

AUTOGUIDE

India's Automotive Industry & Trade Journal

51 YEARS
SINCE 1966

DRIVING POSITIVE IMPACT

COMPANIES AT THE FOREFRONT OF
SUSTAINABILITY



1923-2023

Keshub Mahindra passes away at 99



Driving in night was **NEVER SO SAFE**

In India, almost 1.50 lakh people die in road accidents every year; more than 50% fatal accidents occur at night.

Through advancements in Auto Lighting Technology with LED's, we are lighting the road ahead, bringing safety to the fore-front.



NEOLITE

ADVANTAGE :

- One of the largest OEM suppliers in India.
- Customer-base of over 40 prestigious OEM's.
- Exporting to over 70 countries worldwide.
- State-of-the-art infrastructure with modern facilities.
- Experienced work-force and dedicated R&D team.



Neolite ZKW Lightings Pvt. Ltd.

Board Line: +91-1276-350001, E-mail: info@neolitezkw.com

Website: www.neolitezkw.com


NEOLITE
AUTOMOBILE LIGHTING

Editor's Viewpoint



LATE JOGINDER P. MALHOTRA
Founder



M.P. MALHOTRA
Chairman - Editorial board



SHILPA MALHOTRA
Executive Editor

EV adoption in India is considered a game changer in the Climate Tech vertical, contributing to creating healthier living environment.

India's Plan to Incentivize Green Hydrogen Fuel & Lubricant Production

THE automotive industry is taking steps to reduce its environmental impact by implementing for sustainable manufacturing processes. Countries globally are also implementing action plans to achieve Sustainable Development Goals related to health, clean energy, innovation, sustainable cities, responsible consumption, climate action, and partnerships. The transport sector, including electric vehicles is seen as crucial in combating the climate crisis and achieving zero carbon emission objectives by 2070, particularly in India, where EV adoption is considered a game changer in the Climate Tech vertical, contributing to creating healthier living environments.

India has announced plans to launch a new incentive scheme for green hydrogen fuel producers, offering at least 10% of production costs or 30 Indian rupees per kilogram. This is part of a USD 2 billion plan set to start before the end of June, with the government aiming to promote green hydrogen and reduce carbon emissions, with the goal of becoming a leading exporter in the sector. Currently, the cost of manufacturing green hydrogen in India is approximately 300 rupees per kilogram. Out of the total incentive plan, around 130 billion rupees will be allocated for green hydrogen production, and the rest will be designated for manufacturing electrolyzers used in hydrogen production.

Also, ExxonMobil is investing nearly INR 900 crore (USD 110 million) to build a lubricant manufacturing plant at the Maharashtra. Once operational, the plant will have the capacity to potentially manufacture 159,000 kl of finished lubricants annually to meet the growing domestic demand from manufacturing sector. Furthermore, Euler Motors, an electric vehicle company, today launched its advanced version of HiLoad EV 2023 – with the highest battery pack and range in the 3W cargo segment. Lastly, Sona BLW Precision Forgings Ltd. (Sona Comstar) has inaugurated its second-largest manufacturing plant in Chakan, Pune.

Enjoy reading

CONTENTS

APRIL 2023

COVER STORY

6 Sustainability in Action



LAUNCHES

14 BMW Launching 19 Car Models in India



BMW

PARTNERSHIPS EV

23 Ather Energy & Southern Railways to set up EV charging stations

WOMEN POWER

25 CEAT and Harmanpreet Kaur Launch Two-Wheeler Campaign

50 Gadkari urges businesswomen and promote road safety culture



ELECTRIC VEHICLES

18 100 more EV charging stations in Delhi by July

26 Fuelling India's Green Growth REVFIN

29 The Sustainer launches Mumbai's 1st EV Charger

49 Euler Motors launches HiLoad EV 2023



PARTNERSHIPS

- 24 BMW Motorrad partners with Gallops Motorrad in Surat.
- 28 Maruti Suzuki Rewards strengthens collaboration with Indian Oil
- 31 Total Energies enters India's online auto care market
- 42 Tata Motors renews sixth year IPL partnership



OBITUARY

- 48 Keshub Mahindra,
Former Chairperson of M&M passes away



SALES

- 10 A Closer Look at March 2023 Fleet Sales



MILESTONES

- 41 India plans green hydrogen incentives



INITIATIVES

- 16 Jeep India Launches 'Jeep Wave Exclusive'
- 46 Renault to revitalize 10 water bodies in Oragadam

