

CM launches Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch The Rain Campaign

IT News
Imphal, March 29:

Chief Minister N. Biren Singh today launched the Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch The Rain Campaign- 2022 for Manipur State at a simple programme held at the Chief Minister's Secretariat. The Campaign aims for intensive water conservation measures in the identified water stressed blocks and districts across the country.



Speaking on the occasion, N. Biren Singh stated that the campaign would be taken up in all districts of the State with the theme "Catch the Rain, where it falls, when it falls" and the campaign would be implemented from 29th March till 30th November, 2022. Continuing that our elders were more careful about rain water harvesting and conserving

water, he stressed the need to set up rain water harvesting methods in all Government Offices, Schools and Colleges. He continued that the harvested water could be stored and treated for use in the particular area.

The Chief Minister also mentioned that water conservation is much related to the Green Manipur Mission of the

State Government and would help in maintenance of cleanliness in the State. Therefore, Water Conservation work and Green Manipur Mission should be taken up simultaneously, he added. Expressing dissatisfaction on large-scale deforestation for poppy plantation in hill areas, he stated that the State Government had started taking up measures for

tree plantation to conserve forest areas.

He informed that the Water Resources Department would be the Nodal Department for carrying out the campaign. As a part of the Campaign, Jal Shakti Kendras would be set up in all districts of the State and added that the kendras would act as knowledge centres for disseminating informa-

tion related to techniques for water conservation. He further stated that special focus would be made in mapping of springs and springs shed and its rejuvenation and management. He also expressed the necessity for involvement of Sarpanches, Zila Parishads, Pradhans and ADC Members among others for successful implementation of the Campaign.

The Chief Minister further stated that the sensitization process of Kendriya Vidyalayas, Navodaya Sangathan and Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRS) on the campaign would be taken up on priority basis. Deputy Commissioners would proactively lead the Campaign in their respective districts and progress of works and activities undertaken would be updated regularly, he added.

contd. on page 4

The Editorial: Hundred tasks in hundred days

The N. Biren Singh 2.0 government in Manipur, in its first cabinet meeting, has adopted "100 tasks in the first 100 days" which include measures to make the state free from drugs, corruption and try to establish peace by reaching out to various insurgent groups. The cabinet meeting, chaired by Chief Minister N. Biren Singh on Tuesday also decided to advance the timing of government offices to 9am instead of 10 am at present. It was also decided to adopt a five - day-a-week work schedule in state government offices. The cabinet decided to increase working hours while cutting working days. Office work will start at 9 am. To sync with school timing and enable proper home assignment as well as ease traffic congestion, school timing will also change with classes starting at 8 am. The new system will improve output and productivity of government servants by providing much needed rest and rejuvenation on weekends. It will also enable adequate time for school children to productively use afternoon hours.

In order to fulfill its pre-poll promise of making Manipur corruption free, the cabinet decided to revive the anti-corruption cell in Chief Minister's office, to be headed by an officer of the rank of Additional SP. "CM da Haisi" initiative will be transformed as part of the Anti-Corruption Cell, with toll-free numbers made available for the public to send complaints. Vigilance and Anti-Corruption department will act on actionable complaints received in the Anti-Corruption Cell within a deadline. No person including any member of the public, will be spared if found to be giving or taking bribe. The cabinet also resolved to make Manipur drug free. An IGP rank police officer will lead the Anti-Narcotics Task Force. Anti-Narcotics Division will be strengthened by posting manpower of integrity. Poppy plantation areas will be identified through satellite mapping and drone surveys. The cabinet resolved to pursue lasting peace for the State by reaching out to various armed groups operating in the region. With a view to reducing the hardship faced by beneficiaries of housing schemes of PMAY in urban and rural areas on account of Central scheme guidelines, the cabinet also decided to set up a corpus fund for releasing advance money to beneficiaries to enable them to start housing construction without waiting for the release of the first installment from the center etc. are among hundred tasks for hundred days. The intention is excellent but how will it be implemented successfully is still in dilemma in chronic infested state like Manipur. Let's wait and watch the good result to come out and hope it shouldn't be what is called 'HINGCHABI NA SARI SAKPA' (Band Aid Solution).'

contd. on page 4

NESO appeals SAPO and AAMYA to lift shut down called

IT News
Imphal, March 29:

The North East Students' Organisation (NESO) which comprises of the Khasi Students' Union (KSU), All Assam Students' Union (AASU), Naga Students' Federation (NSF), MizoZirlai Pawl (MZP), Twipra Students' Federation (TSF), All Manipur Students' Union (AMSU), Garo Students' Union (GSU) and All Arunachal Pradesh Students' Union (AAPSU) representing eight major students movement in the seven North Eastern states has expressed anguish and serious

concern over the situation arising at the border along the Nagaland-Manipur boundary. A statement said that the indefinite shut down called by the Southern Angami Peoples Organisation (SAPO) along the National Highway No.2 (Dimapur - Imphal road) which is the lifeline of Manipur and the adjoining areas since 23rd March, 2022 on the demand that Manipur Government should withdraw its armed personnel from Kezoltsa Area has deteriorated the situation in the adjoining areas and of Manipur.

UKLF Celebrates 27th Rising Day

IT News
Imphal, March 29:

The United Kuki Liberation Front (UKLF) Government of Khulmigam celebrates its 27th Rising Day at its designated Nazareth camp GHQ, Muvanphoi in Chandel District Today. The United Kuki Liberation Front (UKLF) celebrated the 27th Rising Day in commemoration of its formation at Designated Camp "Nazareth" in Chandel District, Manipur in simple yet meaningful.

The function attended by SS Haokip Chairman UKLF, Lt. Col. Khupmang Home Secretary UKLF, Kt Misao Vice-chairman UKLF, Col. Kennedy Chairman 27th Rising Day Committee, various Village Chief and CSOs from



Chandel and Tengnoupal District.

