Weekly News Wrap: WB from October 03, 2026 – October 09, 2026

Synopsis of the main developments reported in leading newspapers
October 03, 2026 – October 09, 2026
Key Developments

West Bengal GoM Approves Draft Industrial Policy, MSMEs and AI Among Key Focus Areas

West Bengal's proposed new industrial policy has cleared a key procedural step after the Group of Ministers (GoM) approved its draft, paving the way for consideration by the state Cabinet. The policy is aimed at attracting investment, strengthening micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) and promoting emerging sectors such as artificial intelligence (AI), semiconductors and data centres. The draft was approved at a GoM meeting chaired by state industry minister at Nabanna, with state finance minister and other members in attendance. It will now be vetted by the chief secretary before being placed before the state Cabinet, which is expected to meet next week. The policy will take effect only after Cabinet approval. The state government plans to unveil the policy before Durga Puja. The GoM's approval brings it closer to release, but it is not yet operational. The proposed policy may offer special incentives to companies registered in West Bengal. The government is also expected to restore outstanding incentives withdrawn by the previous government in installments. The dues are estimated at over Rs 10,000 crore, with MSMEs likely to be prioritised for repayment. MSMEs are at the core of the proposed industrial strategy, with the draft expected to outline a roadmap for their growth. AI, semiconductors and data centres have also been identified as emerging focus sectors alongside traditional industries. The policy would provide a framework for MSME expansion, recognising the sector as a key pillar of the state's industrial base. The strategy combines support for existing enterprises with efforts to attract investment in technology-intensive sectors. Its effectiveness will also depend on factors beyond financial incentives, including land availability, infrastructure, regulatory approvals and administrative processes. Industrial land has emerged as a key issue in discussions on attracting investment to the state. The GoM's decision follows consultations with the state government, industry bodies and business representatives.
https://knnindia.co.in/news/newsdetails/msme/west-bengal-gom-approves-draft-industrial-policy-msmes-and-ai-among-key-focus-areas

Reliance plans Bengal nuclear power project, may bring in Rs 2 lakh crore investment

Reliance Industries proposed a nuclear power plant in Bengal, in addition to developing hotels, a modern data centre and a coal gasification facility. Estimates suggest the proposed power plant can bring in investment worth about ₹2 lakh crore over a period of six to seven years. Government sources said Reliance had suggested the plant at Haripur, a coastal village near Contai in East Midnapore where Nuclear Power Corporation of India (NPCIL) plan for a similar 1,000MW project was buried 15 years ago. Among the team's proposals, the nuclear power plant was the most significant as it would bring in huge investment, maybe around ₹2 lakh crore. NPCIL-approved, 2,000-acre plot was available in Haripur. This means the NPCIL had completed all the required surveys — seismic and geotechnical, hydrological and oceanographic, meteorological, demographic, and environmental. Reliance officials are keen on Haripur. Reliance Industries has also proposed hotels in different parts of Bengal: Calcutta, the Hills and the Sunderbans. Reliance has promised to develop a portion of its proposed data centre within the next three months. Reliance has also expressed interest in investing in coal gasification. It's a process through which underground coal that cannot be feasibly mined is converted into usable gas by injecting steam and oxidants into the seam and igniting it. The gases produced include valuable gases like methane, hydrogen, carbon monoxide and carbon dioxide, which can be used in producing chemical feedstock for fuels, fertilisers and explosives. There's huge opportunity in this sector.

https://www.telegraphindia.com/west-bengal/reliance-plans-bengal-nuclear-power-project-may-bring-in-rs-2-lakh-crore-investment-prnt/cid/2182657

Gaming zone to sleeping pods: Kolkata's Sealdah station set for major upgrade

Kolkata's Sealdah railway station is set for a major infrastructure upgrade with a state-of-the-art recreational centre featuring a multiplex, gaming zone, food court, retail outlets, and sleeping pods for the waiting passengers. The Eastern Railway has contracted a firm to develop, operate, and maintain the recreation zone. According to officials, this will transform the station into a modern, passenger-friendly, and commercially vibrant destination by bringing multiple lifestyle, retail, food, and entertainment services under one roof. The recreation zone will have three upper floors plus a terrace, while the ground floor—already developed by the railway—will remain outside the licensed area. The complex will house a diverse array of facilities, including grocery and daily-use products, apparel and accessories, electronics, a modern game zone, a multiplex with entertainment options, extensive food courts and cafeterias, and outlets of popular national and international food brands. Additionally, sleeping pods will be set up to offer comfortable short-term accommodation to passengers. The project will boost the local economy by creating widespread direct and indirect employment opportunities across retail, food and beverages, housekeeping, security, maintenance, and allied services. The project would offer premium facilities while improving the overall aesthetic and functional environment of the station, which has a daily footfall close to 10 lakh people. The total value of the 10-year contract is over Rs 39 crore, including GST.
https://indianexpress.com/article/cities/kolkata/sealdah-station-upgrade-recreation-zone-gaming-sleeping-pods-10906482/

