Weekly News Bulletin 19th August – 24th August 2024

The Print

India's electronics sector needs investment in component manufacturing to drive growth: Motilal Oswal Report

Date : August 20, 2024 Keyword : Manufacturing Industry

India's electronic manufacturing sector needs significant investment in the component ecosystem to ensure overall industry growth, according to a report by Motilal Oswal. While India has made strides in assembling and Original Equipment Manufacturing (OEM) within the electronics value chain, it remains heavily dependent on imported components. The report highlights the need for government initiatives to boost component manufacturing, which has lagged due to high initial capital expenditure and lower asset turnover ratios. Niti Aayog has recommended measures like fiscal incentives, R&D investments, and infrastructure development to enhance component manufacturing. Government initiatives like the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) schemes and the Semicon India program are expected to help the Electronics Manufacturing Services (EMS) industry grow significantly by FY27. However, the report stresses that additional efforts are needed to achieve India's projected electronic manufacturing capacity of USD 500 billion by FY2030.

The Print

India's manufacturing is all set to expand with robust foundations of reforms: Nuvama report

Date : August 21, 2024 Keyword :India's manufacturing

India's manufacturing sector, contributing 17% to GDP, has positioned the country as the sixthlargest manufacturing economy globally, but there is still significant potential for growth. Recent reforms like Make in India, GST, PLI, and the China + 1 strategy have laid a strong foundation, enabling diverse investment opportunities across sectors such as infrastructure, defence, electronics, and energy. The current capex super-cycle, driven by over 400 corporates and 600 unlisted entities across more than 35 industries, contrasts with the previous cycle's limited corporate participation. The defence sector, in particular, is undergoing a transformation, with initiatives like defence corridors, enhanced FDI, and indigenisation lists boosting domestic production and exports. Defence Public Sector Undertakings (DPSUs) contribute significantly to India's self-reliance in defence, with ongoing efforts to increase the indigenisation of military equipment. Innovative platforms like iDEX and Srijan, along with the offset policy, further support India's journey toward self-sufficiency in defence manufacturing.

Pragati Vadi

Vedanta Aluminium Recognised By CII For Demonstrating Innovation In Energy Efficiency

Date : August 21, 2024 Keyword : Vedanta Aluminium

Vedanta Aluminium has been recognized at the 2024 CII National Energy Efficiency Circle Competition for its energy-efficient initiatives at its Lanjigarh alumina refinery. The plant received first prize in the 'Best Energy Efficient Designated Consumer' category and special mentions in two others. The awards highlight projects like improvements in power distribution, the digestion process, and the use of biomass briquettes for renewable energy. These efforts have significantly enhanced operational efficiency and reduced CO2 emissions by over 69,000 tonnes in FY 2024. Vedanta Aluminium's commitment to sustainable practices aligns with its goal of achieving Net Zero emissions by 2050. The company's operations are pivotal to India's aluminium production and global sustainability rankings.

Times of India

Wary of using aluminium foil for storing food? 5 healthier alternatives to try

Date : August 22, 2024 Keyword :India's manufacturing

Recent research has raised concerns about the safety of using aluminum foil in the kitchen, particularly due to the potential leaching of aluminum into food, which can occur when the foil comes into contact with acidic or spicy foods. This leaching, especially when heated, has been linked to health risks like Alzheimer's disease, bone disorders, and kidney problems. Additionally, the environmental impact of aluminum foil is significant, as its production is energy-intensive and recycling is challenging. Due to these concerns, safer alternatives such as glass containers, stainless steel, beeswax wraps, silicone food covers, and parchment paper are recommended for food storage. These alternatives are non-toxic, durable, and environmentally friendly, offering practical solutions to reduce health risks and environmental damage. As awareness grows, these alternatives are likely to become more common in kitchens worldwide.

Hindustan Times

Hindalco Industries to invest \$10 billion in different projects across the India business and Novelis: KM Birla

Date : August 22, 2024 Keyword : Hindalco

Hindalco Industries, part of the Aditya Birla Group, announced a \$10 billion expansion plan across its aluminum and copper businesses, including a brownfield expansion at the Aditya Aluminium smelter in Odisha and a new alumina refinery in Rayagada. The company aims to pioneer green energy in these projects, with significant portions of power coming from renewable sources. Hindalco is also planning a brownfield copper smelter expansion in Gujarat. The Bay Minnette expansion in Novelis is set to begin commissioning in late 2026, with long-term contracts already secured. Chairman Kumar Mangalam Birla anticipates India's aluminum consumption to double over the next decade and copper consumption to grow by 10% in the coming years. Despite a 25% increase in Q1 net profit, Hindalco's financial performance fell short of analysts' expectations, though it maintained a strong balance sheet and liquidity.

Moneycontrol

Centre works on 'Rapid' mission to boost manufacturing, private sector R&D: Report

Date: August 27, 2024 Keyword: Manufacturing Industry

The government is collaborating with industry leaders to launch a manufacturing initiative to enhance local value addition and incentivise private sector research and development (R&D). The mission, named Rapid-shortened for Research, Analysis, Programme Implementation, and Data Intelligence - was discussed in recent meetings between government officials and industry executives, according to Mint. The Rapid programme is set to focus on key sectors such as automobiles, electronics and electronic components, medical devices, drones, defence, aerospace, and space technology, the report added, citing people aware of the matter. The mission's primary goals are to increase the share of manufacturing in India's economy, which currently stands at 17 percent, up from 14.4 percent in FY21, but still short of the 25 percent target set for 2025.

The Economic Times

Vedanta readies Rs 30,000-cr war chest to pursue further deleveraging, growth

Date: August 26, 2024 Keyword: Vedanta

Anil Agarwal-led Vedanta Ltd has prepared a war chest of Rs 30,000 crore with recent funds raised through a qualified institutional placement (QIP), offer for sale (OFS) and dividend to pursue further deleveraging and growth, sources said. Proceeds from the Rs 8,500-crore QIP of Vedanta Ltd, HZL's OFS of Rs 3,200 crore, and Rs 5,100 crore from the second interim dividend, coupled with existing cash reserves of Rs 13,000 crore, will lead to the creation of a Rs 30,000-crore war chest after the company receives all the funds, sources said. Vedanta may deploy this war chest for accelerated deleveraging of its balance sheet, improving capital structure, development of its transformational projects paving the way for its near-term USD 10-billion dollar EBITDA target and pursuing inorganic opportunities, an analyst said.