SS Haokip Chairman UKLF hoisted the organisation's flag and received guard of honour followed by chanting of the outfit's anthem. After that, he led the gathering in Two minutes silent observance in re-

contd. on page 4

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Powering India's Schools via North-East route

Talking Points

Narvijay Yadav



Covid pandemic has done a lot of harm to the school education in India and other nations of the world. When things are normalizing, innovators are coming up with bright ideas to bridge the gaps

created by the lockdowns in the last two years, when educational institutions remained closed and students missed the classroom experience. One such initiative is Neeve – Powering India's Education app, which powers new age online learning for students; engages parents and simplifies teacher's tasks. Ms Kimjhim Ray, co-founder of Spotle.ai and board member, Wise Owl, says, "My portfolio company has just launched an India exam portal where all state governments will conduct their school tests online. Over 25000 students across Sikkim have enrolled to take their secondary school tests on Neeve app. This is a revolution as now secondary school students can be assessed through adaptive tests online delivering real-time analytics to state, centre and local administration, schools and teachers helping roll out remedial learning. Imagine what this can do to address learning gaps and elevate the level of education across India." With Beas Bhowmik and Joyati B the vision is just beginning as Neeve readies to be the school education portal made for India. With strong tech and low cost product innovations, this dream can become a reality.

Another visionary educationist Dr Sunita Gandhi from Lucknow, UP, has introduced a new "pedagogy" to bridge kids' learning loss of two Covid years. She has developed a Global Dream Toolkit to help the children learn faster and to cover their learning loss of two pandemic years. The toolkit incorporates the Accelerating Learning for All (ALFA) pedagogy. A demonstration of the ALFA system was done by a group of kids who travelled from Lucknow to the Press Club of India in Delhi. The kids read out the day's newspapers fluently. They also demonstrated their one grade up mathematical skills. These skills were learned by these children in just 30 hours over three months. In this system, the kids are asked to read words and sentences directly instead of wasting their time on learning letters or numbers. They decode the letters by themselves.

Dr Gandhi, a PhD in Physics from Cambridge University, UK; and a former Economist at the World Bank, says, "The classic problem in education has been that of speed. Our system counters the notion that it takes three years to make a child capable of reading words and learning basic numeracy. When children learn rapidly, it expands capacities, and creates new possibilities. The world can now become literate in months, not years. Education is a global emergency and urgent action is required." She wants policy-makers to ensure foundational literacy and numeracy (FLN) for all children, and do it within this year using disruptive methods to learn quickly. Each study module of ALFA follows the do it yourself method, where children learn on their own and teachers do not really teach, but prompt the children to their tasks. Universal literacy and numeracy is a sustainable development goal. According to UNICEF, education loss is nearly unsurmountable. In low and middle income countries, learning losses due to school closures have left up to 70% of 10-year-olds unable to read or understand simple text, up from 53% pre-pandemic.

The formation of the child's mind



By - Harkirat Kaur

The Heart of small children is very tender. The minds of little children are as tender and lovely as flowers. Childhood is a stage in which the child's psyche is not yet fully strengthened, his consciousness is still developing and then he will develop. Children are more capable of absorbing any habit than a developed human being. His urge to use things, to be prevented from doing the same thing ... his curiosity to do the same thing is many times more intense.

For parents, their children's childhood is the biggest responsibility. The home environment, the behavior of the family members, the interests of the parents, the actions of the parents are very important. We all know that at this stage children understand the meaning of things less but always try to learn them. Childhood habits play a huge role in shaping a person's personality. At this stage family members should take care of many things, such as never fighting in front of the children, never using bad language, making the children listen to Gurbani. The home should be run smoothly in the family, everything should be done in a planned way so that the child's mind can be developed in the same way. I have seen a lot of parents arguing in front of their children without any thought then when no demand or need of the child is met then the child's brain behaves exactly like he saw his family members. Happens. Many homes have a habit of swearing, which has a very negative effect on the child's personality.

In infancy the child takes the actions around him very seriously. Sometimes children become disobedient due to lack of proper guidance and attention. In such cases parents should use aesthetics to deal with their children, never scold their children more than necessary, by doing so many weak hearted children instill in their parents such fear that they will be open with their parents for life. Don't get it and are always hesitant about it.

Parents must read Gurbani, books in front of the children so that the mindset of the children develops in such a way that they start reading books. Parents should use mobile at least in front of their children. Keep their mind focused on Gurbani, books and nature.

Here are some ways in which having a child can help you create a better mental image. Childhood plays a big role in how a child behaves when he or she grows up. The behavior of family members comes to the forefront in shaping the minds of children because children want to know more about what we do than what we say. Children need a lot of parental support to shape their minds.

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Myanmar-Bangladesh Military Diplomacy can help solve Rohingya refugee crisis

By: Jubeda Chowdhury

Although Bangladesh and Myanmar are two neighboring countries having 271 kilometers of the international boundary, the Rohingya refugee crisis is a long-pending bilateral problem between Myanmar-Bangladesh. But a fruitful political engagement of both concerned parties is very necessary to help solve this regional humanitarian crisis. Military diplomacy between Myanmar and Bangladesh can be an effective tool to find a sustainable political solution.

The world knows that more than 1 million Rohingya refugees have taken refuge in Bangladesh in 2017. Bangladesh has sheltered these refugees for humanitarian ground. The Rohingya refugee's crisis needs to be resolved for ensuring regional stability.

However, military diplomacy has long been one of the essential constituents of international diplomacy and an effective methodology, to foster bilateral and regional relationships. Military diplomacy is a unique technique used by numerous countries to protect their national interests and boost their diplomatic standing in the international arena, and its influence and application are growing in today's globe. Bangladesh must use military-diplomatic diplomacy and activism to settle the Rohingya situation. Bangladesh and Myanmar have several advantages and possibilities in this regard.

