Synopsis of the main developments reported in leading newspapers

June 13, 2026 – June, 19 2026

Key Developments

French Embassy officials discuss opportunities in Bengal

Officials from the French Embassy in India and representatives of an Indo-French business chamber held discussions with industry leaders in Kolkata on investment and trade opportunities in West Bengal, against the backdrop of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's recent visit to France and the signing of multiple bilateral agreements. Among others, French Consul General in Kolkata Thierry Morel was present at the meeting. The discussions focused on strengthening economic cooperation and exploring opportunities for French companies in West Bengal following the recent expansion of India-France strategic and economic ties.
https://www.ptinews.com/story/business/french-embassy-officials-biz-chambers-discuss-opportunities-in-bengal/3769236

JSW anchors Calcutta port upgrade with biggest PPP project at river dock hub

The Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port Authority is set to expand capacity at its Kolkata Dock System for the first time in decades, awarding a contract to Sajjan Jindal-led JSW Infrastructure to build an outer terminal in a move aimed at boosting cargo handling and easing congestion at the riverine port. The ₹832.25-crore contract, the largest project ever awarded under a public-private partnership (PPP) framework by SMPA, will also include modernisation of five berths at Netaji Subhash Dock (NSD), with installation of latest equipment leading to productivity gains. This is the largest PPP awarded by the port either in Calcutta or Haldia. When the two berths at the outer terminal is completed, the cargo handling capacity of KDS will go up by 3.92 million tonnes a year. The outer terminal is going to be built outside the existing lock gate system, allowing liberal vessel movement. Port sources said the location chosen for the two berths have natural water depth of 7.5 metres. The modernisation of NSD dock will see replacement of existing mobile harbour cranes with RMQC — rail mounted quay crane. These massive ship-to-shore gantry cranes are used to load and unload shipping containers between cargo ships and the dock. India's top government sector port JNPA in Mumbai mainly operates with RMQCs, which offer better productivity, leading to cost advantage to trade. JSW Infra said the development is underpinned by strong demand fundamentals benefiting from a well-established hinterland and a high concentration of cargo originating from the Calcutta metropolitan region. Both the projects are expected to address existing capacity constraints at NSD, improve berth productivity through mechanisation, and enhance vessel turnaround times, India's second-largest private commercial port operator said in a statement. Under the 30-year concession agreement, the project will be executed in two phases and is expected to create a total capacity of approximately 0.93 million TEUs. The new award builds on the company's earlier LoA for the reconstruction of berth 8 and mechanisation of berths 7 and 8 at NSD, Calcutta (0.45 million TEUs), with interim operations expected to commence shortly. Upon completion, JSW Infra's combined container handling capacity at the KDS is expected to scale up to approximately 1.4 million TEUs. The award comes days after the BJP-led Bengal government revived a deep-sea port in West Midnapore, underscoring the emphasis on infrastructure development under the new political dispensation.
https://www.telegraphindia.com/business/jsw-infra-wins-biggest-ppp-deal-to-expand-kolkata-dock-system-capacity-at-port-prnt/cid/2164798

Holoflex To Invest Rs 100 Crore In Reflective Film Venture

Holoflex Ltd, a city-based manufacturer of holograms and allied products for brand protection and security, is planning to diversify its production to manufacture reflective films used in vehicle registration plates and highway signages. The company, which has manufacturing units at Panchla in Howrah and Sector V in Salt Lake, will invest around Rs 100 crore in the first phase of this new venture. Besides catering to the pharmaceutical, packaged food, personal care, and FMCG sectors, the company also makes holograms for Aadhaar cards, voter ID cards, and debit and credit cards. Company has set a target to raise our turnover to Rs 350 crore from the present Rs 80 crore in the next five years.
https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/kolkata/holoflex-to-invest-rs-100-crore-in-reflective-film-venture/articleshow/131668258.cms

Nippon Paint eyes plant in Bengal, aims to double market share in East

Nippon Paint, the only multinational paint company in the country, may look for a manufacturing facility in Bengal in the near future. The company is eyeing a double-digit market share in the decorative segment in the East in seven to eight years. It entered the eastern decorative market last year. The company has seven factories in India and plans to increase the count to 15 in the next three years through both greenfield and brownfield expansions. For Nippon, the decorative segment constitutes 40% of its portfolio, while the industrial segment accounts for the remaining 60%. However, there are many sub-segments within the industrial category; for the automotive original equipment manufacturer (OEM) business, Nippon has a joint venture with Berger Paints as well. The company currently has a 2% market share in the decorative segment and has set a target of 4% over the next three years (by 2029-30). East constitutes 20% of the country's decorative market, which is valued at around Rs 10,000-12,000 crore.
https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/kolkata/nippon-paint-eyes-plant-in-bengal-aims-to-double-market-share-in-east/articleshow/131668264.cms

New Jalpaiguri-Siliguri Rail Line set to boost connectivity in West Bengal, Rs 916 cr approved for the project