EXHIBITIONS

- 12 India eMobility Show 2023 A Resounding Success
- 21 India International EV Show to Showcase in Chennai in May 2024
- 35 ACMA Automechanika 2024

PEOPLE

- 30 Piaggio group appoints Ajay Raghuvanshi
- RattanIndia's Revolt Motors appoints Mr. Pankaj Sharma
- CEAT appoints Mr. Arnab Banerjee new CEO & MD



Mr Ajay Raghuvanshi

AWARDS

- 19 Sunil Bohra Uno Minda Awarded "CFO of the Year"

COMPANY NEWS

- 22 Uno Minda acquires Kosei stake in 4W alloy consolidation



ACHIEVEMENTS

- 40 Nissan India felicitated for export contribution

COMMERCIAL VEHICLES

- 39 1Big alliance for next-gen CV software



THREE WHEELERS

- 36 Bajaj launches electric 3-wheeler in April

SPREADING WINGS

- 44 Ashok Leyland LCV strengthens retail footprint
- Ola Electric launches 50 experience centres in a single day
- 45 Yulu & Zomato join hands to make Last-mile Deliveries Green
- Tummoc to expand its footprint in 100 cities

CARS

- 13 Toyota offers Assured Buyback for Hilux
- 17 Kia's RDE Editions Feature iMT Drive System
- 34 Hyundai aims to double new Verna sales
- 37 Nissan e-4ORCE Moon Trail Project with JAXA
- 38 Renault Enhances Car Exports with Kamarajar Port Agreement



Assured Buyback Scheme On Hilux



OIL AND LUBRICANTS

- 28 Maruti Suzuki Rewards strengthens collaboration with IOCL
- 32 Valvoline Launches New TVC Campaign
- 33 ExxonMobil to Invest INR 900 Cr in Maharashtra Lubricants Plant
- 47 ONGC to start oil production in Bay of Bengal

GLOBAL EYE

- 43 Tesla's Price War to Drive Record Sales with Cheaper Cars

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

One Year	Two Years	Three Years	Single Copy
Rs.1000	Rs.1800	Rs.2500	Rs.100

Autoguide is a monthly trade journal focused on automotive industry news published 12 times in a year.

The views and opinions expressed in the articles printed in this journal do not necessarily represent that of the Editorial Board.



Edited, Published and owned by M.P. Malhotra.
Printed at Options Printofast, 64, Patparganj Industrial Area, Delhi-110092 and Published at 608, Ansal's Imperial Tower, C-Block, Naraina Vihar, New Delhi-110028 Phone (011) 41051000, Website: www.autoguideindia.com E-mail: autoguide@autoguideindia.com



Sustainability in Action

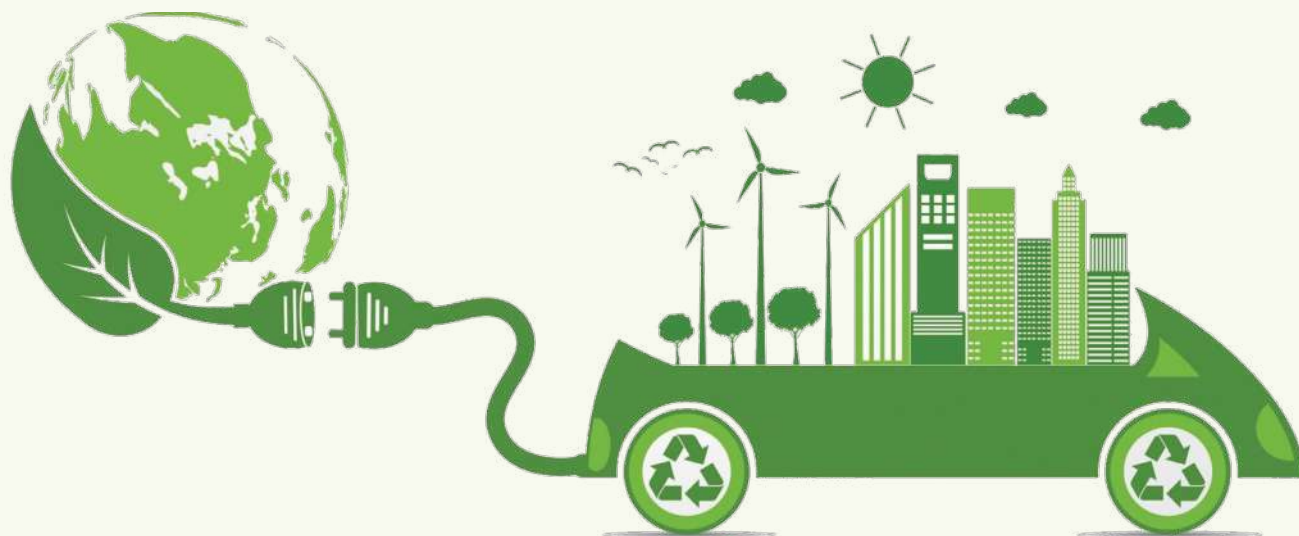
Companies Making Strides for a Better Future