There is a vast scope for the bilateral relationship between the Myanmar military and the Bangladesh military. There are a number of areas where the two countries may cooperate and work together; the key area being the improvement of relations. Rohingya refugee crisis solution can be an important sector of cooperation that can be resolved through military

diplomacy.

Myanmar, a country that was ruled by the military for several decades, the military-to-military interactions with other countries are important for Myanmar. Bangladesh's military should also strengthen its ties with Tatmadaw. Tatmadaw) should also foster their ties with the Bangladesh military for ensuring common bilateral interest.

Myanmar's military can work together with Bangladesh's military to broaden the scope of its relations and can explore deeper cooperation in areas such as counter-insurgency, counter-terrorism, Bangla-language skills, Burmese-language skills, joint naval and air exercises, and intelligence sharing in combating the traditional and non-traditional threats in the Bay of Bengal region. The two military forces can strengthen mutual cooperation such as training exchanges, intelligence sharing, joint patrolling along the Myanmar-Bangladesh border in countering trans-border crimes such as illegal arms trade, drug trafficking, human trafficking, etc.

Exchanging military delegation between Bangladesh and Myanmar can pave the path in resolving bilateral disputes with each other. Both parties can exchange and share their experience, expertise to deal with some common bilateral problems. Exchanging military training between the two-armed forces can help enhance the operational capabilities of both parties. Combined military exercise, UN peacekeeping operation (UNPKO) training, disaster management cooperation, exchanging programs, senior-level visits and medical cooperation, sports event, adventure activities, military tourism, joint cycling expedition, and adventure

training are some kinds of sectors of cooperation.

Military officers can be trained bilaterally to boost diplomatic relations. Bangladesh has military training institutes that meet international standards. Army officers from all around the world come to train here. Most senior officers of the country's armed services, for example, are trained in our country.

Myanmar is Bangladesh's sole adjacent country after India; hence its strategic significance is apparent for Bangladesh. Myanmar and Bangladesh have to make every effort, both bilaterally and multilaterally, to address the ongoing Rohingya problem. The military wields enormous power in Myanmar's government. As a result, any attempt to resolve the problem without the participation of the country's military would be futile. If the military of Bangladesh and Myanmar had already established a close professional connection, that relationship could have been put to good use in resolving the current issue.

For example, Bangladesh's then Chief of Army Staff, Gen. Aziz Ahmed, began his four-day visit to Myanmar in 2019. The purpose of the visit was to improve the existing military ties of both countries and find out the scopes of cooperation with each other. General Aziz's visit to Myanmar was a high-profile military visit from Bangladesh after more than five years. Former Chief of Bangladesh Army Gen. Iqbal Karim Bhuiyan visited Myanmar in 2014 to discuss issues including trans-border crimes and human trafficking between the two countries. On the other hand, U Ne Win, President of the Socialist Republic of the Union of Burma (Myanmar), arrived in Dhaka on 26

April 1974 for a four-day official visit. The then Commander in Chief of the Myanmar Air Force, Lt. General Myat Hein, arrived in Dhaka on a six-day visit to Bangladesh in 2011. However, these types of visits of high officials are essential for both Myanmar and Bangladesh to foster the ties for better bilateral understanding.

Myanmar defense officers participated in different training institutions in Bangladesh such as the National Defense College and Defense Service Command and Staff College (DSCSC) in the Past. But these training exchanges must be resumed for ensuring better interest. Thus, Bangladesh and Myanmar should proactively offer more training facilities to each other.

Joint initiatives taken by the two militaries can pave the way to bolster the ties between the two neighbors. Improved ties between the Bangladesh military and Myanmar military can smoothen the ties resolving the long pending issues such as the Rohingya refugee crisis, maritime dispute, border-related trans-border crimes.

Basically, the members of the armed forces of both Myanmar and Bangladesh should have a frequent exchange of visits, training, and joint exercise. These will reduce mistrust and enhance confidence and understanding. This can also help solve the long-pending Rohingya refugee crisis in the region.

On the environmental front, Basically, Tatmadaw and Bangladesh military can work together to mitigate the risk of regional environmental degradation through joint disaster management systems, operations, initiatives. Cyclone Nargis in 2008 was the best example to understand it.

contd. on page 3

Boundless Agony



By: M.R. Lalu

Addressing a joint session of the US Congress via a video link, Ukraine's president Volodymyr Zelenskyy requested the lawmakers to help his country fight the Russian aggression. Asking for an enforcement of a no-fly zone and supplies of weapons, he probably made the world know about the last attempt of retaliation his country was planning to make. Surrounded by the Russian force, Ukraine's capital Kyiv at any time from now would come to its knees. This war has almost crushed the tiny nation with no scope of return in its recent future. What can a war be defined as? Maybe there are many definitions that we can quote from. But no definition is genuinely capable to justify the destruction and calamity a war can inflict. War, in many ways, is an attempt to draw justice lines between the winner and the loser. World history without the history of wars does not make it complete and realistic. As Putin's Russia pounced on Ukraine spitting fire from the skies, a toothless Biden looked on with the magic wand of sanctions in his hands and the rest of the world reacted with little cough and sneeze and some countries like India chose to take a diplomatic nap. This is the present situation.

Whatever, wars hold the potentiality to not only bring catastrophe in the blink of an eye, but their shattering effects remain for long. In the case of Russia and Ukraine, both will be susceptible to the effect of a 'shake after the fall' and the subsequent horror of silence. What next? Is it the end of human history? Probably not. Every war is capable of bringing a halt to human progress but definitely it takes a new turn, a new beginning. Just before the invasion began did the world take a sigh of relief from the deadly pandemic. People across the globe witnessed massive shortages of resources, disruptions and

price inflation pushing millions to die an unholly death without being able to receive even the last rites as per their religious norms. Countless unidentified dead bodies thrown into pits with an unceremonious burial being awarded to them, with no remorse of any kind, except one thing which was universal and common for everyone and that was death. Without being discriminative on the rich and the poor, it gained an acceptance of identity realizing that it was the only phenomenon that everybody was equally eligible to come across.

