

Dharavi residents support govt survey to speed up \$3 billion redevelopment project

The world's largest redevelopment project in Mumbai's Dharavi by the Adani Group has been gaining massive local support and now, citizens of the world's largest slum have supported a key state government survey for the \$3 billion redevelopment project.

The survey is being spearheaded by the Dharavi Redevelopment Authority (DRP/SRA) of the state government along with the Dharavi Redevelopment Project Private Ltd (DRPPL), a joint venture between the Government of Maharashtra and the Adani Group.

The aim of the survey is to collect data from lakhs of residents to help the state government determine their eligibility criteria to aid rehabilitation under the proposed redevelopment project.

The survey began on March 18 this year. It is mapping informal tenements, paving the way for modern housing and amenities to transform the densely populated slum. Dharavi's geographical area is just over 2.39 square km in size. Now, the Citizen and Society Development Welfare body of Dharavi residents has written to



DRP/SRA, requesting them to conduct the survey fast to ensure that the redevelopment can move forward without further delays. The welfare body has submitted a memorandum seeking to expedite the Dharavi survey. The residents also urged the key surveying

authorities to take necessary action against any person or group of persons, who are hindering the survey. In the memorandum, they said that ensuring the lawful and uninterrupted progress of the survey is essential for the benefit of all residents of Dharavi. Several Dharavi

residents took to the streets last week, opposing the disruption of the survey by some people.

According to the Adani Group, the redevelopment project in Dharavi will not only provide dignity of living to its over one million residents but, at the same time, will build an unmatched ecosystem of sustainable living and innovation in the heart of Mumbai.

The government launched the redevelopment of Asia's largest slum to help improve the standard of living of its residents. Under the redevelopment project, the tenement holders will be provided

a house of 350 square feet, which is 17 per cent more than any other SRA scheme in Mumbai. The Dharavi Redevelopment Tender is one of the most progressive in terms of its outlook towards informal settlers of Dharavi. It is completely pro-people which includes free and highly concessional housing, stamp duty and property tax exemption, ten-year free maintenance and a ten per cent commercial area in residential premises to enable the prospective housing societies to have a sustainable revenue stream in addition to the corpus being provided, sources submitted.

Area sown under kharif crops grows by 3 pc in current season

India has recorded a 3 per cent increase in the area sown under Kharif crops to 904.60 lakh hectares so far this year, compared to 879.22 lakh hectares in the same period last year, according to the latest

data compiled by Ministry of Agriculture. The area under key crops including paddy, pulses, oilseeds, millets, and sugarcane has gone up this year due to better monsoon rains which

have facilitated the sowing in unirrigated areas of the country. The agriculture sector is expected to get a further boost as Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has announced an

outlay of Rs 1.52 lakh crore in Budget 2024-25 to increase production and resilience in the agriculture and allied sectors. The measures unveiled to enhance productivity and

resilience in the agriculture sector include digital public infrastructure, 'atmanirbharta' for oil seeds and large-scale clusters for vegetable production. Sitharaman said that a strategy

is being put in place to achieve atmanirbharta for oil seeds such as mustard, groundnut, sesame, soybean, and sunflower. The government will strengthen their production, storage and marketing.

Public hearing for Chhattisgarh's Kente Extension mine project concludes successfully

The public hearing for the proposed Kente Extension open-cast mine project, organised by the Environmental Protection Board in the Udaipur block of Chhattisgarh's Surguja district, concluded successfully on Friday.

The state-owned Rajasthan Rajya Vidyut Utpadan Nigam Ltd (RRVUNL) will open a new captive coal mine spanning across 1,760 hectares with an annual coal production capacity of 11 million tonnes and a state-of-the-art washery project. This development comes

after the successful 12-year operation of the Surguja-based Parsa East Kete Basan (PEKB) Block, which produces 15 million tonnes of coal annually.

Besides Kete Extension and PEBK Block, the Centre has also allocated Parsa Block to RRVUNL in the Surguja district. Better access to coal from captive mines will reduce Rajasthan's dependence on Coal India and expensive imported coal to fuel its power generation units.

The Coal Ministry has awarded the PEBK Block a prestigious five-star rating in recognition of its excellent operations. RRVUNL has made sub-

stantial investments in corporate social responsibility (CSR) initiatives focusing on education, healthcare, livelihood, and rural infrastructure development. The support from hundreds of locals for yet another coal block has validated RRVUNL's impactful CSR initiatives.

Thousands of villagers from Udaipur tehsil's Kente, Basen, Chakeri, Parogiya, and other nearby villages within a 10-km radius started arriving at 8 a.m. despite the rain to express their support for the public hearing scheduled for 11 a.m. The hearing lasted for seven hours.

Vijay Singh Porte, the

Environmental Protection Board Regional Officer, Sarguja, and Sunil Kumar Nayak, the Additional District Magistrate, chaired the hearing.

