Synopsis of the main developments reported in leading newspapers.
October 18, 2025 – October 24, 2025
Key Developments

Bengal floats tender for battery storage unit in W Midnapore

Bengal's power department has floated a global tender for setting up a 250 MW/1000 MWh standalone battery energy storage systems (BESS) at Goaltore in West Midnapore under a tariff-based competitive bidding model. This is aimed at optimizing generation mix and for better utilization of transmission infrastructure in the state. The proposed BESS, a first of its kind in Bengal, will be commissioned in the next two years, an official said.

https://www.millenniumpost.in/bengal/bengal-govt-plans-rs-288-cr-green-firecracker-manufacturing-hubs-630414

RISE scientists develop fast-charging sodium-ion battery rivaling lithium-ion tech

A group of scientists at Calcutta-based Research Institute for Sustainable Energy (RISE) under TCG-CREST claimed to have developed an indigenous sodium-ion (Na-ion) battery capable of charging up to 94 per cent in five minutes, while matching and in some parameters surpassing the performance of conventional lithium-ion (Li-ion) batteries that dominate the global EV and energy storage market at present. Unlike Li-ion systems, the technology developed by the scientists at the Salt Lake campus of TCG-Crest, a deemed to be university, uses no cobalt, nickel, copper, or lithium, cutting India's exposure to global supply-chain risks for critical materials.

https://www.telegraphindia.com/business/indian-scientists-develop-sodium-ion-battery-with-5-minute-charge-and-high-energy-density-prnt/cid/2127982

Shyam Metalics commenced Phase I of greenfield cold rolling mill at Jamuria plant, West Bengal

Shyam Metalics and Energy has announced the expansion of its production capabilities with the establishment of a state-of-the-art Greenfield Cold Rolling Mill (CRM) in Jamuria, West Bengal. This strategic investment highlights Shyam Metalics' commitment to enhancing its product portfolio and extending its reach in both domestic and international markets. The facility commenced trial run under Shyam Metalics Flat Products, a wholly owned step-down subsidiary of SMEL. It is in line with government industrial policies and supports the company's strategic strategy. With a total capacity of 400,000 tons annually, the new Cold Rolling Mill is a cutting-edge establishment. The project has a total capital cost of Rs.603 crores, with Rs.346 crores invested and Rs.257 crores pending.

https://www.epcworld.in/shyam-metalics-commenced-phase-i-of-greenfield-cold-rolling-mill-at-jamuria-plant-west-bengal/

State govt initiates revival plan for New Central Jute Mill

The Bengal government has launched a structured plan to revive the New Central Jute Mill (NCJM) at Budge Budge, one of the state's oldest jute manufacturing units, as part of a wider effort to rejuvenate the jute sector and safeguard employment in the region. According to sources, the Public Enterprises and Industrial Reconstruction (PE&IR) department has floated a Request for Proposal (RFP) to appoint a transaction advisor to design and oversee a revival scheme for NCJM, which is presently under liquidation. The move follows a Calcutta High Court order dated March 12, 2024, granting the

state liberty to take necessary steps toward revival in accordance with law. The court's direction came in response to a petition concerning the company's liquidation, in which the state had expressed its willingness to prepare a revival plan through a fair and transparent process.

https://www.millenniumpost.in/bengal/state-govt-initiates-revival-plan-for-new-central-jute-mill-632112

Haldia Petrochemicals plans US$ 1-bn capex for polycarbonate production in West Bengal

India's leading petrochemical producer, Haldia Petrochemicals Ltd (HPL), is planning to establish a polycarbonate production plant in West Bengal with a capital expenditure of $1 billion (approximately ₹8,700 crore). The company intends to utilize spare land at its existing site in Haldia, signaling further diversification into the chemical downstream business. Polycarbonate, a thermoplastic compound widely used in industries such as automotive and packaging due to its durability under heat, impact, and chemicals, is currently not manufactured in India. Upon the successful commencement of commercial production, polycarbonate would serve as an import substitute. The demand for this thermoplastic has been consistently rising in India, driven by sustained growth in the automotive and packaging sectors.

https://www.polymerupdate.com/News/Details/1375022

Railway launches Mumbai-Kolkata door-to-door parcel delivery service

The Indian Railways has launched door-to-door delivery services for on-time delivery from Mumbai to Kolkata. An official statement said this will enable efficient handling of goods for faster and on-time delivery. A transit container train service (from Delhi to Kolkata), and operations at an upgraded Railway Goods Shed in Sonik, Uttar Pradesh were also started.

https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/transportation/railways/railway-launches-mumbai-kolkata-door-to-door-parcel-delivery-service/articleshow/124555293.cms?utm_source=contentofinterest&utm_medium=text&utm_campaign=cppst

Techno Sportswear lines up Rs 200cr expansion

Home-grown activewear manufacturer Techno Sportswear plans to invest Rs 200 crore over the next couple of years to expand its own outlets from 21 to 300 across India. The company is also targeting a revenue of Rs 600 crore in the 2025-26 fiscal, up from Rs 400 crore last year. Currently, India's No. 1 activewear brand in terms of volume, the company wants to be the No. 1 in value of sales also. It plans to have 300 of their own outlets in a couple of years, which will help in elevating the consumers' experience to achieve the target. Techno Sportswear derives 30% of its business from the East, which has prompted it to focus more on expanding in the eastern states, including Bengal.

http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/articleshow/124771653.cms?utm_source=contentofinterest&utm_medium=text&utm_campaign=cppst