Now the world is once again paying for the ruthlessness that it is drowned in, with the essence of humanity probably shrinking to the level of an outmoded perception. With the war barely showing any sign to settle, energy prices are sure to skyrocket. Common man around the world is once again deemed to pay a heavy price for his innocence and the unpardonable silence on the wrath that the war is all about. The most disruptive question is, between the pandemic and the war, which one is going to ruin the world substantially, though a large part of the world does not directly come under the fire of Putin's missiles. Shelled, fired and destroyed to the last brick, the land of Ukraine will lie screaming and yelling at the world with an excruciating shudder, raising the most significant question ever, as why the powerful international conglomerations to protect human rights and ensure safety, failed to gain peace for it. The Russian troops are targeting its hospitals, schools, and residential areas with millions of innocent Ukrainians crying for international aid and a safe evacuation. More alarming is the re-

quirement of food and medicine and other essential commodities without which human life is at a standstill.

Zelenskyy's symbolic repudiation has accelerated the damage that his country is suffering. A puppet government is what the Russian invasion's immediate achievement is predicted as going to be. For the rebuilding of Ukraine and its massive infrastructure requirement, the invader would also have to find more resources than what he may actually have in his country's exchequer. This is going to cause severe economic imbalance in Russia too. Every war with its catastrophic destruction would make the world take charge of the massive exodus that it triggers. Unfortunately, the mental agony of the families that got separated and whose dreams terribly squeezed under the wreckage would go for years. And to the soldiers, who took part in the war and managed to pull through, would undergo huge mental and physical health issues disrupting the congeniality of their families. It is not only the direct victim who suffers the negatives of the war, but the one who pugnauciously invaded also would undergo the same situation. To put words into perspective, for Putin, his blitzkrieg is a corrective step that he is taking on an unruly brother who seemed to have had a provocative derailment. And the war is an action in the direction of the liberation of a tiny nation from its Eurocentric impulsion. One thing is sure, Ukraine is at the brink of an egregious collapse. It seems to have been overenthusiastic to grab an access to NATO for which it is paying a heavy price shedding blood and tears. Though the Ukrainian president, an antithesis

to Putin, promised to withdraw his country's plan, Russia is committed to continue its authoritarian hostility.

Failing to stretch an open and adequate defense aid to Ukraine, the west and the western press has dared a hero out of Zelenskyy, who dared to stand face to face against the Russian tyranny. Ukraine's dilemma is, it is deeply geographically befuddled between its gigantic neighbor and the European conglomeration.

With my intense pursuit of the latest development on war, what literally surprised me was a Ukrainian soldier with weapons in his hands, was reciting a verse from the Bhagavad Gita to a media person from India. The verse was Lord Krishna's words to a rattled Arjuna at the warfront of Kurukshetra trying to raise him from the mental decline that he had fallen into. Krishna said "O Son of Kunti, either you will be killed on the battlefield and attain the heavenly planets, or you will conquer and enjoy the earthly kingdom. Therefore, get up and fight with determination."

The soldier found this verse the best and accurate for him to rely on, as he stands up against the acrimony of the invader with a readiness to embrace death or win a war for his country. The spirit to kill and die fighting the "peacekeeping duties" of Mr. Putin, is the highest mission that the Ukrainians are involved in. The world is still clueless on the turn that the war is potential to take and probably unprepared to face its nasty effects beyond borders. Every war is a reminder to the people, a lesson, that the dream for a new paradise never comes from turning their living space a hell. Now let us eagerly wait for what our gigantic neighbor, the dragon, has in its mind. Is Taiwan an easy catch for the dragon or is it India it can easily middle with?

(The writer is a Freelance Journalist/Social Worker)

The Lodha Committee invites claims for refund from duped investors

Rs 57,927 crore are required to refund the money to 5.79 crore investors

By Raju Vernekar
Mumbai, March 29:

Justice (retired) R M Lodha Committee, set up by the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI), to sell the assets of the defunct Pearls Agrotech Corporation Limited (PACL) and refund money to nearly six crore duped investors across India, has invited claims from the investors by June end. The Nodal officer-cum-secretary, of the Committee, vide Public notice dated March 27, 2022 has asked eligible investors with claims between Rs 10,001/- to Rs 15,000/- to submit their original certificates issued by PACL, for refund. To this end the SMS shall be sent to the original investors asking them to submit original PACL registration certificates, the notice stated.

"The PACL investors who receive SMS from the committee requiring submission of original certificates issued to them by PACL, are requested to forward the same to: Post Box No 66, Belapur Post Office, Navi Mumbai - 400614. The investors should send only original PACL certificates in the envelope and certificate number should be written on top of the envelope".

"The window for accepting original certificates shall remain open from April 01, 2022 to June 30, 2022. They should ensure that the original PACL registration certificates should reach the address referred above on or before 5.00 pm of June 30, 2022. Further, investors are cautioned against parting with their original PACL registration certificates unless SMS is received from the committee, requiring submission of original certificates", states the notice.

However according to Vishal Mhetre, Secretary of the Janhit Association, spearheading the cause of the duped investors, the invitation to submit original PACL certificate is fraught with infirmities. The committee is yet to declare the details of the money refunded by it to the investors till now. Besides, its process of auctioning PACL's attached properties is very slow and it does not serve as a deterrent against the PACL, which has already sold some of its properties despite the committee attaching them. Also the com-

mittee has not declared the updated details of the amount recovered from the sale of PACL's properties.