Deputy Sarpanch of Parsa, Ganeshram Yadav, said: "With the help of the locals, RRVUNL has given a new identity to Sarguja by planting more than 12 lakh trees on the previously mined land of the PEBK Block, making it a model mine in the country. Rajasthan's power utility runs cost-free English medium schools, skill development centres, clinics, and ambulance services. We hope that RRVUNL will further promote these initiatives by opening the Kente Extension mine." The villagers discussed issues of regional development, job manage-

ment, and self-employment during the meeting. Officials and dignitaries expressed support for the Kente Extension Coal Block, believing it would bring new development and job opportunities to the area. Supporting the Kete Extension, Trilochan Pekra from Chakeri village said: "This project will provide job and self-employment opportunities to the women and youth of our village in the backward region. RRVUNL's operations and CSR efforts have demonstrated that the Nigam will bring prosperity to the locals."

Urmila Pando from Basen village said: "Many women, including myself, have gained self-employment with the opening of the PEBK Mine. Today, the women in our group have become self-reliant

through the women's cooperatives engaged in diversified business activities. Hence, I support the Kete Extension Project." V.P. Garg, the Additional Chief Engineer of RRVUNL, provided information about the Chhattisgarh project. Sub-Divisional Magistrate Bansingh Netam, the Town Inspector of Udaipur Chandra Kumari, and Udaypur Block Tehsil Chandrashila Jayswal were in attendance. Garg also expressed the Nigam's commitment to continue the developmental initiatives.

At the public hearing, RRVUNL's Superintendent Engineer Ashok Prasad and Adani Enterprises Ltd's Sarguja Cluster Chief Manoj Kumar Shahi, were also present, among other officials.

Adani Green Energy's cash profit surges 32 pc to Rs 1,390 crore in Q1 FY25, revenue up 24 pc

Adani Green Energy Ltd (AGEL) on Thursday reported robust results for the April-June quarter (Q1) of the current fiscal, clocking a 23 per cent industry-leading EBITDA growth at Rs 2,374 crore, as cash profit surged 32 per cent (year-on-year) to Rs 1,390 crore.

The total revenue for India's largest and fastest-growing pure-play renewable energy company grew an impressive 24 per cent to Rs 2,528 crore in the quarter.

The robust growth in revenue, EBITDA and cash profit is primarily driven by a capacity addition of 2,618 MW over the last year, the company said in a statement.

Amit Singh, CEO of Adani Green Energy, said that they are working relentlessly towards the development of the world's largest single-location renewable energy plant of 30 GW at Khavda in Gujarat.

"To enable accelerated implementation, we have deployed advanced robotics technology for the installation of solar modules, significantly enhancing productivity. Additionally, we have developed an extensive local supply chain and established a sustained mobilisation of human resources," he said.

AGEL this week operationalised the first 250 MW wind capacity at the world's largest 30,000 MW (30 GW) renewable energy plant at Khavda.

With this milestone, 2,250 MW of cumulative capacity has been made operational at the Khavda plant, strengthening AGEL's leadership in India with the largest operational portfolio of 11,184 MW.

In the April-June quarter, operational capacity was expanded by an impressive 31 per cent to 10,934 MW, with greenfield additions, including 2,000 MW of solar capacity in Khavda, 418 MW of solar capacity in Rajasthan, and 200 MW of wind capacity in Gujarat.

The energy sales were up by 22 per cent YoY to 7,356 million units, propelled by the robust capacity additions and strong operational performance, said the company.

Tata's Rs 27k-cr semiconductor plant in Assam to become operational in 2025

Tata Electronics on Saturday began the construction of its Rs 27,000-crore chip assembly plant in Assam, which is expected to become operational next year and create 27,000 jobs initially. The plant will produce 4.83 crore chips per day using indigenously-developed technologies.

The plant's Bhumi Pujan (foundation stone laying) ceremony was held at the project site at Jagiroad in Morigaon district in the presence of Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma and Tata Sons Chairman N Chandrasekaran.

Speaking on the occasion,

Chandrasekaran said the company has already employed 1,000 people from Assam and as the facility expands it will bring entire semiconductor ecosystem companies.

"At its capacity, it will employ 27,000 people, 15,000 direct jobs and additional 12,000 indirect jobs. We want to move fast. We are trying to accelerate the building of this factory. We hope sometime in 2025 we will be able to complete this facility and quickly start operations," Chandrasekaran said.

The project was approved by the Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra

Modi on February 29, 2024. Union Electronics and IT minister Aswhini Vaishnav on Saturday said that the construction of the plant has started within a short span of five months after the approval. "It will manufacture about 4.83 crore chips per day. The unique thing about this plant is that all the three major technologies which will be deployed in this plant are developed in India," Vaishnav said.

The minister said that the chips manufactured at the Tata plant will be used in vehicles, including electric vehicles, and practically every large company will be using their chips. Vaishnav said the

communication and network infrastructure, every large company manufacturing 5G, routers etc. will be using these chips. "Semiconductor is a foundational industry. Whenever a semiconductor unit comes there will be many more downstream employment which will get created and there will be many more upstream, because the ecosystem is so complex that a lot many units come the moment a mother unit comes," Vaishnav said.

