Synopsis of the main developments reported in leading newspapers.
July 26, 2025 – August 01, 2025
Key Developments

Goodricke plans foray into FMCG and hospitality biz.

Goodricke Group, one of India's leading tea groups and a subsidiary of UK-based Camellia Plc, is planning to restructure its operations and diversify into FMCG and hospitality businesses. It would sell off two more of its gardens, along with two already sold, to fund the upcoming projects. In hospitality, Goodricke has identified assets in Kolkata, Dooars and Darjeeling for conversion into hotels and is in talks with leading hospitality groups. Goodricke has big plans to become an FMCG company. This would include milk products, horticulture products and white label products, which would be procured by the company and packaged and marketed under the Goodricke brand along with tea.

https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/kolkata/goodricke-plans-foray-into-fmcg-and-hospitality-biz/articleshow/122983374.cms

Exide bets on innovation, expansion to boost exports.

Storage battery major Exide Industries is focusing on innovation and expansion across geographies in a bid to enhance exports in the medium term. In the last fiscal, exports contributed around 8% to the company's turnover. The company has come out with a lot of innovative products targeted for exports which we have never done in the past. They have entered new countries to make their business more resilient and distributed and not dependent on one or two geographies. So far, the company has invested around Rs 3,700 crore in the first phase of the lithium-ion cell manufacturing project in Bengaluru. They will probably invest another Rs 600-700 crore in this fiscal.

https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/kolkata/exide-bets-on-innovation-expansion-to-boost-exports/articleshow/122960895.cms

A Giant Leap for Clean Energy: Durgapur–Kolkata Pipeline Inaugurated by PM Modi.

Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has inaugurated the Durgapur-Kolkata Pipeline section, a key part of the Jagdishpur-Haldia & Bokaro-Dhamra pipeline (JHBDPL) Project by GAIL (India) Limited. Stretching across 132 Km and with a n investment of INR 1198 crore, this pipeline traverses 15 water bodies, including a 1200m stretch under the Hooghly River. This engineering marvel not only enhances energy access in West Bengal but also sets new benchmarks in sustainable infrastructure, minimizing ecological disruption while boosting industrial development. From energy access to industrial growth, this pipeline represents clean, affordable, and secure energy for all.

https://www.linkedin.com/posts/gail-india-limited_pmurjaganga-energizingbengal-netzeroby2035-activity-7351951941289070595-EiF4?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop&rcm=ACoAABiHZswBhkTk7q5lVO3BwwNS8vGkrG9WhS8

India–UK Free Trade Pact to Boost Bengal's Iconic Crafts and Heritage Exports.

The India-UK Free Trade Agreement (FTA) is opening up new doors for Bengal's heritage crafts and products, bringing the region's cultural richness closer to the world. Reduced tariffs and smoother export procedures are set to benefit four iconic goods from West Bengal, three of which carry the prestigious GI (Geographical Indiaction) tag – Baluchuri Sarees, Darjeeling Tea, Natungram Wooden Dolls, Santiniketan Leather Goods. This move is not just about trade, it's about empowering artisans, preserving heritage, and celebrating Bengal's timeless creativity.

https://www.telegraphindia.com/my-kolkata/lifestyle/these-crafts-and-goods-from-bengal-are-set-to-benefit-from-india-uk-free-trade-agreement/cid/2115019

Bengal's UNIROX BIKES to Launch Eastern India's First Bicycle Manufacturing Plant in Kharagpur.

After years of grit and grace, UNIROX BIKES, a proudly Kolkata-based and Bengalo owned company, is set to launch Eastern India's first-ever bicycle manufacturing plant in Kharagpur. This isn't just the birth of a factory. This is the rise of a movement for sustainable mobility, homegrown innovation, and dignified employment. With a state-of-the-art Automated PLC controlled PT line, a Conveyorised Liquid painting system, and Automated imported assembly lines, the company will start with initial production of 4 lakhs bicycles annually and targets to achieve 1million bikes a year, made in Bengal, and made for the world. From the lanes of Kolkata to the crossroads of India's future, UNIROX BIKES is putting Bengal on the industrial map again, not just with spokes and wheels, but with vision and velocity.

https://www.linkedin.com/posts/kolkata-calling_uniroxbikes-kharagpurrising-easternindia-activity-7355439402782781440-k1zp?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop&rcm=ACoAABiHZswBhkTk7q5lVO3BwwNS8vGkrG9WhS8