As per SEBI, out of 1.50 crore claims, it refunded **Rs. 438.34 crore** to 12,70,849 eligible applicants as of March 31, 2021.

Now the Committee has asked for the original PACL certificates that to through a post office. No one knows who will bear the responsibility-SEBI, Lodha Committee or Supreme Court, if the original certificates are lost in transit. The Committee has apparently entrusted the job of certificate collection to an outside party as it had done in Chennai in 2017. As such abundant precaution is required in the certificate collection, Mhetre said.

But most important aspect is whether the committee has enough funds to manage the refunds. Because the amount required to refund investors' money is mind-boggling. The Committee in its report submitted to the Supreme Court in 2016 had stated that Rs 47,154 crore would be required to refund 2.21 crore investors falling under Rs 10,000 and above category alone.

The money to be refunded

The committee has enlisted the refund expenditure as: **Rs 01-Rs 1500 investment** -the number of investors-1,07,87,560—amount required Rs 832,76,79,808 (**Rs 832 crore**), **Rs 1501-Rs 2500 investment** -the number of investors-35,14,464—amount required Rs 717,26,30,940 (**Rs 717 crore**), **Rs 2501-Rs.5000 investment** -the number of investors-58,59,211—amount required Rs 21,15,53,86,880 (**Rs 2115 crore**), **Rs 5001-Rs.7500 investment** -the number of investors-46,18,007—amount required Rs 28,91,45,78,384 (**Rs 2891 crore**), **Rs 7501-Rs.10,000 investment** -the number of investors-45,78,735—amount required Rs 42,15,71,62,382 (**Rs 4215 crore**) and **Rs 10,000 and above investment** -the number of investors-2,21,43,059—amount required Rs 4,71,54,54,58,130 (**Rs 47,154 crore**). **Total number of investors-5,15,01,036** -the amount to be refunded - **Rs 5,79,27,28,96,523.50 (Rs 57,927 crore)**.

Under these circumstances the speedier disposal of

PACL's properties is the only solution. As against this, due to lack of supervision the attached properties are being sold clandestinely by those associated with PACL keeping the Committee in the dark. Some of the properties have been leased out to third parties, Mhetre said.

Hearing in the Supreme Court

In another development different appeals, interlocutory applications and petitions, including the report on the sale of PACL properties submitted by the Lodha Committee, are scheduled for hearing on March 31, 2022 in the Supreme Court. They include: Civil appeal (No 13301/2015) Subrata Bhattacharya Vs SEBI and (appeal No 13394/2015) PACL Vs SEBI.

Sale of PACL Properties and revenue earned

As per SEBI's records, the R M Lodha Committee has been able to recover **Rs 937.65 crore** from PACL from different modes, including the sale of its properties. The PACL's property worth Rs 27,000 crore spread across the country, is being sold in different stages by the SEBI. The Committee has attached the bank/ Demat accounts of 640 associate companies of PACL. It realized **Rs 98.45 crore** from the FDRs of PACL and its associates and also recovered **Rs.308.04 crore** lying in PACL's bank accounts. In addition the Committee received **Rs.52,77,597/-** from the Collector Land Acquisition, Punjab, as compensation towards to acquisition of properties of PACL. Of 27500 properties of PACL, the Committee was able to sell only 113 properties (although the auction process was completed for 872 properties) and could generate **Rs. 89 Crore**. Also, the Committee realized **Rs. 14.64 crore**, by auction of 75 PACL vehicles.

Australian connection

Besides, Justice Lee of the Federal Court of Australia (FCA) on 03 June 2020, directed the McCullough Robertson, a trust set up PACL, to deposit US\$ 79 million (**Rs 427 crore**) (realized from the sale of its assets in Australia), into the R M Lodha's Committee's account in Australia. The directions were given in response to pe-

tion (No QUD No 147/2017) filed on March 17, 2017 by SEBI against Miireosorts Group 1 Pty Limited, a venture of Pearls Australasia Mirage 1 Pty Limited.

Amount refunded so far

As per SEBI, out of 1.50 crore claims, it refunded **Rs. 438.34 crore** to 12,70,849 eligible applicants as of March 31, 2021.

PACL's History

PACL was incorporated on February 13, 1996, in Jaipur (Rajasthan). In response to investors' complaints, the SEBI asked PACL to wind up on August 22, 2014 and refund investors' money within three months. Simultaneously the CBI filed an FIR against PACL in 2014. The SEBI attached the PACL's properties on December 11, 2015. The CBI arrested PACL CMD Bhangoo, promoter-director Sukhdev Singh, directors- Gurmeet Singh, and Subrata Bhattacharya in January 2016 and filed a charge sheet under Section 120B and 420 of IPC, in April 2016. In response, Subrata Bhattacharya moved the Supreme Court.

In 2015, the Enforcement Directorate (ED) filed the Enforcement Case Information Report (ECIR) against Bhangoo and others who included the directors of PACL and the Pearls Golden Forest Ltd (PGFL) (another firm floated by them and collected 5000 crore from the investors). On December 11, 2016, SEBI initiated recovery proceedings and on September 06, 2017, imposed a fine of Rs 2,423 crore on PACL and its directors for non-compliance with its orders.

In September 2018, the ED filed a charge-sheet against PACL and attached its Australia-based assets worth Rs.472 crore. In the same year, SEBI filed a petition in the Federal Court of Australia (FCA), to recover the money stashed away by the PACL using shell entities in Australia and also sought repatriation of the assets. The Federal Court passed order on July 23, 2018 accepting the claim petition filed by SEBI.

Imprisonment

In the meanwhile as of now, 17 persons including Bhangoo, his wife Prem Kaur, daughters Sukhwinder Kaur and Barinder Kaur and sons-in-law- Gurpartap Singh and Harsatinder Singh continue to be lodged in Tihar jail.

