

...which aligns
...overall strategic
...objectives of the Nation-
...Strategy for Financial
...Inclusion 2020-2025.

capacity of 133, he added. said.

Members/ Associations/ Feder-
ations/ Atta, Suji product
30 LMT wheat from FCI stock
through the Open Market Sale

Coal India converts 30 mined-out areas into eco-tourism destinations

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, 21 FEBRUARY

In a unique initiative, Coal India Limited (CIL) is in the process of converting its abandoned mines into eco-parks which have become popular as eco-tourism destinations.

These eco-parks and tourism sites are also proving to be a source of livelihood for the local populace. Thirty such eco-parks are already attracting steady footfalls and plans are afoot for the creation of more eco-parks and eco-restoration sites in CIL's mining areas.

Some of the popular destinations that provide further fillip to coal mine tourism include Gunjanpark, ECL, Gokul eco-cultural park, BCCL, Kenapara eco-tourism site and Ananya Vatika, SECL, Krishnashila eco-restoration site and Mudwani eco-parks, NCL, Ananta medicinal garden, MCL, BalGangadhar Tilak eco-park, WCL and Chandra Sekhar Azad eco-park, CCL.



"No one could have predicted that an abandoned mined-out land could be transformed into a buzzing tourism destination. We are enjoying boating, the beautiful waterbody with the adjoining greenery and having lunch on a floating restaurant," said a visitor at Kenapara eco-tourism site developed by SECL in Surajpur district, Chhattisgarh. "Kenapara has promising tourism potential and is also a good source of

income for the tribal people," the visitor added.

Similarly, the Mudwani eco-parks recently developed by NCL in Jayantarea of Singrauli, Madhya Pradesh has a landscaped waterfront and pathways. "In a remote place like Singrauli, where there isn't much to see, the Mudwani eco-park is seeing a surge in visitors due to its beautiful landscape and other recreational facilities," said a visitor.

Besides this, during 2022-

23, CIL has already surpassed its annual plantation target of 1510 hectares by expanding its green cover to 1610 hectares. The company has planted over 30 lakh saplings in the current fiscal. In the last five fiscals till FY '22, 4392 hectares of greening inside the mine lease area has created a carbon sink potential of 2.2 LT/year.

CIL is also using new techniques like seed ball plantation, seed casting through drones and Miyawaki plantation in its various mines. Mined-out areas, overburden dumps, etc are concurrently reclaimed as soon as they get delinked from the active mining zones.

Various species for biological reclamation are selected in consultation with central and state-aided expert agencies.

Monitoring of land reclamation and restoration is being done through remote sensing and as of now, around 33% area is under green cover.

...conducts workshop:
...of Baroda,
...Subaneswar Region con-
...ducted the Workshop &
...Iniciation programme of
...Bank Mitras at
...Subaneswar Regional
...Office. The programme
...is inaugurated by Shri
...Sreev Krishna, Assistant
...General Manager &
...Regional Head of
...Subaneswar Region on
...02.02.2023 & 06.02.2023
...Regional office
...Subaneswar in presence
...Smt. Jyotirmayee Jena,
...Deputy Regional Head,
...Subaneswar Region, Cor-
...porate BC representative
...Both Sahaj Retail Limit-
...Organization for
...Development Integrated
...Social & Health Mission
...CSC along with 80
...Bank Mitras across the
...districts under
...Subaneswar region.

'Bank mergers in India have resulted in increased efficiency'

AGENCIES
CHENNAI, 21 FEBRUARY

Mergers of banks in India has resulted in increased efficiency for the acquirers or the merged entity and higher shareholders wealth for the acquiree banks, as per a research paper published by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).

"The expected benefits of mergers and acquisitions (M&As) in financial institutions worldwide, including in India, are cost reduction, profit maximisation, and gains through portfolio or geographical diversification," the paper, authored by Snehal S. Herwadkar, Shubham Gupta,

and Vaishnavi Chavan, notes.

According to the research paper, data envelopment analysis (DEA) suggests that the efficiency of acquirers improved post-merger due to an increase in scale or productive capacity.

Financial ratio analysis, which compares the pre- and post-merger performance of acquirers, reinforces the findings of efficiency analysis. These results are robust even after controlling for industry-wide impact.

The event study analysis employed for bank mergers between 2019-2020 indicates an increase in shareholders' wealth of the acquiree banks.

Data centres to attract Rs 1.5

AGENCIES
CHENNAI, 21 FEBRUARY

A data centre (DC) revolution is happening in India with about 5,000 MW capacity involving an outlay of Rs 1.50 lakh crore are likely to be added over the next six years, said ICRA.

Data localisation and data explosion are paving the way for a DC revolution in India with several corporates - Indian and foreign - planning to build them.

According to ICRA, Indian corporates like the Hiranandani Group, the Adani Group - in a JV with EdgeConnex, the Reliance Group, foreign investors viz Blackstone, Capitaland, Princeton Digital



Group, captive consumers viz. Amazon, Microsoft - have all started investing massively in Indian DCs. Along with them, existing players like NTT, CtrIS, Nextra, and STT India are also expanding their capac-