

POSCO back in India, plans 5 mtpa plant with JSW Steel

Our Bureau
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Nearly 19 years after dropping plans to set up an integrated steel plant, South Korean steel major POSCO has joined hands with JSW Group to set up a 5 mtpa (million tonnes per annum) plant and explore opportunities in battery materials and the renewable energy sector.

In 2005, POSCO signed a memorandum of understanding with the Odisha government to build a 10 mtpa steel plant on an investment of \$12 billion. However, the company dropped the plan due to prolonged delay in getting approvals.

Incidentally, the Odisha government allocated the 2,900 acres acquired for POSCO to JSW Steel for its proposed 10 mtpa steel plant. JSW Steel plans to build the new plant in phases. It is not yet clear if the proposed 5 mtpa JSW Steel-POSCO plant will come up on the same land.

POSCO has a steel rolling plant in Maharashtra and steel processing centres in Delhi, Ahmedabad, Pune, Hyderabad and Chennai.

GREEN ENERGY PLANS

Besides the steel plant, the joint venture partners will

explore investment opportunities in energy transition projects that are propelling the growth of renewable energy and battery materials.

POSCO will join hands with JSW Energy for green projects. The two groups will also explore collaboration in battery materials related to electric vehicles (EVs) and renewable energy projects for meeting the requirements of the steel plant, said JSW Steel in a statement on Tuesday.

₹40,000-CR BATTERY UNIT

In February, the JSW Group firmed up plans to invest ₹40,000 crore to establish an EV battery manufacturing project with a capacity of 50 GWh.

JSW Group Chairman Sajjan Jindal said the MoU with POSCO entails collaboration for renewable energy for the integrated steel plant and for setting up an EV ecosystem in India. "Together, we aim to set a benchmark in technology and sustainability that can shape the future of manufacturing in India and beyond," he added.

POSCO Chairman Chang In-hwa said the collaboration will contribute significantly to the economic development of Korea and India and drive joint efforts towards a more eco-friendly and sustainable future.