Synopsis of the main developments reported in leading newspapers

August 01, 2026 – August 07, 2026

Key Developments

Emami enters packaged snacks market with WeMe brand, plans Rs 750 crore investment

Emami Agrotech, the second largest edible oil company in India, has forayed in the packaged snacking business, upping its stake in the branded food business. Under a new brand 'WeMe', the company launched three products in Bengal, with plans to expand the portfolio and geographical reach gradually going forward. The company has outlined an investment of ₹750 crores, which includes building a greenfield plant in Bengal for snacks and staples for about ₹400 crore. Emami Agro is angling for a revenue of ₹1,000 crore from the segment over the next 5-7 years. The company is looking for a suitable land parcel in Bengal, where Emami is based, for the packaged food plant.

https://www.telegraphindia.com/business/emami-agrotech-enters-packaged-snacks-business-with-weme-brand-and-rs-750-crore-investment-prnt/cid/2173736

Amit Metaliks to lay foundation stone for Rs 4,000 cr steel project in Bengal on Aug 17

Amit Metaliks Ltd said the foundation stone of its proposed Rs 4,000 crore integrated steel manufacturing project at Raghunathpur in West Bengal's Purulia district will be laid on August 17, with Chief Minister Suvendu Adhikari scheduled to preside over the ceremony. The proposed integrated steel project is expected to expand the company's manufacturing capabilities. It claimed the facility will feature integrated steelmaking operations supported by advanced manufacturing technologies and sustainable infrastructure.

https://www.ptinews.com/story/business/amit-metaliks-to-lay-foundation-stone-for-rs-4-000-cr-steel-project-in-bengal-on-aug-17/3928579

State draws revamp plan for Mallick Ghat flower market

The state Food Processing Industries and Horticulture (FPI&H) Department is preparing a comprehensive plan to transform the Mallick Ghat Flower Market near Howrah Bridge into a modern, well-organised and world-class floral trading hub. State Food Processing Industries and Horticulture Minister Dr Kalyan Chakraborti recently chaired a review meeting to discuss plans for upgrading the market's infrastructure, introducing modern marketing systems and strengthening the position of West Bengal's floriculture industry in the global market. West Bengal has recently witnessed the cultivation of a wide variety of flowers, including several foreign varieties. The State will encourage flower cultivation with particular emphasis on flowers that have export potential. Flower exports will help earn foreign exchange while also enhancing the livelihoods of farmers engaged in floriculture.

https://www.millenniumpost.in/bengal/state-draws-revamp-plan-for-mallick-ghat-flower-market-670703

Late-night buses on the cards as Bengal plans 10pm services across Kolkata, neighbourhoods

Bengal Transport Department has proposed night bus services at 10 pm on key routes in Kolkata and adjoining areas to facilitate patients and their family members in accessing major hospitals, an official statement said on Saturday. The proposed services will connect Howrah, Barasat, Dunlop, Ultadanga, Rajabazar and other major transport hubs with destinations including Dumdum airport, Barrackpore, Garia, Ballygunge, Kamalgazi, Mourigram and New Town. The additional 10 pm departures have been proposed on routes where the existing last buses leave earlier in the evening. The alignments have been planned to pass through important corridors such as M G Road, C R Avenue, VIP Road, B T Road, Esplanade, Park Street, Rashbehari Avenue, Gariahat, Jadavpur, Sealdah, Moulali, Park Circus, EM Bypass, Ruby, New Town and Andul Road, ensuring easier access to hospitals, blood banks and other emergency medical facilities during late hours.

https://www.telegraphindia.com/west-bengal/late-night-buses-on-the-cards-as-bengal-plans-10pm-services-across-kolkata-neighbourhoods/cid/2172861

60% of nearly 600 realty projects under scrutiny in Kolkata likely to get clearance soon CREDAI

Around 60 per cent of the nearly 600 real estate projects under scrutiny in the city are expected to receive clearance within days, with most of the remaining projects likely to get the green signal before an August 15 deadline. CREDAI is the apex body of private Real Estate developers in India. The scrutiny of projects was made mandatory for projects above four floors by the Kolkata Municipal Corporation following the collapse of a warehouse at Taratala. Following this, construction work at all projects was suspended for revalidation as these approvals were under the previous TMC government.

https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/real-estate/60-of-nearly-600-realty-projects-under-scrutiny-in-kolkata-likely-to-get-clearance-soon-credai/article71316227.ece

Avolta enters Kolkata Airport, growing duty-free presence in India

Avolta AG (SIX: AVOL) has been awarded a seven-year duty-free contract at Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose International Airport in Kolkata, marking the company's entry into the airport and continued growth in India. Under the agreement, Avolta will operate six duty-free stores across the airport, with two stores in departures and four in arrivals, expanding its duty-free footprint in India beyond its current operation at Bangalore Airport. Located in eastern India, Kolkata is one of the country's four major metropolitan cities and an important gateway for domestic and international travel. The new contract gives Avolta access to a significant airport serving a large regional catchment area, while building its relationship as a trusted partner in India's airport sector.