Spotlight Award 2022 to Jal Star Ramesh Goyal

IT News
New Delhi, March 29:

About 60 talents from various fields related to health, education, industry, art, culture and social concerns were honored with the Spotlight Award 2022 under the joint aegis of Spotlight Communication Institute, Delhi and Human Services Education Institute.

Actor Mushtaq Khan and actor Shiva Kumar were the chief guests. M.D. of Spot Light Communication Jaising said that Spotlight is a celebrity TV show, in which more than five hundred programs have been broadcast on 10 dif-

ferent national religious channels in five years and this was the second big event of Spotlight in which many eminent talents of the country and abroad were honored. The special guest of the program was Dr. VP Tandon and Sudhi's director, health guru, motivational speaker Acharya Manish. The convener of the function, Kaushal Garg, President of the Institute of Human Services and Education, welcomed all the dignitaries. Swami Chandradev Maharaj also attended the occasion. Program co-convener Mr. Ashish Agarwal, Director of Franchisee Batao and Anchor

Chitra Sharma of Sarv Dharma Sangam TV channel conducted the stage.

Renowned water conservation activist Jal Star Ramesh Goyal across the country along with President of Rajasthan Academy Mr. Gaurav Gupta, educationist Lakshya Chhabria, Durgesh Kumar Singh, Rakhi Bisht, Niti Gakhar, Vikas Deep Pawan Kansal, Yuvraj Randhawa, Rajendra Goyal, Suresh Agarwal and Balram Gupta The name is noteworthy. Spotlight's anchor journalist Harish Chopra and Spotlight's producer-director Jai Singh Kataria expressed their gratitude to all.

SFs distribute sportsitems in Remote Villages of Chandel



IT News
Imphal, March 29:

Selhon Battalion under the aegis of IGAR (South) of Spear Corps distributed sports kit to budding sportspersons of three villages at Aiboljoui in Chandel district, Manipur on

26 March 2022. In furtherance of 'Kheho India' initiative of Govt of India, security forces distributed various sports items including football kits, volleyball kits and badminton kits under Operation Sadbhavna to encourage the Sports oriented

youth of remote villages of Aiboljoui, Cheljangjoui and Molanghat.

This noble gesture of the security forces to encourage sportsmanship among the youth of Manipur was whole heartedly appreciated by the locals.

PEACE Crafts Bazar

Venue: *Khoyol Keithel, Moirang Lamkhui Bishnupur District, Manipur*

Date: *26th March, 2022 4th April 2022*

Time: *10:30 a.m.*



Item Display of Sales

- *Cane & Bamboo
- *Hand Embroidery
- *Artistic Textile
- *Woolen Shoe
- * Other Decorative Items.



Sponsored by:-

Office of the Development Commissioner (Handicraft)
Ministry of Textile, Govt. of India, New Delhi
R.K. Puram - 66



Organised by:-

People's Education for Awareness & Community Empowerment Organisation (PEACE)
Thangmeiband Meisnam Leikai, Imphal - 795001
Manipur, India



IT(B)-24x10 days

Contd. from Page 2

Myanmar-Bangladesh Military Diplomacy can help solve Rohingya....

For Bangladesh, the only relevant thing that is to be taken into account is that there are immense economic opportunities for Bangladesh within Myanmar. Bangladesh must push for closer ties with Myanmar irrespective of who holds Myanmar's power. Military setup in Myanmar's Constituent Assembly remains very strong. Therefore, being one of the five neighbors of Myanmar, Bangladesh should try to grab such opportunities, should bolster its relations with Myanmar, and take the benefit of Myanmar's economic potential through military diplomacy. The relations

between the two countries through cross-border communication of general people from the two sides of Bangladesh and Myanmar must be ensured through military diplomacy.

Bangladesh armed forces must take effective steps to improve the relations with Myanmar armed forces assuring the zero-tolerance policy of the Bangladesh government against terrorists, human traffickers, illegal drug traders criminals.

In order to resolve the Rohingya repatriation process sustainably, Bangladesh and Myanmar need to establish

military-diplomatic relations with each other. Military diplomacy and clout could play a positive role in resolving the Rohingya crisis. Furthermore, because Myanmar is administered by military government, the military function will be able to encourage bilateral relations.

Myanmar's military should take effective steps to foster the ties. It must understand that Bangladesh is a peace-loving country and friendly neighbour. Bangladesh believes in peaceful coexistence. Thus, engagement with Bangladesh would be beneficial for

Myanmar also. Military ties between the two neighbouring countries can assure peace, harmony, regional stability, regional greater interest, etc. in the whole regions (South Asia and Southeast Asia).

*(**The writer Jubeda Chowdhury is a teacher based in Dhaka city. She has completed her honours and Master's degree in the International Relations department of the University of Dhaka. She is interested in international politics, rights of refugees, environmental politics, labor, child, and women's rights.)*

EGM and AMWJU condemn force shutting of TOM TV

IT News
Imphal, March 29:

The All Manipur Working Journalists Union (MMWJU) and the Editors' Guild Manipur (EGM) condemn the manner in which TOM TV has been shut down by some people claiming to be investors of its parent company Lamjingba Finance at 1.40 pm of 28th March 2022.

According to its Editor in chief, A. Mubi, this is not the first time the so called investors have targeted TOM TV including holding its staff hostage for 4 to 5 hours.

TOM TV is located adjacent to Lamjingba Finance office and the so called investors entered the PCR room of the TV news station and forcibly shut down the news organization. After an earlier attack, TOM TV Editor had written a letter to the Imphal SP West, asking him for security but so far non has been arranged. Staffs of TOM TV are members of AMWJU and its Editor member of EGM and both the organization share the trauma the employees of TOM TV went through. Both AMWJU and EGM consider the action as challenge against the "freedom of expression

and demand that appropriate action be taken up as early as possible against those by the state Home Department.