The minister further said that a major part of the India Semiconductor Mission is to develop 85,000 talent, and nine institutes in the north-east has started working on

developing talent for the semiconductor industry. He said NIT Silchar in Assam, NIT Mizoram, NIT Manipur, NIT Nagaland, NIT Tripura, NIT Agartala, NIT Sikkim, NIT Arunachal Pradesh and two institutes in Maghalaya - North Eastern Hill University and NIT -- are involved in talent development for semiconductor industry. "Our prime minister has always emphasized on 'Act East' policy and very important milestone in our semiconductor programme has today been achieved in Assam, where the construction work on the semiconductor unit has started," Vaishnav said.

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India's seafood exports have surged by 31 pc to Rs 61,044 crore: Minister

As a result of various efforts made by the government, India's seafood exports have increased from Rs 46,662.85 crore in 2019-20 to Rs 61,043.68 crore in 2023-24, registering a growth of 30.81 per cent, the Parliament was informed on Friday.

Minister of State for Commerce and Industry Jitin Prasada furnished figures in the Rajya Sabha to show that the total production and export of marine products in the country has been increasing steadily over the last five years.

The government regularly monitors and reviews export performance, including that of marine products, along with export promotion bodies and the Indian missions abroad with the objective of enhancing exports vis-a-vis the previous year. Internal targets are used for monitoring purposes

only, and have been fixed at \$7.86 billion for 2024-25, he added. Prasada also said that the Government through the Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA), a statutory organisation under the administrative control of the Department of Commerce, provides assistance for upgrading infrastructure facilities for value addition, establishing testing laboratories, participating in international trade fairs, and providing technical assistance for aquaculture production meant for exports.

The reduction in import duties on various inputs used for the manufacture of prawn and shrimp feed and fish feed announced in Budget 2024-25 will make Indian seafood-based value-added products more competitive in international markets



and help in the increase of exports, he added.

The import duties were reduced from 15 per cent to nil on fish lipid oil (HS 1504 20) & algal prime (flour) (HS 2102 2000), from 5 per cent to nil on krill meal (HS 2301 20), mineral and vitamin premixes (HS 2309 90 90), from 30 per cent to nil on crude fish oil, from 15 per cent to 5 per cent on prawn and shrimps feed (2309 90 31) and fish feed (2309 90 39), from 30 per cent to nil on pre-dust bread-

ed powder.

The government has also increased the Remission of Duties and Taxes on Export Products (RoDTEP) from 2.5 per cent to 3.1 per cent for various seafood products and with the maximum value cap per kg increased to Rs 69, which will also encourage the export of such products, the minister pointed out.

Furthermore, the Department of Fisheries is implementing the flagship Pradhan Mantri

Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) with an investment of Rs 20,050 crore in the fisheries sector for 5 years i.e. FY 2020-21 to FY 2024-25 to promote exports. The scheme intends to address critical gaps in fish production and productivity, quality of catch/harvests, technology infusion, post-harvest infrastructure, modernisation and strengthening of the value chain, reduction of post-harvest losses and traceability, he stated. Since 2020-21, the Centre's Department of Fisheries has approved proposals to the tune of Rs 1283.47 crore for the development of cold chain infrastructure under PMMSY which includes the construction of 586 cold storages, modernisation of 78 cold storages/ice plants and 26588 post-harvest transportation facilities, Prasada added.

Check It Daily
Horoscopes

Your day today

By Dr C.V.B. Subrahmanyam



Aries: New contacts at the professional front would bring lucrative opportunities. A very demanding approach can create tensions in your love life.



Taurus: A favourable time to start new projects and a happy day of wooing and courtship. Guard against being overly dominating when putting across your views at home.



Gemini: Cultivate a harmonious nature to kill your hatred because it is more powerful than love and deadly affects your body. Romantic influence is strong.



Cancer: The romantic life is becoming interesting. You are observing your love life, as it is blowing hot and cold. Act immediately as tomorrow may be very late.



Leo: You desperately need some activity to keep fit. Festive atmosphere all round keeps everyone in high spirits. On your part develop a harmonious relationship with all and win your opponents by love.



Virgo: Visit those who are less fortunate than yourself and help them with their personal problems. Loved ones will be hard to get along with. Group events will be far too expensive for you to organize.



Libra: Romantically a glittering bait awaits you to be trapped. Your affairs seem to go well on the surface. There are people in the background who don't wish you well in love. Stomach issues may rise.



Scorpio: Some of you will need to keep your temper under control, even under grave provocation. Your childish approach can thwart your romantic aspirations.



Sagittarius: You will have to do something different to make your lover enjoy your company. Your efforts at work get recognized, so cash in on this development.



Capricorn: Good earning will make you splurge on the romantic front. Speculative activities should be avoided. Those burdened with work will have to do something about the resulting fatigue.



Aquarius: Think wisely before loaning money to a friend as early return is not foreseen. Help and assistance will be forthcoming from close ones in getting a matrimonial alliance for the eligible.



Pisces: Monetary gains will keep you in a buoyant mood. This is the day when you can find everything topsy-turvy on the professional front. Those in private companies can face a salary cut.

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