, the EV business for these OEMs is at different stages of evolution in a nascent market, it added.

In two-wheelers, in the base case, Motilal Oswal values the EV businesses of incumbent OEMs at 2x FY27E EV/sales; while in commercial vehicles (CVs), in the base case, the report values the EV businesses of incumbent OEMs at 3x FY27E EV/sales. The brokerage firm said it believes that EVs will disrupt the ICE (internal combustion engine) segment rather than expand the underlying market and, therefore, value migration is expected from ICEs to EVs. Thus, the incumbent OEMs would see the loss in value in the existing ICE business as electrification catches up. Net value accretion could occur from the EV disruption for the incumbent OEMs

COVID-19: World Economic Forum? defers Davos Annual Meeting 2022 due to Omicron outbreak

NEW DELHI/GENEVA: The World Economic Forum on Monday said it has decided to defer its Annual Meet-

entity, which describes itself as an international organisation for public-private cooperation, had first planned

benefited from the close collaboration of the Swiss government at all levels," it said. The WEF said de-

Executive Chairman of the World Economic Forum.

"Public-private cooperation has moved forward throughout



ing 2022 in the Swiss Alpine ski resort town of Davos in the light of continued uncertainty over the Omicron outbreak. The Annual Meeting, which was scheduled to take place in Davos-Klosters, Switzerland between January 17-21, 2022, is now planned for early summer.

The World Economic Forum (WEF) held its last Davos summit, attended by top leaders from across the world, in January 2020, just before the outbreak of the coronavirus pandemic, while the 2021 meeting could not take place due to the outbreak. The Geneva-based

to shift the 2021 annual meeting to another location in Switzerland and then to Singapore, before finally cancelling it. In a statement on deferring the 2022 meeting to early summer, the WEF said participants will instead join a headline series of 'State of the World' sessions bringing together global leaders online to focus on shaping solutions to the world's most pressing challenges.

"Current pandemic conditions make it extremely difficult to deliver a global in-person meeting. Preparations have been guided by expert advice and have

spite the meeting's stringent health protocols, the transmissibility of the Omicron variant of COVID-19 and its impact on travel and mobility have made deferral necessary. "The health and safety of everyone involved in physical meetings -- participants, collaborators and the host community -- have always been the Forum's priority," it said. "The deferral of the Annual Meeting will not prevent progress through continued digital convening of leaders from business, government and civil society," said Professor Klaus Schwab, founder and

the pandemic and that will continue apace. We look forward to bringing global leaders together in person soon," he added. Among others, more than 100 leaders from India, including union ministers, chief ministers and CEOs, had already been registered for the Davos Annual Meeting 2022, for which 'Working Together, Restoring Trust' was decided as a theme. It was billed as the 'first truly global opportunity for leaders from business, government and civil society to come together again and set the agenda for a sustainable recovery' in a post-pandemic world.

Executive Chairman of the World Economic Forum.

"Public-private cooperation has moved forward throughout

37,000 landless families still on wait list for PMAY aid

Continued from page-1

are the poorest of poor, the government had decided to modify the existing norms to either regularise the land under their occupation or find suitable land to accommodate them. "It is easier said than done. It needs a policy decision. Departments whose land is under unauthorised occupation can not take any decision without approval of the government," sources familiar with land laws said. The district collectors are also facing difficulty in identifying suitable land in areas where these landless families are required to be accommodated, they added.

As the delay in allotment of housing plots to landless families is defeating the cause of 'Housing for All by 2022', the Ministry of Rural Development had instructed the State government to buy land for these poor people. Similar is the problem for sanction of housing assistance to the 8,575 PVTG families who are residing on forest land. "The State government has distributed a record number of land pattas to forest dwelling scheduled tribes and other traditional forest dwellers under Forest Rights Act. Allotment of land for these 8,575 people should not be a big deal. This shows the lack of concern of the district administrations," said tribal BJP MLA Mohan Majhi.

Housing help

State claims 4 decimal residential plot each given to 21,059 landless families since June 2020

57,257 homestead landless families in waiting list for allotment of housing plots last year 36,198 families still residing in houses build on govt lands

Death toll rises to 375, 56 missing after Typhoon Rai slams Philippines

Continued from page-1

Many more would have died if thousands of residents had not been evacuated from high-risk villages.

Dinagat and several other typhoon-hit provinces remained without electricity and communications and many residents needed construction materials, food and water. Bag-a-o and other provincial officials travelled to nearby regions that had cellphone signals to seek aid and coordinate recovery efforts with the national government.

More than 700,000 people were lashed by the typhoon in central island provinces, including more than 400,000 who had to be moved to emergency shelters. Thousands of residents were rescued from flooded villages, including in Loboc town in hard-hit Bohol province, where residents were trapped on roofs and in trees where they went to escape the rising floodwaters.

Coast guard ships ferried 29 American, British, Canadian, Swiss, Russian, Chinese and other tourists who were stranded on Siargao Island, a popular surfing destination that was devastated by the typhoon, officials said.

Emergency crews were working to restore electricity in 227 cities and towns, officials said. Power had been restored in only 21 areas so far. Cellphone connections in more than 130 cities and towns were cut by the typhoon but at least 106 had been reconnected by Monday, officials said. Two local airports remained closed except for emergency flights, but most others have reopened, the civil aviation agency said.