"Any issues any one has with its parent company Lamjingba Finance, should not be used as excuse to target a functioning media house. AMWJU and EGM and appeal all concerned to not to force close any media houses on one pretext or another. We also appeal to the State government to provide adequate security to enable TOM TV to function as usual", said a statement by EGM and AMWJU.

Private School body support Students' decision

IT News
Imphal, March 29:

In view of the upcoming final examination for class X and Class XII conducted by the Board of Higher Secondary Education Manipur and the Council of Higher Secondary Education Manipur which is scheduled to start from April 5 and April 7 respectively, the All Manipur Recognised Private Schools' Welfare Association has extended support to the six students' bodies decision to ban entertainment programme in the state.

In a statement, the private school body said that they appreciate the measures taken up by the students' union for the welfare of the student communities. It also appreciates the student bodies for settling the unwanted incident in an amicable way.

Assam, Meghalaya CMs sign agreement resolving 50-year-old boundary dispute

Agency
New Delhi, March 29:

In order to resolve their 50-year old pending boundary differences, Assam and Meghalaya signed an agreement today in New Delhi in the presence of Union Home Minister Amit Shah. The agreement was signed this evening by the chief ministers of Assam and Meghalaya, Himanta Biswa Sarma, and Conrad Sangma, respectively.

Officials in the MHA told news agency ANI that the Assam and Meghalaya counterparts signed the agreement in the presence of chief secretaries of both the states as well as other officials of these states.

A draft resolution was submitted by the Chief Ministers of Assam and Meghalaya to the Union Home Minister Amit Shah on January 31 for examination and consideration by the MHA.

COVID-19: India logs 1,259 fresh cases, 35 more fatalities

Agency
New Delhi, March 29:

With 1,259 fresh cases, India's COVID-19 tally climbed to 4,30,21,982 on Tuesday, while the number of active cases of the infection further declined to 15,378, according to the Union health ministry.

The death toll due to the viral disease has gone up to 5,21,070 with 35 more fatalities, the ministry's data updated at 8 am stated.

The active cases account for 0.04 per cent of the total caseload, while the national COVID-19 recovery rate remained at 98.75 per cent, the ministry said, adding that a reduction of 481 cases was recorded in the active caseload in a span of 24 hours.

The daily positivity rate was recorded at 0.22 per cent and the weekly positivity rate was recorded at 0.25 per cent,

according to the health ministry.

A total of 5,77,559 tests were conducted to detect the infection in the last 24 hours. India has so far conducted over 78.79 crore COVID-19 tests.

The number of people who have recuperated from the disease has gone up to 4,24,85,534, while the case fatality rate was recorded at 1.21 per cent.

The number of Covid vaccine doses administered in the country so far has exceeded 183.53 crore.

India's COVID-19 tally had crossed the 20-lakh mark on August 7, 2020, 30 lakh on August 23, 2020, 40 lakh on September 5, 2020 and 50 lakh on September 16, 2020.

It went past 60 lakh on September 28, 2020, 70 lakh on October 11, 2020, 80 lakh on October 29, 2020, 90 lakh on November 20, 2020 and the one-crore mark on December 19, 2020.

The country crossed the grim milestone of two crore Covid cases on May 4, 2021 and the three-crore mark on June 23, 2021.

Of the 35 new fatalities, 25 were reported from Kerala.

A total of 5,21,070 Covid deaths have so far been reported in the country, including 1,47,780 from Maharashtra, 67,822 from Kerala, 40,051 from Karnataka, 38,025 from Tamil Nadu, 26,151 from Delhi, 23,494 from Uttar Pradesh and 21,197 from West Bengal.

The health ministry stressed that more than 70 per cent of the deaths occurred due to comorbidities.

"Our figures are being reconciled with the Indian Council of Medical Research," the ministry said on its website, adding that a state-wise distribution of the figures is subject to further verification and reconciliation.

Contd. from Page 1 CM launches Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch The ...

He also sought support and involvement of Civil Society Organisations and the public in the campaign so that rain water harvesting and conservation processes could be taken up at the

grassroots. MAHUD, RD & PR and Education Minister Yummam Khemchand, PWD and Youth Affairs and Sports Minister Govindas Konthoujam, Textiles, Com-

merce and Industry and Co-operation Minister Nemcha Kippen, Water Resources and Relief and Disaster Management Minister Awangbow Newmai, Chief Secretary Dr. Rajesh Kumar

and other high ranking Officials of the State Government attended the launching programme among others.

A pledge on water conservation was also administered during the programme.

UKLF Celebrates 27th Rising...

SS Haokip Chairman UKLF expressed gratitude and thanked god for his guidance and blessing. He also extended greetings to village chiefs, CSOs leaders, the general public and all ranks of national workers on the occasion of the 26th Rising

day. SS Haokip also honoured and remembered all the cadres and members of UKLF who gave their supreme sacrifice in the struggle and also extended the group's utmost respects to their families.

He added that UKLF was

formed due to lack of patriotism, nationalism and love for ancestral land and protection of our people from external forces by the then organisation operating in Chandel and Tengnoupal back then. UKLF was formed on March 29, 1995 to protect

its people and land from any kind of threats, he added.

Sgt. Maj. Shongngam of the UKLF/GHQ delivered vote of thanks that was followed by "Mass Prayer" under the guidance of GHQ Chaplain, thus ended the 27th Rising Day Celebration.

NESO appeals SAPO and AAMYA to lift shut ...

"This indefinite shut down has greatly affected the lives and the livelihood of the innocent people", NESO said and added that the NESO has always maintained that people's to people's dialogue is to be encouraged so that the people on the ground do

not suffer.

NESO appealed to the Southern Angami Peoples Organisation to reconsider and lift the ongoing shut down at the earliest for the interest of the innocent general public and at the same time NESO also urged upon the All Assam

Manipuri Youth Association (AAMYA) to suspend the counter shut down for the interest of general public.

