Weekly News Bulletin 2nd September – 7th September 2024

The Hindu

Trade ministry proposes anti-dumping duty on Chinese aluminium foil imports

Date: September 1, 2024

Keyword: Chinese Aluminium Imports

The Ministry of Commerce and Industry has recommended imposing an anti-dumping duty on aluminium foil imported from China after surging shipments from the neighbouring country captured nearly a third of India's market share despite ample local production capacity. The recommendation, contained in a report published by the ministry late on Friday (August 30, 2024) and submitted to the government for approval, seeks to address a threat to the domestic manufacturing industry, the directorate general of trade remedies said in the report.

CNBCTV 18

NHPC revises MoU with Maharashtra govt for 7,350 MW renewable energy storage systems

Date: September 4, 2024 Keyword: Renewable Energy

State-owned NHPC Ltd on Tuesday (September 3) said it has re-entered a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Department of Water Resources (WRD), Government of Maharashtra, to establish energy storage systems, specifically pumped storage projects (PSPs), across the state. This follows an earlier MoU with Maharashtra's Department of Energy for developing renewable energy sources, including solar, wind, and hybrid systems, with a total capacity of 7,350 MW. The revised MoU, signed on September 3, 2024, comes after the issuance of a corrigendum on July 31, 2024, concerning the state's policy for developing PSPs through public-private partnerships.

The Print

Global media looks at Indian manufacturing sector's reliance on China, whether it's for phones or meds

Date: September 3, 2024

Keyword: Manufacturing Industry

India was poised to take advantage of the China+1 strategy as global manufacturers looked to pivot from China after the pandemic. Just look no further than Tamil Nadu for some spoils of the victory: the state managed to get Foxconn to manufacture the latest iPhones outside China for

the first time. Other Taiwanese giants also made the jump, which ThePrint reported on earlier this year. And the world took notice. The US shifted gears to focus on India as a manufacturing hub, hoping to reduce its reliance on China. But the Washington Post highlights a contradiction—the gamble might not be best placed because India's industrial infrastructure is sorely lacking when it comes to component manufacturing.

The Financial Express

Ramkrishna Forgings to set up aluminum forging facility in Jamshedpur

Date: September 2, 2024

Keyword: Aluminium Industry in India

Ramkrishna Forgings, a leading supplier of rolled, forged and machined products has announced that it has received board approval for setting up an Aluminium Forging Facility at Jamshedpur. The Board of Directors have also given approval for an investment of Rs 57.5 crore to set up the facility, which will primarily cater to the EV market. The project will be set up with a total installed capacity of 3,000 MT per annum, and is expected to be commissioned by Q2 FY26. At the optimum capacity, the project will generate additional revenue of Rs 175 crore per annum for the company.

Hindustan Times

Anil Agarwal on Vedanta industrial parks: 'Anyone with ₹5 crore investment

Date: September 3, 2024

Keyword: Vedanta

Vedanta Resources chairman Anil Agarwal said that anyone with an investment of ₹5 crore is welcome to set up business at the two industrial parks that the company is planning to set up on a not-for-profit basis. The industrial parks would take India's manufacturing and job creation to "another level", he said.

Vedanta chairman Anil Agarwal is seen, Vedanta to establish two industrial parks for aluminium, zinc, and silver, requiring 1,500 acres of land, aiming for inauguration this financial year.(HT Photo) Vedanta would set up two industrial parks, one for aluminium and one for zinc and silver, the company announced last month.

Mint

<u>India to soon decide on non-tariff barriers on solar cell imports to boost local production:</u>
Minister Joshi

Date: September 4, 2024 Keyword: Renewable Energy

The Indian government will soon decide on imposing non-tariff barriers on solar cell imports by

including them in the Approved List of Models and Manufacturers (ALMM), a move that could reshape the sector by curbing Chinese imports and promoting domestic production. Speaking to reporters, Pralhad Joshi, Union minister for new and renewable energy, on Wednesday said that the ministry is actively considering the proposal. The ALMM is a government-endorsed list of solar module models and manufacturers that are eligible to supply to state-backed projects. In April, Mint reported that after applying the ALMM to solar modules earlier this year, the Centre is now mulling similar measures for solar cells to support Indian-made alternatives.

The New Indian Express

Reliance Industries wins bid for manufacturing advanced cell

Date: September 4, 2024

Keyword: Manufacturing Industry

Reliance Industries has emerged the successful bidder for 10 GWh-capacity advanced chemistry cell (ACC) battery storage under the production linked incentive (PLI) scheme. The Ministry of Heavy Industries (MHI) had received bids from seven bidders under global tender for 10 GWh ACC manufacturing with maximum budgetary outlay of Rs 3,620 crore. Others who bid under the scheme include ACME Cleantech Solutions, Amara Raja Advanced Cell Technologies, Anvi Power Industries, JSW Neo Energy, Lucas TVS, and Waaree Energies for a cumulative capacity of 70 GWh. All seven bids were evaluated and six were shortlisted for financial evaluation as per the requirements under the RFP.