https://markets.ft.com/data/announce/detail?dockey=600-202608051230DGAP___CORPNEWS_corporate_2378194_en-1

State plans to simplify vehicle registration process

The state transport department is planning to make arrangements so that dealer companies do not have to visit the regional transport offices for registration when buying a new car. Transport Minister Arjun Singh said that in the coming days, arrangements will be made so that registration can be done online and it is being seen whether the dealer company's own software can be linked with the vehicle portal. As a result, the concerned dealer will be able to register the vehicle by sitting in his office with the necessary documents. The minister claimed that this will make it possible to stop the broker-dealership. There were about 2.7 million unregistered vehicles in the state. The new government has reduced that number to half in just 2 months and 18 days. Proposals also received for creation of auto zones that will have showrooms and service centers of various car companies under one roof.

https://eisamay.com/business/business-news/state-government-to-make-car-registration-process-easier/200528480.cms

Blackstone sounds out Bengal for fresh investments in real estate and healthcare

A key official of Blackstone, the world's largest alternative asset manager, flew down to Calcutta with a team to meet the top bureaucrats of Bengal and leading industrialists to explore investment opportunities in the state. The meeting was attended by Tapas Roy, industry minister, Subrata Gupta, chief adviser to chief minister Suvendu Adhikari, and Vandana Yadav, industry secretary of the state and managing director of WBIDC. The US-based fund was represented by Gautam Banerjee, senior managing director and chairman of Blackstone Singapore, interacted with a cross section of industry representatives, including Harsh V Neotia, chairman of the Ambuja Neotia group, Vijay Dewan, managing director of Apeejay Surrendra Park Hotels, and Utsav Parekh, director of Bengal Aerotropolis Projects Ltd, among others. Blackstone, which made a bold bet in Calcutta's consumption play last year by acquiring South City mall for over ₹3,250 crore, typically invests in equity, supporting businesses to grow over a period of 5-7 years before exiting. Blackstone was looking for further opportunities in Bengal, especially in real estate, hospitality and healthcare.

https://www.telegraphindia.com/business/blackstone-explores-west-bengal-investment-opportunities-with-government-and-industry-prnt/cid/2173202

Bengal pushes for 100% jute packaging, bigger sugar reservation

The West Bengal government has sought continuation of 100 per cent jute packaging for foodgrains and doubling of sugar reservation from 20 to 40 per cent in a 'power-packed defence of Jute' at the 34th Standing Advisory Committee (SAC) meeting at New Delhi. Both measures, the state argued, are essential to absorb this season's output and secure remunerative prices for growers. State Labour Minister Arjun Singh wrote on his X handle to inform about the Bengal government's unprecedented intervention, through presentation of a detailed and forceful case for the protection and expansion of

the jute economy at the 34th meeting of the SAC, under the Jute Packaging Materials (Compulsory Use in Packing Commodities) Act, 1987.

https://www.millenniumpost.in/bengal/bengal-pushes-for-100-jute-packaging-bigger-sugar-reservation-671336

CM unveils industrial push, land for 25 projs, Rs 4K cr steel plant

Chief Minister Suvendu Adhikari unveiled a fresh industrial push, promising land allocation to 25 industries and announcing a Rs 4,000 crore steel plant in Purulia. Projecting confidence in the state's economic prospects, he asserted that West Bengal would emerge financially stronger within the next two years. The Chief Minister also stated that the central government is keen on investing in the development of the tea and textile industries in West Bengal. The Chief Minister also stated that tea gardens in north Bengal and textiles are two important sectors. The Chief Minister said that Sitharaman, during the assembly elections in the state extensively toured the textile hubs in Nadia and East Burdwan and noted their rich diversity. She will visit Bengal again between August 24 and 28. The Chief Minister highlighted that his government has introduced a land procurement policy for setting up new enterprises. Bengal will hand over land to at least 25 industries within a month. The state will extend all help to the textile industry and changes can be made in the existing laws in the State Legislative Assembly, if necessary.

https://www.millenniumpost.in/bengal/cm-unveils-industrial-push-land-for-25-projs-rs-4k-cr-steel-plant-671370

Vietjet Thailand Increases Bangkok Flights from Mumbai and Kolkata

Vietjet Thailand has announced the restoration and expansion of flight frequencies across its domestic and international network, including increased services between India and Thailand. The airline said the move follows a period of network adjustments linked to higher fuel costs and aims to meet growing travel demand while providing passengers with more flight options and additional seat capacity. As part of the expansion, the Mumbai–Bangkok route currently operates four flights per week and will increase to daily service from 1 August 2026. Meanwhile, the Kolkata–Bangkok route will operate four weekly flights from 1 July 2026. To support the expansion, Vietjet Thailand has launched a promotional fare campaign offering base fares from INR 1 one-way on flights from Mumbai and Kolkata to Bangkok. The offer is available for bookings made between 22 June and 30 June 2026, with travel valid from 1 July 2026 to 26 March 2027. Taxes, fees and additional charges apply, and seats are subject to availability.

https://safariindia.com/vietjet-thailand-restarts-india-thailand-flights/