Synopsis of the main developments reported in leading newspapers

August 15, 2026 – August 21, 2026

Key Developments

CM to inaugurate Haldia Petrochemicals' Rs 6,000-crore phenol and acetone plant in October

West Bengal Chief Minister Suvendu Adhikari will inaugurate Haldia Petrochemicals Limited's Rs 6,000 crore phenol and acetone plant at Haldia on October 14 this year. He was speaking to media persons at state secretariat Nabanna when he pointed out about the upcoming inauguration of the HPL plant. First of its kind in the country, the plant will be developed under HPL's subsidiary Adplus Polymers & Chemicals. The facility is set to house the country's first on-purpose propylene plant based on olefin conversion technology and the country's largest phenol production unit in West Bengal's Haldia. HPL chairperson Purnendu Chatterjee recently visited the site in February this year to review the final phase of construction accompanied by whole-time director and CEO Navanit Narayan and senior project officials.

https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/indl-goods/svs/petrochem/suvendu-adhikari-to-inaugurate-haldia-petrochemicalss-rs-6000-crore-phenol-and-acetone-plant-in-october/articleshow/133280060.cms?utm_source=contentofinterest&utm_medium=text&utm_campaign=cppst

Jindal Stainless investing ₹900 cr to increase cold rolling capacity: MD

Jindal Stainless is investing Rs 900 crore to increase its cold rolling capacity to cater to the rising demand of the product from sectors such as automotive, appliances, and food processing, the company's Managing Director Abhyuday Jindal said. The investment will increase the company's cold rolling capacity from 2.05 MTPA to 2.67 MTPA by FY28, he said in the company's annual report for FY26. Besides upstream, the company is also making significant investments to build up its downstream capabilities, the industry executive said. Rs 900 crore investment across Hisar and Kharagpur, along with new hot rolled annealing, pickling, and cold rolling facilities at Jajpur, will support a higher-value mix for automotive, appliances, food processing, and industrial applications.

https://www.business-standard.com/companies/news/jindal-stainless-investing-900-cr-to-increase-cold-rolling-capacity-md-126081600144_1.html

After 6-year wait, Kolkata's Orange Line clears last hurdle at Chingrighata bottleneck, eyes Dec 31 launch

The Orange Line has finally cleared the long-standing Chingrighata bottleneck, more than six years after construction at the key intersection first ran into hurdles. The last 31-metre concrete deck slab was placed on Sunday, bridging the 366-metre gap and paving the way for passenger services between New Garia and Sector V. Rail Vikas Nigam Ltd (RVNL), which is executing the 32km New Garia–Airport corridor, completed girder launching at Chingrighata in 90 days. Metro Railway is targeting December 31 to commission the Beleghata (Metropolitan)–IT Centre (Sector V) stretch. Once operational, the section will allow passengers to travel from New Garia to Sector V in around 30 minutes. The key breakthrough in bridging the 366-metre viaduct came over two weekends in mid-May, when concrete girders were erected across the Chingrighata crossing.

https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/kolkata/after-6-year-wait-kolkatas-orange-line-clears-last-hurdle-at-chingrighata-bottleneck-eyes-dec-31-launch/articleshow/133316324.cms

West Bengal to Unveil Comprehensive Industrial Policy in Aug-Sept: Swapan Dasgupta

The West Bengal government is preparing a new industrial policy aimed at creating a comprehensive and competitive framework for industrial growth, with the policy expected to be announced in August-September 2026. The government is also working on separate sector-specific policies that are expected to follow in the coming months. State Finance Minister Swapan Dasgupta said the proposed policy would cover the requirements of different segments of industry, including heavy industries, allied sectors and micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs). His remarks came during a stakeholder meeting at Nabanna attended by representatives of industry bodies and other stakeholders.

https://indianmasterminds.com/news/west-bengal-new-industrial-policy-2026-223940/

Bengal CM lays foundation stone for ₹4,000 cr steel project in Purulia

West Bengal Chief Minister Suvendu Adhikari laid the foundation stone for Amit Metaliks Ltd's ₹4,000 crore greenfield integrated steel manufacturing project at Raghunathpur in Purulia district. The project, which is expected to generate over 5,000 jobs, will expand the company's manufacturing capabilities and feature integrated steelmaking operations supported by advanced manufacturing technologies and sustainable infrastructure. The proposed facility is expected to create significant employment opportunities in the region. The project is expected to strengthen industrial activity in Purulia and contribute to the state's manufacturing and employment generation. The integrated plant will have an annual production capacity of 1.2 million tonnes and is expected to commence commercial operations by 2029. The facility will include a pellet plant, DRI, rolling mill, SMS, forging and brick units and a 145-MW captive power plant. The company also plans sustainability measures including waste heat recovery-based power generation, zero liquid discharge, water recycling, gas cleaning plants and slag utilization.

https://infra.economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/construction/bengal-cm-lays-foundation-stone-for-4000-cr-steel-project-in-purulia/133317942