THE automotive industry is a significant contributor to carbon emissions, and as the world becomes more conscious of the need for sustainable practices, automotive companies are taking action to reduce their environmental impact. From electric vehicles to sustainable manufacturing processes, these companies are making strides towards a better future.

Globally there is a fast-paced action plan being implemented by every country, devising unique methods to achieve 17 different Sustainable Development Goals, which include Good Health and Well-being, Affordable and Clean Energy, Innovation and Infrastructure, Sustainable Cities and Communities, Responsible Consumption and Production, Climate Action, Partnerships to achieve the Goal, among others.

The transport sector is a major contributor to urban traffic congestion, carbon emissions, air pollution and related health issues. Electric Vehicles have been recognized as the preferred mobility platform to curb pollution to some extent. EVs will help India reach its 2070 zero carbon emission objective. In order to combat the climate crisis, EV adoption is seen as crucial and a game changer that can help propagate Climate Tech vertical in multiple ways and make the places we live in much healthier.

The following brands are playing their part in championing climate change action and make net zero goals achievable -



MG Motor

MG Motor is readying for the launch of Smart EV, which it recently christened as 'Comet'. The 'Comet' is here at a time when driving in congested urban cities is becoming a stressful chore that calls for an urgent need for agile and futuristic solutions amidst skyrocketing fuel costs, sparse parking spaces, and increasing pollution. Electric vehicles can help reduce environmental impact, save costs, and offer convenience as well as comfort. The 'Comet' goes a step further to achieve this goal by providing seamless mobility, which is connected, automatic, electric and shared.



MG has taken a long-term vision for future mobility, which was well showcased at the just concluded Auto Expo 2023, which was themed on sustainable, conscious, and innovative technology as part of MG's vision in India. The company displayed two technologically advanced, high-safety, and zero-emission electric vehicles (EVs) supporting its stance as an Auto-tech brand during the show.

Lohum Cleantech

FOUNDED in 2018, Lohum Cleantech is India's biggest integrated lithium-ion battery manufacturer and recycler - a climate technology business working on strategies to hasten the world's switch to battery power. Lohum has the ability to recycle 100,000 battery packs and additionally accumulate 200,000 two-wheeler battery packs at the facility. By providing batteries with several lives and making sure essential raw materials for batteries survive forever, the brand's objective is to enable electricity in every corner of the globe. In order to reduce battery prices and enhance global energy security, Lohum maximizes circular sustainability across the supply chain with their battery reuse and recycling capabilities. Lohum has been able to develop the technology and infrastructure necessary to produce, repurpose, and recycle Li-ion batteries with a 300 MWh annual capacity during the past three years.



HOP Electric -

HOP ELECTRIC has expanded its manufacturing capabilities to produce up to 180,000 electric two-wheelers per year at its HOP Megaplex facility in Jaipur. The facility currently produces the HOP LEO, LYF e-scooters, OXO electric motorcycle, and will also produce the LYF2.0. HOP OXO has received over 10,000 bookings within three months of its launch, and the company expects to sell more than 50,000 electric two-wheelers over the next year. HOP Electric completed 100,000 km of road testing across 14 Indian states as part of its #OXOSNEAKPEEK program. The company is also working on strengthening its pilot HOP Energy Network to address charging infrastructure challenges and range anxiety.