Calcutta may get direct London, European links as Centre plans airline talks

Hon'ble union civil aviation minister Shri Kinjarapu Rammohan Naidu, in keeping with hon'ble chief minister Shri Suvendu Adhikari's request, said that the Centre would discuss starting direct flights from Calcutta to London and other European cities with airlines operating in India. The issue gained significance because of the city's sentiment over the withdrawal of direct flights from Calcutta to London. After assuming power, the new government received requests from several quarters to take initiatives to introduce direct flights to London and other European cities from Calcutta. The Union minister also said the Centre would develop four more airports in the state to introduce domestic flights to Tier-2 and Tier-3 cities under the Udan 2.0 scheme as the new government signed a memorandum of understanding with the Centre to join it. The Centre would start developing airports at Hasimara in Alipurduar, Kalaikunda in West Midnapore, Chharra in Purulia and Balurghat in South Dinajpur for domestic flights. The Centre wanted 27 acres of land for Hasimara airport and 37 acres for the Kalaikunda airport. But the state did not give the land and the state was deprived. To start connecting flights from Andal to major cities like Mumbai and Bangalore, in addition to direct flights to major pilgrimage sites like Ayodhya, Tirupati and Amritsar from Calcutta was also requested. The minister showed keen interest in developing the Behala airstrip in the city into a flight training centre under the Udan 2.0 scheme. During the event, Bengal chief secretary Shri Manoj Agarwal said the state was working to develop a second airport at Kalyani in Nadia.
https://www.telegraphindia.com/west-bengal/calcutta-may-get-direct-london-european-links-as-centre-plans-airline-talks-prnt/cid/2183295

Allcargo arm to expand in East with Rs 1,000 crore Dankuni major warehousing project

Transindia Real Estate, part of the Allcargo Group, has acquired around 45 acres of land in Dankuni near Calcutta to expand its warehousing and logistics infrastructure in eastern India. The Dankuni project, its first investment in the city, could draw investments of around ₹1,000 crore. It will have 10-12 lakh square feet of warehousing capacity and will add to the

company's combined operational warehousing capacity of around 60 lakh square feet across the country. Company has acquired around 45 acres in Dankuni and the investment for land is around ₹100 crore. Another ₹400 crore could go towards developing basic infrastructure, while another ₹500 crore will be invested in internal warehouse infrastructure and handling equipment by the actual users. E-commerce, logistics and industrial users will be it's potential clients. The facility will be operational in the next 24 months. The company has so far expanded its presence across major markets, including Delhi-NCR, Hyderabad, Bengaluru, Chennai and Pune, with Calcutta marking its entry into the eastern market. Company currently has a land bank of around 300 acres, which could support development of another 30-40 lakh square feet of warehousing facilities.
https://www.telegraphindia.com/business/transindia-real-estate-expands-in-east-with-rs-1000-crore-dankuni-warehousing-project-prnt/cid/2183493

Reliance Consumer to invest Rs 600 crore for integrated food park in Nadia

Reliance Consumer Products Ltd, the FMCG arm of Reliance Industries, will invest over Rs 600 crore to set up an integrated food and beverage park at Haringhata in Nadia. This will be the first investment by the Mukesh Ambani-led group's FMCG arm — having brands like Campa — in the state. The stone-laying ceremony of the project would be held on Oct 28. The company has got 30 acres of land at Haringhata for the integrated food park. This would be the first integrated food park in the eastern region to be owned by RCPL. Campa has manufacturing facilities across the country. The two biggest facilities of the company are in Gujarat and Andhra Pradesh. Campa has a double-digit market share in the beverages market nationally. RCPL has a presence in beverages, staples, personal care products, confectionery, general merchandise, ice cream, snacks, noodles etc. Group firm Reliance Jio already has a strong presence in the state, which would be doubled with this investment.
https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/kolkata/reliance-consumer-to-invest-rs-600-crore-for-integrated-food-park-in-nadia/articleshow/134712089.cms

West Bengal is planning a new textile hub to support weavers

West Bengal is planning a new textile hub to support weavers, artisans and textile workers with workspace, skill development and stronger market access. The hub will aim to connect producers directly with exporters and traders, building on Bengal's textile clusters including Fulia and Santipur handloom, Bishnupur Baluchari and Murshidabad silk. The state currently exports around US$1 billion in textiles and apparel, with a target of US$4 billion by 2030. The expansion will also focus on apparel, hosiery, technical textiles, geotextiles and industrial textiles.
https://www.instagram.com/reel/DeJUMN6ThC4/

'Industrial node' on the land of two closed factories

Like other states in the country, the central government is considering a proposal to build a modern industrial taluk or 'industrial node' in Bengal for rapid investment in the land of closed state-owned enterprises. The state wants to join this project of the center in the interest of industrialization in Bengal. This taluk will be created as a joint initiative of the center and the state, keeping 'Make in India' in mind. To invest there, the investor will not have to go from signing a memorandum of understanding with the proposal to build a factory to collecting various clearances and going door to door to various government departments. All the infrastructure suitable for industry including water, electricity, roads, sewage will be ready there - what experts call 'plug-and-play' infrastructure. There will be a smart city near it for the employees of industrial enterprises to stay. Investors will be able to use this infrastructure and start production in the factory. For this, they only need to sign a 'Memorandum of Agreement' or MoA with the government. Already, 20 such 'industrial nodes' have been launched in various states including Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka.

https://eisamay.com/business/business-news/industrial-hub-may-be-build-up-in-the-land-of-two-closed-factories/200552933.cms