West Bengal govt to focus on reviving MSME sector: Minister Ashoke Dinda

The West Bengal government will prioritise the revival of the state's micro, small and medium enterprises (MSME) sector, including reopening around 8,000 closed factories. West Bengal has around 90 lakh MSMEs employing nearly 1.35 crore people. Referring to the Centre's 'Vocal for Local' campaign, Dinda said the state government would place emphasis on promoting local industries. He said the recently tabled state budget has outlined measures to rebuild the MSME sector through the development of industrial clusters and parks. Dinda stressed that improving road infrastructure would be crucial for attracting both large industries and MSME units to the state. He also said the government would soon operationalise a single-window clearance system for industries to facilitate investments. Dinda added that the government would work to eliminate "syndicate culture and extortion, which had adversely affected businesses" in the state, besides taking steps to bring back migrant workers.

https://www.moneycontrol.com/news/business/west-bengal-govt-to-focus-on-reviving-msme-sector-minister-ashoke-dinda-13960102.html

Nine FTAs to boost exports, livelihoods in West Bengal: Piyush Goyal

Union Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal said West Bengal stands to benefit significantly from the nine Free Trade Agreements (FTAs), saying the trade pacts would expand opportunities for key sectors in the state and support livelihoods. In a post on X, Goyal said, "West Bengal stands to gain significantly from the 9 landmark Free Trade Agreements concluded under PM Narendra Modi ji."He said the agreements would provide "enhanced market access" for tea growers, fisherfolk, artisans engaged in traditional handicrafts, as well as the state's youth and women.

https://www.aninews.in/news/business/nine-ftas-to-boost-exports-livelihoods-in-west-bengal-piyush-goyal20260802193140/

The center is paying special attention to coal gasification, what will be the benefits of it?

The Centre is looking to utilise India's vast coal reserves not just for power generation but also for a wider range of industries. With that aim in mind, emphasis is being placed on coal gasification, or the technology of producing gas from coal. The government's goal is to bring 100 million tonnes of coal under gasification by 2030. Coal gasification, instead of burning coal directly, produces synthesis gas, or syngas, which can be used to produce various chemicals and industrial raw materials, including methanol, urea, ammonium nitrate, and synthetic natural gas. The government aims to reduce dependence on imports of some key products, especially methanol, ammonia, urea and LNG, which will help India's energy security and save foreign exchange, the government claims. Eight companies, including state-owned Coal India, are working on producing syngas from coal.

https://eisamay.com/business/business-news/coal-gasification-india-government-focus-benefits-2030-target/200532020.cms

Cabinet's Bengal bundle

The state Cabinet approved leasehold land allocation to 33 industrial units across two industrial parks, expected to generate 65,839 jobs. Approval was granted for the leasehold allocation of land to 24 industrial

units across eight West Bengal Industrial Development Corporation (WBIDC) industrial parks, covering a total area of 463.14 acres and 6,397.23 square feet, which will generate employment for 62,712 people. Additionally, 78.1786 acres of land will be allotted to nine industrial units across four West Bengal Industrial Infrastructure Development Corporation (WBIIDC) industrial parks, which will create jobs for 5,872 individuals. The cabinet also gave the go-ahead to a Rs 2,250-crore project, backed by the Asian Development Bank (ADB), aimed at reducing carbon emissions, improving waste management and promoting sustainable agriculture. The ADB will provide Rs 1,795 crore in financial assistance for the project. Another proposal approved on Wednesday involves the construction of an underpass near Kolkata airport, aimed at improving connectivity and easing traffic movement in the area.

https://www.millenniumpost.in/bengal/jobs-flood-shield-sports-push-cabinets-bengal-bundle-673044

IndiGo launches new Kolkata- Vijayawada flight via Varanasi

Kolkata and Vijayawada have gained a new air link with IndiGo launching a three-day-a-week service connecting the two cities via Varanasi, offering passengers an additional option for travel between eastern India and Andhra Pradesh. The service, inaugurated at Vijayawada International Airport on Thursday, will operate every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday. Flight 6E6501 will depart Kolkata at 2.10 pm and reach Varanasi at 3.55 pm before continuing to Vijayawada, where it will land at 5.50 pm. On the return journey, flight 6E6502 will leave Vijayawada at 6.20 pm, stop at Varanasi and reach Kolkata at 10.15 pm.

https://www.millenniumpost.in/bengal/indigo-launches-new-kolkata-vijayawada-flight-via-varanasi-672352

Railway projects worth Rs 13,000 crore in 4 states, Bengal-Kalinga also under consideration

The Modi government has taken a major step towards the overall development of the railway infrastructure of four states of the country. The Union Cabinet meeting headed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday approved various railway projects worth Rs 13,041 crore. This time, four multi-tracking projects of the Railways will be implemented across eight districts of West Bengal, Odisha, Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh. These include Kharagpur-Bhadrak IV line, Bhadrak-Haridaspur IV line, Gummidipundi-Gudur III and IV lines and Cuttack-Paradip III and IV lines.

https://eisamay.com/business/business-news/13000-crore-railway-project-in-4-states-by-centre/200533951.cms