Godawari Electric Motors:

Launched in July 2019 as Godawari EMobility, Godawari Electric Motors (manufacturer of eblu range of EV products) aims to provide self-employment to millions and reduce the carbon footprint in the country with its state-of-the-art e-mobility solutions. It is the brainchild of Siddharth Agarwal and Mahendra Agrawal and was founded with the vision of providing a non-polluting, sustainable commute by offering a complete range of EV products. What makes Godawari Electric Motors unique is that it is one of the first companies to launch a leasing model in the EV space in India.



Revfin Services:

REVFIN, an advanced digital lending platform, has financed over 17,118 electric vehicles in the last 51 months, reducing 30486 metric tons of CO2 emissions. The company aims to finance two million electric vehicles in the next five years and has partnerships with more than 650 dealerships and 26 OEMs, including major brands like Hero Electric and Piaggio, to accelerate the adoption of EVs and create a sustainable future for generations to come. Revfin's advanced digital lending platform and proprietary underwriting capabilities enable it to serve financially excluded and underserved segments in tier 2 and tier 3 cities as well.



Apollo Tyres :

APOLLO TYRES is developing passenger vehicle tyres with 75% sustainable materials, including bio-based and recycled materials, as part of its proactive approach towards sustainable mobility solutions. The company also sources sustainable natural rubber from suppliers who have public commitments to sustainability and traceability, ensuring responsible and sustainable production practices. This innovation is aimed at reducing the environmental footprint of the tyre manufacturing industry and promoting sustainability, showcasing Apollo Tyres' commitment to eco-friendly mobility solutions for a greener future.



Tata Motors :

TATA MOTORS has been actively focused on environmental, social, and economic sustainability through various initiatives. These include promoting electric mobility with vehicles like the Tata Nexon EV and Tata Tigor EV, investing in renewable energy through solar power plants, implementing resource conservation measures such as water recycling and waste management, creating a sustainable supply chain by engaging with suppliers for compliance with standards, and participating in corporate social responsibility (CSR) initiatives in areas such as healthcare, education, skill development, and livelihood promotion. Safety and emissions have also been a priority with investments in research and development. Please note that sustainability efforts by Tata Motors may change in 2023 and beyond, and official sources should be referred to for up-to-date information.



A Closer Look at March 2023 Fleet Sales

What's Driving the Growth?

PASSENGER vehicle factory dispatches to the dealers stood at 3.36 lakh units during March 2023, representing a growth of 27% YoY. This was the highest volumes ever reported for the month of March. However, moving into the next fiscal, OEMs are closely keeping a watch on geopolitical conditions (impact on commodity, fuel prices), economic growth, loan rates and interest rate hike, which could be the possible headwinds for the industry. The shortage of semiconductors is expected to continue for some more time. In the two wheeler segment, domestic dispatches continued to improve but still below the previous peak.

Passenger vehicles

As per industry estimates, total PV wholesale volumes during the month stood at 3.36 lakh units, as against 3.22 lakh last year, marking a growth of 4.4%. This is the highest-ever wholesale for the month of March. Stock in the industry has been reduced to 2.04 lakh units by month-end from 2.18 lakh units in the beginning of the month.

Healthy replacement demand, relatively stable semiconductor supplies, coupled with an extent of pre-buying prior to the implementation of second phase of BS-VI emission norms from April 1, 2023 acted as tailwinds to demand in March 2023. However, an increase in cost of ownership (led by hike in vehicle prices and repo rates), remained a headwind for the industry, said ICRA.



Commercial vehicles and three-wheelers

Shamsher Dewan of ICRA said that for the domestic CV sector, continued traction in construction, mining and infrastructure activity and replacement demand, coupled with some extent of pre-buying prior to the implementation of second phase of BS-VI emission norms from April 1, 2023 acted as tailwinds to demand in March 2023. However, the increase in repo rates, resulting in higher cost of financing, remained as a headwind.

VE Commercial Vehicles (VECV), a joint venture between Volvo Group and Eicher Motors said, the domestic sales of Eicher branded trucks & buses have recorded sales of 11,263 units in March 2023 as compared to 7929 units in March 2022, representing a growth of 42%. Volvo Trucks and Volvo Buses have recorded sales of 229 units in March 2023 as compared to 222 units in March 2022, representing a growth of 3.2%.



Two-wheelers

According to ICRA, demand in the two wheeler segment was supported to an extent by pre-buying prior to the implementation of second phase of BS-VI emission norms from April 1, 2023, even as demand sentiments continue to remain sombre. The rural demand has improved to an extent, but it continues to remain weak, thereby impacting the entry level motorcycle segment, and the industry volumes.

