

Hindalco to set up ₹800-cr battery foil unit in Odisha

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HINDALCO INDUSTRIES, THE metal flagship company of Aditya Birla Group, has earmarked an investment of ₹800 crore to build a battery foil manufacturing facility near Sambalpur in Odisha.

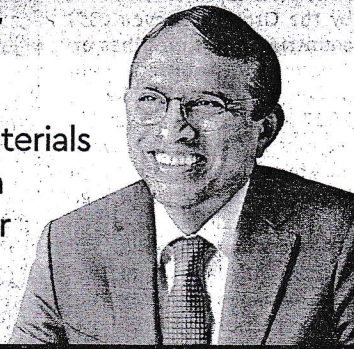
The facility will initially produce 25,000 tonne aluminium foil for use in rechargeable batteries and is expected to be commissioned by July 2025. The unit will supplement the company's existing facility at Mouda in Maharashtra, it said in a statement.

"We are seeing a fast traction in battery materials demand, driven by an impressive outlook for the EV and grid storage sectors. Raw material localisation is critical in such strategic sectors. Hindalco is thus making various investments in battery materials and technologies towards building Atmanirbhar Bharat. Investment in this new battery foil mill is another such step in this direction," Hindalco Industries managing director Satish Pai said.

Additionally, the company is working with original equipment manufacturers to co-develop and make critical components such as battery enclosures, motor housings and busbars among others. Many of these are being designed

SATISH PAI, MANAGING DIRECTOR,
HINDALCO INDUSTRIES

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and developed for the first time in India, the statement said.

The factory will be located alongside a 25 MW solar power plant, and will access additional solar energy from a 400 KV national grid connection. The aluminium foil is used in rechargeable batteries and would find use in electric vehicles (EVs) and energy storage systems.

The company said it has already achieved the technology breakthrough of manufacturing fine quality battery foils at its Mouda unit in Maharashtra. The Mouda unit is in the process of qualifying with lithium ion cell manufacturers in India, Europe and the US. The new unit in Odisha will further augment capability to supply material to Gigafactories across the world.

High-performance aluminium foils are used by cell makers as a current collector for the cathode materials. The company is also working on new coatings on battery foils that will boost performance by delivering better adhesion, lower resistance and reduced corrosion.

By 2030, demand for battery-grade aluminium foil in India is expected to grow manifold to 40,000 tonne.

The company, as part of its diversification plans, is planning to build copper tubes for air-conditioners and a recycling plant for copper and venture into extracting gallium from bauxite.

These investments will help Hindalco become a provider of high-tech metal solutions from a manufacturer of metal, it added.