NESO also expressed its serious concern with the suffering of the common people due to the prevailing situation. It also urged the Government

of India to take proactive steps to control the situation from further deterioration and also should intervene by taking the initiative to solve the issue and to bring all the parties involved to the negotiating table so that the issue can be resolved amicably.

Sports Corner

I-League: NEROCA FC defeat Indian Arrows

Agency
Naihati (West Bengal), Mar 29:

NEROCA FC snatched a 1-0 win against Indian Arrows in the Hero I-League 2021-22 match at the Naihati Stadium on Monday.

Indian Arrows showcased attacking intent throughout the full 90 minutes, troubling NEROCA FC's skilful defense on multiple occasions.

With the absence of Juan Mera and Sergi Mendigutza, NEROCA's attacking forces left a lot to be desired. But an unfortunate own goal from Brijesh Giri (73') cost Indian Arrows and NEROCA FC managed to steal three points.

The match started with Indian Arrows keeping possession and searching for long balls from their own half.

The game remained constrained to the middle of the ground in the early minutes. In the 6th minute, a counter-attacking move allowed Suhail Ahmad Bhat to make a dangerous cross inside the box, but he could not find his man.

A couple of minutes later, Thokchom James Singh made a critical save with Velanco Rodrigues breaking away with a chance. In the 12th minute, Parthib Gogoi troubled the NEROCA defence with his dribbling skills, and passed the ball to Vibin Mohanan in front of the goal.



But Prateek Singh made a reflexive save to deny Indian Arrows. Prateek made another vital save a couple of minutes later as he denied Parthib Gogoi who broke free for another one-on-one chance.

In the 22nd minute, Lalchhanhima Sailo returned to the corner duties and provided a neat cross for Sajad Hussain Parry inside the box. But the shot from Indian Arrows skipper went wide off the mark and another opportunity to take the lead was missed. A couple of minutes later Abdul Salam sent in a dangerous lobbed pass inside the box for Mohamad Kdouh, but the NEROCA forward was caught offside.

In the 35th minute, NEROCA FC started getting their feet more on the ball, and Khaiminthang Lungdim took a shot on target. But Tankadhar Bag stood tall and strong in front of the ball, clearing away the moment of danger. A couple of minutes later, Khaiminthang

put the ball inside the back of nets, but the referee blew his whistle for a foul committed in the lead-up and the goal was disallowed.

In the 42nd minute, Kdouh connected the header on a corner, but it again went wide off the mark. Pratik Singh made yet another brilliant save while going one-on-one with Velanco Rodrigues as Indian Arrows were denied yet again at the stroke of half-time.

Indian Arrows showcased attacking intent as soon as the second half started. In the 50th minute, the game spilled inside the box, with Suhail Bhat, Parthib Gogoi and Vibin Mohanan looking to get away with a shot on target. But NEROCA defensive troops stayed alert and cleared the danger. In the 55th minute, Sailo took a left-footed shot on target, forcing NEROCA goalkeeper to make yet another save.

With his impeccable drib-

bling skills, Sailo continued to pose a threat to NEROCA as the game entered the one-hour mark. A couple of minutes later, Khaiminthang Lungdim scripted a brilliant move inside Indian Arrows' box, but it was well defended by the young defensive forces.

In the 73rd minute, Jiteshor sent in a chipped pass inside the box which was punched away by the Indian Arrows goalkeeper Zahid Bukhari. But he could only find Vicky Meitei who got a header on the ball, forcing Raj Basfore to come to defensive duties. But the ball struck Brijesh Giri's body and went inside the nets, giving NEROCA FC a 1-0 lead via an own goal.

With the clock running down, the Indian Arrows brought on fresh legs, replacing Velanco Rodrigues with Taison Singh. Two minutes later, Indian Arrows full back Tankadhar Bag sent in a dangerous cross inside the box for Suhail Bhat. But the young forward could not connect his header well and the ball went above the goalpost.

Just before the end of regulation time, Parthib Gogoi dribbled past NEROCA midfielder to create a sensational chance for Taison Singh inside the box. But the shot from Manipur forward only hit the woodwork and Indian Arrows missed the golden opportunity to salvage a point in the match.

IPL 2022: Punjab Kings defeat Royal Challengers Bangalore by 5 wickets



Agency
Bangalore, March 29:

Punjab Kings beat Royal Challengers Bangalore by five wickets in their Indian Premier League match on Sunday. The Punjab side chased down a huge target of 206 with six balls to spare in a thrilling high-scoring match. Shikhar Dhawan and Bhanuka Rajapaksa scored 43 each up the order, while M Shahrulkh Khan and Odean Smith remained not out on 24 and 25 respectively as Punjab reached 208 for 5 in 19

overs. For RCB, Mohammed Siraj was the most successful bowler with figures of 2/59.

Earlier, RCB posted 205 for 2 after being asked to bat. Captain Faf du Plessis top-scored with a 57-ball 88, while Virat Kohli made 41 not out as the duo shared 118 runs for the second wicket. Dinesh Karthik chipped in with a quick fire 32 not out off 14 balls. For Punjab Kings, Rahul Chahar and Arshdeep Singh took a wicket apiece.

Meanwhile, Delhi Capitals beat Mumbai Indians by four

wickets in their IPL match on Sunday. Lalit Yadav smashed 48 not out off 38 balls down the order as DC chased down the target of 178 with 10 balls to spare. Axar Patel also chipped in with a 17-ball 38 not out, while opener Prithvi Shaw contributed 38. For MI, Basil Thampi took three wickets for 35 runs.

Earlier, Ishan Kishan hit a brisk unbeaten 81 as Mumbai Indians scored 177 for 5 after being asked to bat first. For DC, Kuldeep Yadav picked up three wickets for 18 runs.