

**Synopsis of the main developments and investments in West Bengal
April 13 – April 19, 2024**

Key Developments

KMRC plans expansion of E-W Metro depot, may lay 6 new tracks.

The Kolkata Metro Rail Corporation (KMRC) is planning the first significant expansion of East-West Metro's upkeep-cum-parking hub at Salt Lake's Central Park. The maintenance depot currently has space to house 23 rakes. Post expansion, it will be able to accommodate 29 rakes. KMRC has proposed laying six more tracks or stabling lines to make room for six more rakes. A location has been identified for the expansion inside the 38.5-acre facility at Central Park. KMRC needs more rakes before the entire 16.6 km corridor is opened and trains are run at a 5-minute frequency. East-West Metro now operates in two disjointed stretches — the 9.4 km Sector V-Sealdah line and the 4.8km Howrah Maidan-Esplanade section.

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ITC's first foreign hotel to open in Colombo this month.

ITC Ltd plans to become a multinational firm by creating a footprint in the global market in both FMCG and hotel sectors. Its first hotel outside India would be inaugurated in Colombo, Sri Lanka, this month. It also plans to have a presence in key markets by manufacturing FMCG products. As of now, ITC manufactures some of its food products in Nepal through its subsidiary 'Surya Nepal'. Its 'Aashirvaad' brand for cereals has already crossed the Rs 10,000 crore mark in consumer spending. The range of ITC includes cereals, snacks, biscuits, frozen foods, beverages and personal care products. The conglomerate now has 120 hotels with over 11,700 keys across 80 destinations in the country.

https://epaper.indiatimes.com/article-share?article=17_04_2024_014_003_toikc_TOI

Tesla order for RK Forgings

Ramkrishna Forgings Ltd (RKFL), India's second-largest forging manufacturer, has reportedly secured approval to supply powertrain components to Tesla, the world's second-largest electric passenger vehicle maker. The size of the order could be in the range of Rs 400 crore. The USA's largest electric passenger vehicle manufacturer had granted approval for powertrain components, marking the beginning of a strategic partnership that opens up a realm of exciting opportunities. The announcement from the Calcutta-based company came days ahead of the much-anticipated visit of Tesla CEO Elon Musk to India. It is widely anticipated that Musk will announce investments in EV manufacturing and the launch of Starlink during the visit.

<https://epaper.telegraphindia.com/textview/468296/42939217/71.html>

ITC Infotech buys cloud firm

ITC Infotech, the technology arm of the tobacco to food major ITC Ltd, has announced the acquisition of a Pune-based cloud service provider for Rs 485 crore. The company described the acquisition

target -- Blazeclan Technologies Pvt Ltd -- as a `born-in-the-cloud consulting firm providing cloud services to clients. The company proposes to leverage the platforms and accelerators built by Blazeclan and the strong certified architect pool to strengthen its cloud offerings. The company said the acquisition was aligned with ITC Infotech s strategy of pursuing value accretive invest- ments focused on sharpening capability-led solutions while strengthening partnerships which form critical pillars of growth for ITC Infotech. With this agreement, ITC Infotech intends to further deepen its global presence through Cloud Competency Centres in Australia, Singapore, Malaysia, and India.

<https://epaper.telegraphindia.com/textview/468296/43014547/71.html>

Mother Dairy to expand capacity

Dairy major Mother Dairy Fruit and Vegetable Pvt Ltd plans to invest around Rs 2,000 crore to set up five plants over the next three years to expand capacity across the country, including Bengal. The company has plans to set up its own units in Nagpur, Delhi and Bengal for the dairy business and two plants to make products under the Safal brand. They have board approval to set up a plant in Bengal for dairy products and the investment could be around Rs 400500 crore. Mother Dairy is seeing a rising demand for their products in Bengal and are doing a business of around Rs 600-700 crore in the state. The new plant will cater to the demand in both Bengal and the Northeast.

<https://epaper.telegraphindia.com/textview/468193/55419750/71.html>