Bag-a-o and other officials were concerned that their provinces may run out of fuel, which was in high demand because of the use of temporary power generators, including those used for refrigerated warehouses with large amounts of coronavirus vaccine stocks. Officials delivered vaccine shipments to many provinces for an intensified immunization campaign, which was postponed last week due to the typhoon.

At the Vatican, Pope Francis expressed his closeness to the people of the Philippines on Sunday, referencing the typhoon "that destroyed many homes."

About 20 tropical storms and typhoons annually batter the Philippines, which lies between the Pacific Ocean and the South China Sea. It also lies along the seismically active Pacific "Ring of Fire" region, making it one of the world's most disaster-prone countries.

13 teams, 11 cities: I-League manages to stay relevant as it kicks off under ISL shadow

KOCHI: "We are very optimistic that we are in the right direction to create the right structure for In-

narratives. Whether it was Aizawl FC's title triumph or Real Kashmir's emergence.

And two years after that, there is a clear promotion and relegation and that is the plan agreed by all the

cited for the new season and hope it goes down to the wire like last time. The addition of new teams

plan to take the league back to stadiums across the country on a home and away basis.

"Having teams from various states and cities would do wonders to that particular state or city. Especially once we are back to normal and have home and away matches, I think it will do great things for fans in that particular city or state and that should really help Indian football," said Das.

The league will be kickstarted with TRAU taking on Indian Arrows followed by defending champions Gokulam Kerala FC facing Churchill Brothers.



dian football." These were the words of All India Football Federation General Secretary Kunal Das during a pre-tournament media interaction on Monday ahead of the 2021-22 I-League.

At the onset of the Indian Super League back in 2014, the direction of Indian football, especially the I-League was in serious doubt. Over the years, however, the two competitions have managed to co-exist, thanks largely because the I-League has managed to stay relevant because of its competitiveness and diversity that helped heartwarming

The new season of the I-League is set to kick off on December 26, and once again, questions about the relevance of India's once premier football competition re-surface inevitably. Das is bullish that the I-League has its own place in the Indian football spectrum, especially with the introduction of promotion to the ISL from 2023 onwards.

"There is a roadmap now which kicks in from the 2023-24 season whereby the winner of the I-League will play in the ISL on sporting merit, thereby increasing the number of teams in the ISL.

stakeholders. And at the moment, we are completely in sync with that plan," said Das.

The new I-League will feature 13 teams from as many as 11 cities. And for the first time, a team from Rajasthan will be participating in the I-League with Rajasthan United taking part in the tournament having won the I-League qualifiers earlier this year.

Sreenidi Deccan FC and Kenkre FC also bring added diversity to the I-League as there is representation from across the length and breadth of the country.

"I am extremely ex-

from Rajasthan, Mumbai and the Deccan region will give more chances to players from different regions. We have done well to spread the league across the country after the initial years of multiple teams coming from Kolkata, Goa and Mumbai," said I-League CEO Dhar. One of the hallmarks of the I-League over the years has been its tendency to go down to the wire with titles getting decided on the final day of the season. Das suggested that once the situation improves when it comes to the coronavirus pandemic, the organisers

FIR against Pakistan leg-spinner Yasir Shah for helping friend, who molested girl

KARACHI: Police have registered an FIR against Pakistan Test leg-spinner Yasir Shah and his friend on the allegations of

The Pakistan cricketer is yet to respond on the issue.

In the FIR, the girl has alleged that Yasir's friend, Farhan

later with Farhan threatened her that if she raised any voice they would release her videos.

According to the

about the whole issue.

The girl also claims that when she went to the police Yasir offered to give her a flat



kidnapping, molesting and threatening a girl. The FIR was registered at the Shalimar police station in Lahore after the girl complained.

kidnapped her on gunpoint, raped her, made videos of her and later made threats to her.

The girl has alleged that Yasir Shah helped his friend and

complaint filed with the police, the girl says when she contacted Yasir on whatsapp pleading for his help he laughed at her and told her to keep quiet

and monthly expenses for 18 years if she remained quiet. Yasir didn't travel to Bangladesh for the recent Test series as he is nursing a finger injury.

PV Sindhu appointed BWF's Athletes' Commission member

NEW DELHI: India's two-time Olympic medallist shuttler PV Sindhu (CHN)," the BWF said in a statement.



The Chair and Deputy Chair will be decided among the six members.

"The new Commission will meet soon and decide the Chair and Deputy Chair of the Commission amongst the six members.

The Chair of the BWF Athletes' Commission, following a vetting process as required for all Council members, will become a member of Council until the next elections in 2025," the BWF added.

Sindhu, who won the silver medal at the Rio Olympics in 2016, created history by bagging the bronze medal in the Tokyo Games earlier this year.

At the prestigious world championships, Sindhu has won two silvers, besides two bronze and the coveted gold in 2019.




2021-2022

ADMISSION OPEN

Maharishi Public School, Baripada

STD-NURSERY TO VIII

ENROLL YOUR CHILD TODAY

(Special discount for new admission before 15.03.2021)

- Find the Difference**
- Small Classes
- Experienced, trained & loving teachers.
- Individual attention to each child.
- Regular meditation and yoga.
- Unique exam system, evaluation & Principles etc.

25% reservation as per RTE Act (2009)

MAHARISHI PUBLIC SCHOOL
Baghra Road, Baripada
For details
Contact :
Call-9438102188, 06792-255227
Time : 8.00 A.M. to 12.00 noon
E-mail- mps.bpd@gmail.com

Find us on
Facebook.com/Mps, Baripada