Synopsis of the main developments reported in leading newspapers.
September 15, 2025 – September 19, 2025
Key Developments

Bengal nod to industry status for logistics sparks growth hope

The state cabinet on Thursday approved industry status for the logistics sector, a move that will facilitate govt incentives and easy bank credit for the players in the field. In another move that is expected to boost job creation, the state govt has decided to hand over 194 acres to WBIDC to develop the Tajpur-Dankuni-Raghunathpur industrial and economic corridor. The move will encourage private players to take up industrial projects along the corridor. The state cabinet on Thursday gave clearance to 193.3 acres of land to the industry department for freehold use from leasehold in the Hirapur area of Asansol.

https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/kolkata/bengal-nod-to-industry-status-for-logistics-sparks-growth-hope/articleshow/123984175.cms

FICCI's Family Business Summit East 2025 focusses on sustaining legacies, building futures

FICCI, in association with Grant Thornton Bharat as Knowledge Partner, hosted the second edition of its flagship Family Business Summit – East 2025 in Kolkata on September 18, bringing together leading voices from Eastern India's business community to discuss the future of family enterprises under the theme, 'The Next Horizon: Sustaining Legacies, Building Futures'. Speaking at the summit, Vandana Yadav, IAS, Principal Secretary, Department of Industry, Commerce & Enterprises, Government of West Bengal, and Managing Director, WBIDC, underscored the role of family businesses in shaping the region's economic narrative. Sushil Mohta, chairman of Merlin Group, spoke about the importance of intergenerational collaboration in sustaining family enterprises. The event saw participation from prominent industry leaders including Ullas Kamath, mentor, FICCI Karnataka State Council and former joint managing director, Jyothy Labs; Harsh V Agarwal, executive director, Ori-Plast; Narrindra Surana, chairman & managing director, Ddev Plastiks; RK Chhajer, co-founder & chairman, ArcVac ForgeCast; Shreyasee Karmakar, director, S&IB; Vineet Agarwal, managing director, Max Cement (GNG Group); Rajneesh Kumar, deputy general manager, State Bank of India; and Pallavi Joshi Bakhru, partner & leader, Family Office & Private Client Services, Grant Thornton Bharat, who shared insights on succession planning, governance, and the path to making family businesses competitive globally. The day-long summit featured panel discussions moderated by Pallavi Joshi Bakhru and Ashish Chhawchharia, and was supported by WBIDC, State Bank of India, Ori-Plast, Grant Thornton Bharat, and Indian Plastics Foundation. The event drew more than 120 participants from across the region, reflecting the strong interest in sustaining Bengal's entrepreneurial legacy while preparing for the future.

https://www.telegraphindia.com/my-kolkata/events/ficci-family-business-summit-east-2025-highlights-legacy-and-innovation-in-kolkata/cid/2123769

Big news for Bengal's tech future!

Santech Global (US) and Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur have signed an MoU to set up a Centre of Excellence in Semiconductor & Quantum Technologies in Kolkata. From

chip design, fabrication, and advanced packaging to AI-driven R&D, this initiative strengthens US–India cooperation in critical technologies under the TRUST framework. For Kolkata, it's a strong step towards becoming a hub for semiconductor innovation and frontier research.

https://www.linkedin.com/posts/kolkata-calling_kolkatacalling-semiconductor-quantumtech-activity-7374645940948901888-jvHp

Kolkata's Assessli Set to Raise Seed Round at ₹1,200 Crore Valuation with Foxhog Ventures Corp. USA

Kolkata-based startup Assessli, is set to raise its seed round from Foxhog Ventures Corp. USA at a massive ₹1,200 crore valuation. With the world's first **Large Behavioral Models (LBMs)**, Assessli is redefining AI by decoding the "language of the self" through genomics, psychology, and digital data.

https://www.linkedin.com/posts/kolkata-calling_assessli-ai-artificialintelligence-activity-7374283530148896768-OZu9

Yellow Taxis Turn Into Moving Art to Celebrate 40 Years of Asian Paints Sharad Shamman

Kolkata's beloved yellow taxis have always been more than just vehicles—they're carriers of memories, symbols of nostalgia, and timeless companions on the city's streets. This year, as Asian Paints Sharad Shamman celebrates its glorious 40-year journey of honouring Kolkata's most inventive Durga Puja pandals, the city's taxis are getting a vibrant makeover. Under the initiative "Cholte Cholte 40", 40 yellow taxis have been transformed into moving canvases, each artistically capturing the cultural pulse of a decade. These taxis will now roam the city, carrying with them not just passengers but also the story of Kolkata's evolving heritage.

https://www.linkedin.com/posts/kolkata-calling_asianpaints-sharadshamman-cholteholte40-activity-7374064638138916865-inNX

Kolkata Delivers 'Androth' to Indian Navy!

The Indian Navy has received 'Androth', the **second Anti-Submarine Warfar** – Shallow Water Craft (ASW-SWC), proudly built by Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers Ltd.(GRSE), Kolkata. This delivery marks another step towards **Atmanirbhar Bharat** in defence manufacturing, enhancing India's ability to counter growing challenges in the **Indian Ocean**. It is a 77-metre-long warship, propelled by a diesel engine–waterjet combination, equipped with lightweight torpedoes & indigenous anti-submarine rockets, designed to strengthen anti-submarine warfare & coastal surveillance capabilities.

https://www.linkedin.com/posts/kolkata-calling_indiannavy-grse-makeinindia-activity-7373241676355727360-x60k