Business Standard

Govt eases import norms for raw, calcined pet coke to cater domestic demand

Date: September 4, 2024

The government on Wednesday eased import norms for raw and calcined pet coke and permitted the inbound shipments to cater entirely to the domestic needs of aluminium and other industries. Earlier, it was allowed only for the aluminium industry. "Import of RPC (raw pet coke) and CPC (calcined pet coke) shall be permitted to cater entirely to the domestic needs of aluminium industry and other industries," Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) said in a notification. Pet coke is used for fuel purposes. In a separate notification, it said that Odisha's forest, environment and climate change department has been allowed additional time of 12 months for export of red sanders heart wood in log form.

Reuters

West plugs defences as China cranks up aluminium output

Date: September 5, 2024

Keyword: Chinese Aluminium Imports

China's primary aluminium smelters are producing record amounts of metal and the domestic market surplus is spilling out of the country in the form of semi-manufactured products. This sudden acceleration in "semis" exports is rekindling the flames of a long-simmering trade conflict. Western countries have repeatedly accused China of unfairly subsidising its aluminium and steel sectors, claiming the country's excess capacity is swamping global markets. The World Trade Organization (WTO) said last month that it was unable to get a clear picture of China's financial support for key industrial sectors due to an "overall lack of transparency". With no means of negotiating a multilateral remedy, countries are increasingly turning to unilateral tariffs to protect themselves from the renewed Chinese flood.

AL Circle

<u>Sundaram Clayton Ltd commences aluminium die-castings production at its new facility in Tamil</u> Nadu, India

Date: September 5, 2024

Keyword: Aluminium Manufacturing

Sundaram Clayton Limited, part of the \$6.5 billion TVS Group, has officially put its newly-commissioned aluminium die-castings facility into commercial production. The facility is located in the SIPCOT industrial area in Tiruvallur district, Tamil Nadu, India. The plant, with an annual production capacity of 7,750 tonnes, is in its initial phase. Sundaram Clayton has announced the start of the facility and will keep updating the facility's progress and potential capacity expansions in the future. For now, Sundaram Clayton has said in a regulatory filling, "We wish to inform that the Company has commissioned the commercial production of Aluminium Die Castings effective today situated in the industrial area of the State Industries Promotion Corporation of Tamil Nadu (SIPCOT) in Thervoy Kandigai, Tiruvallur District, Tamil Nadu." Sundaram Clayton Limited is one of the largest auto components manufacturing and distribution groups in India. It is a leading supplier of aluminium die castings to automotive and non-automotive sectors.

Zee News

Green Energy Push: Gujarat To Install Solar Rooftop Systems On Govt Buildings

Date: September 8, 2024 Keyword: Renewable Energy

The Gujarat government has announced plans to install 48 MW of solar rooftop systems on various state government buildings during the 2024-25 fiscal year as part of its ongoing efforts to promote renewable energy and reduce reliance on traditional fuels. The state's Climate Change Department has earmarked Rs 177.4 crore to facilitate the installation. "The state has already seen success in its solar energy initiatives. As of March 2024, over 3,000 government buildings have been equipped with solar rooftop systems, with a combined capacity of 56.8 MW. With an estimated solar energy potential exceeding 36 GW, Gujarat is emerging as a leader in renewable energy production.

The Week

Steel 'third rail' replaced with aluminium in part of Kolkata Metro

Date: September 9, 2024 Keyword: Aluminum Industry

The Kolkata Metro on Sunday said it has completed replacing the 'third rail' made of steel with that of aluminium at the Girish Park siding under the Dakshineswar-New Garia corridor. The third rail provides power to trains. The Metro Railway has set up a two-year target for completing the task of inducting aluminium third rails to ensure an 84 per cent reduction in energy loss, amounting to Rs one crore per year/per km. Metro Railway in a statement on Sunday said it has replaced the 200-meter-long steel third rail with an aluminium third rail on Saturday night. Aluminum third rail has the capacity to reduce system voltage drops and subsequent energy losses, thanks to its superior electrical conductivity. This less voltage drop in the third rail will help achieve faster acceleration of the running Metro trains. Once completed, the city's Metro Railway will be in the league of similar services worldwide.

The Economic Times

Vedanta will progress from being asset manager to asset owner with demerger: Anil Agarwal

Date: September 8, 2024 Keyword: Vedanta

The proposed demerger of Vedanta's diverse verticals that represent more than 15 commodities, will see the company progress from being asset managers to asset owners, Chairman Anil Agarwal has said. The proposed demerger will create independent companies housing aluminium, oil and gas, power, steel and ferrous materials, and base metals businesses. The existing zinc and new incubated businesses will remain under Vedanta Ltd. Our expansionary moves are aligned with our business model transformation. The upcoming demerger of our diverse verticals that represent more than 15 commodities, will see us progress from being asset managers to asset owners," Agarwal said in a latest report.