Synopsis of the main developments reported in leading newspapers
February 7, 2026 – February 13, 2026
Key Developments

Digha temple boom: E-auction keeps base price a notch below 20 cr/acre

Less than a year after the inauguration of Jagannath Dham in Digha, which led to an unprecedented economic surge, the state govt is now on fast-track plans for further commercial expansion — more hotels and commercial establishments — at the seaside town. According to sources, since April last year, when the temple opened to the public, Digha's local economy generated over Rs 100 crore in just over 6 months — nearly double the Rs 50–60 crore recorded in the previous year.

https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/kolkata/digha-temple-boom-e-auction-keeps-base-price-a-notch-below-20-cr/acre/articleshow/128269875.cms?utm_source=chatgpt.com

US firm eyes Bengal startup JVs for AI-led transformation

Publicis Sapient, which recently opened its first eastern India office in Kolkata, is eyeing joint ventures with local startups to drive AI-led digital transformation and enter Bengal's global capability centre (GCC) sector through similar tie-ups. The focus areas are AI and GCC, which are in high demand for digital transformation across private firms, including multinationals based in this city. The company is looking for joint ventures with startups to implement business models efficiently.

https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/kolkata/us-firm-eyes-bengal-startup-jvs-for-ai-led-transformation/articleshow/128223663.cms

Sec V–Bantala road to get paver upgrade for faster travel to Ruby

The state govt has handed over a 7-km stretch connecting Sector V and Bantala to Nabadiganta Industrial Township Authority (NDITA) for upgrade and straightening with concrete pavers to develop the stretch as an alternative link between Sector V and Ruby via Basanti Highway. Once the road is upgraded, the travel time between Sector V and Basanti Highway will be reduced by almost half, as motorists intending to move towards Ruby from Sector V will be able to avoid the busy Chingrighata crossing and EM Bypass.

https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/kolkata/sec-v-bantala-road-to-get-paver-upgrade-for-faster-travel-to-ruby/articleshow/128081700.cms

WEBEL-Oracle Partnership to build future-ready digital talent in Bengal

West Bengal Electronics Industry Development Corporation Limited (WEBEL), a state government enterprise, yesterday reaffirmed its strategic collaboration with Oracle to train 15,000 students and professionals by 2029 in emerging-edge digital technologies free of cost. The initiative focuses on high-impact domains such as artificial intelligence (AI), cloud computing, cybersecurity, and data science, strengthening West Bengal's position as a hub for future-ready digital talent.

https://www.thestatesman.com/bengal/webel-oracle-partnership-to-build-future-ready-digital-talent-in-bengal-1503552530.html

Kolkata sees 239% YoY rise in GCC leases

The city saw a 239% year-on-year growth in global capability centre (GCC) gross leasing volume (GLV) to 0.5 million sq ft (5 lakh sq ft) in 2025 up from 0.1 million MSF (1.5 lakh sq ft) in 2024, according to Cushman & Wakefield's latest office market data. The numbers reflect growing occupier interest in Kolkata as part of a broader evaluation of locations beyond traditional hubs. The global real estate consultant pointed out that while the absolute scale of GCC activity remains modest, the YoY rise highlights improving market depth, talent-led demand and increasing traction among global enterprises.

https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/kolkata/kolkata-sees-239-yoy-rise-in-gcc-leases-report/articleshow/128273355.cms