The movement of passengers and freight in West Bengal is set to improve with enhanced connectivity under the New Jalpaiguri–Siliguri Rail Line Doubling Project, which involves building a parallel railway track alongside the existing line. Recently, the Ministry of Railways also approved ₹916.18 crore for speeding up this long-pending project. This new doubling project is expected to increase capacity, improve connectivity, and strengthen rail services in the Siliguri–Terai region of West Bengal. The New Jalpaiguri–Siliguri railway line doubling project will extend the ongoing Alubari Road–Thakurganj rail line doubling up to Siliguri Junction. The route will pass through important stations such as Bagdogra, Naxalbari, and Adhikari. The new double-line track is expected to reduce heavy rail traffic on this busy route. Right now, the single-line system often causes delays and limits the number of trains that can run. With a second line coming up, train movement should become much smoother and faster. Both passenger and freight trains will benefit, making travel and transport more efficient in the region. The new infrastructure will help run more trains in the region, including long-distance, express, and local services. This will make travel easier and improve connectivity within North Bengal as well as with other parts of the country, including major cities and business hubs. With better capacity on the route, there is also a chance that new train services could be introduced in the future, depending on demand. The New Jalpaiguri–Siliguri railway line doubling project is expected to boost economic activity across the region. Better rail connectivity will help strengthen local trade, support tourism, and improve the movement of goods in and out of North Bengal.
https://www.financialexpress.com/business/railways-new-jalpaiguri-siliguri-rail-line-set-to-boost-connectivity-in-west-bengal-rs-916-cr-approved-for-the-projectnbspnbsp-4263956/

TCS launches India's first Oracle AI Data platform lab in Kolkata

Tata Consultancy Services launched India's first Oracle AI Data Platform Lab and Centre of Excellence (CoE) in Kolkata to help enterprises accelerate adoption of artificial intelligence and data-driven transformation. The facility at Delta Park Lords in Kolkata has been set up in collaboration with Oracle and will support customers in addressing challenges such as fragmented data systems, slow analytics cycles, limited AI scalability and operational inefficiencies. The lab will leverage Oracle AI Data Platform, which combines Oracle Cloud Infrastructure, Oracle Autonomous AI Database and OCI Enterprise AI, to help organisations make enterprise data AI-ready and deploy AI-powered applications and automation at scale. This initiative would help customers convert data into business outcomes through AI-driven insights and intelligent automation. The move strengthens TCS's investments in AI engineering, intelligent data platforms and advanced analytics.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/tech/information-tech/tcs-launches-indias-first-oracle-ai-data-platform-lab-in-kolkata/articleshow/131678415.cms?from=mdr

BHEL Secures ₹90 Cr Preliminary DVC Order for 800 MW Durgapur Power Station

India’s largest power equipment manufacturer received of a Limited Notice to Proceed from a central government power utility for a new 800 MW supercritical thermal project. The LNTP won through International Competitive Bidding allows the company to commence advance engineering and begin

ordering of critical long-lead items ahead of the full main plant contract award, which is expected approximately ten months from the date of issuance. BHEL received the Limited Notice to Proceed on June 10, 2026, from Damodar Valley Corporation, Kolkata. The LNTP covers the main plant package comprising the boiler, turbine, and generator for a 1×800 MW supercritical thermal power station at Durgapur. Its scope is specifically limited to initiating advance engineering and placing orders on critical long-lead items whose procurement cycles would otherwise delay overall project timelines if deferred to the full contract stage. LNTP carries a disclosed value of over Rs. 90 crore. The main plant package contract covering the full supply and execution scope will be awarded by DVC to BHEL within ten months of the LNTP issuance date, which places the expected formal order around April 2027. The tender was won through International Competitive Bidding, confirming that BHEL was selected over international competitors. Both BHEL and DVC are public sector undertakings; the company confirmed no related-party implications arise from the transaction. The Rs. 90-crore LNTP is a preliminary commitment, not the full order. For a supercritical 800 MW BTG package covering a high-pressure boiler rated for parameters above 600 degrees Celsius and 250 bar, a multi-stage steam turbine, and a coupled generator the full main plant contract typically falls in the Rs. 2,500 to Rs. 3,500 crore range at current market rates, depending on the scope boundary between BHEL and the owner. At that scale, the full order would represent roughly 7 to 10 percent of BHEL's FY2026 consolidated revenues of Rs. 33,782 crore, meaningful, though not transformative on its own. The ICB designation is the operationally significant element. India's supercritical thermal programme has historically attracted bids from Chinese, Korean, and Japanese BTG manufacturers, all of whom can price aggressively on large-volume packages. BHEL's win on ICB terms confirms domestic cost competitiveness for 800 MW class equipment, an important signal as the government accelerates thermal capacity addition under its base-load security programme. DVC is a statutory body under the Ministry of Power, responsible for generation and transmission across the Damodar Valley region spanning West Bengal and Jharkhand. The Durgapur supercritical station is part of a broader capacity augmentation drive within DVC's generating fleet, most of which consists of older subcritical units with lower thermal efficiency.
https://tradebrains.in/bhel-secures-90-crpreliminary-dvc-order-for-800-mw-durgapur-power-station/