Country's largest two wheeler maker Hero MotoCorp total motorcycle sales for the month stood at 4.85 lakh and scooter sales were recorded at 33,446 units.

TVS iQube electric recorded sales of 15,364 units in March 2023 as against sales of 1,799 units in March 2022.



Tractors

Healthy rural cash flows, aided by four consecutive normal monsoons, continued to aid the demand for the tractor industry, even as fears regarding impact of unseasonal rainfall on rabi yields and effect of a possible El Nino on south-west monsoon performance have emerged and would need to be monitored. Hemant Sikka, President, Farm Equipment Sector, Mahindra Mahindra, said, Increase in crop output, mandi prices staying firm, government support for increase in MSP for major crops and increase in wages under MGNREGA scheme will help improve the financial security of rural households and boost tractor demand in the coming months.



India eMobility Show 2023

A Resounding Success

THE India eMobility Show 2023, organized by Valiant Products & Services, successfully concluded at the India Expo Centre & Mart in Greater Noida, Delhi-NCR on 24th March. The event brought together key players in the electric vehicle (EV) industry, including policymakers, business leaders, entrepreneurs, experts, investors, and enthusiasts, to discuss the future of eMobility in India.

The event started with a ribbon-cutting ceremony by H.E. Vincenzo De Luca, the Ambassador of Italy to India, as the chief guest, and felicitation of important dignitaries by Mr Shabir Ahmad, Chairman of Valiant Products & Services. The ceremony was followed by speeches from H.E. Vincenzo De Luca and keynotes from renowned international and national luminaries in the EV industry.

The event was filled with excitement as attendees explored the exhibition halls to witness the latest developments in the eMobility sector. The show featured top exhibitors showcasing the latest models, cutting-edge technologies, and disruptive innovations, along with insightful keynote addresses and panel discussions by industry leaders and experts.

On the second day, important policymakers, including Mr Ravi Nandan Sinha, Director, MSME Business Forum, and Mr Carlos Gross, First Secretary, Trade, Investment & Tourism Officer, Embassy of the Dominican Republic in India, participated as guests of honour. Mr. Ravi Nandan Sinha shed light on the funding policy for companies interested in India's e-journey, assuring exhibitors of the availability of funds on a leasing model.

The event also featured keynotes and panel sessions on trending EV topics by industry stalwarts. Over the two days, the India eMobility Show provided participants with an opportunity to gain critical knowledge, witness the latest products and solutions, forge new alliances, close business deals, and develop effective strategies for sustainable mobility growth in India. The conference was another highlight of the event, where global and regional speakers shared groundbreaking insights on key topics related to EVs and sustainability.

The organizers of the India eMobility Show expressed their satisfaction with the event's success and pledged to position India's expanding EV market at the center of the global discourse in future editions.



INDIA
eMobility
SHOW



Toyota offers Assured Buyback for Hilux

TOYOTA KIRLOSKAR MOTOR (TKM) today announced an exciting offer for its iconic lifestyle utility vehicle, the Hilux. Customers looking to buy the Hilux can now choose attractive low EMI option starting from Rs. 32,886/- or opt for an assured 70% buyback after 3 years, from the date of purchase of Hilux, which are made available exclusively through the Toyota Financial Services. These rollouts have been specially designed keeping in mind the customers' convenience to own the much-celebrated Hilux in the lifestyle vehicle segment.

Commenting on the announcement, Mr. Atul Sood, Vice President of Sales and Strategic Marketing – Toyota Kirloskar Motor, said, "With the recent announcement of restart of Hilux bookings opening, we are once again overwhelmed with the good customer response. Owning the globally acclaimed Hilux has now become easy & more exciting with best finance options of low EMI or 70% assured buyback after three years from the date of purchase of Hilux. We strongly believe that this scheme will cater to our discerning customer preferences to own and experience the legendary Toyota Hilux with enhanced convenience.

The Toyota Hilux is a versatile lifestyle utility vehicle that can be used for off-roading adventures on tough terrains as well as everyday city use. It can also serve as a multipurpose vehicle for various business needs such as campervan, farming, defense, mining, construction, rescue van, etc. It is equipped with a powerful 2.8 L Four Cylinder Turbo-Diesel Engine and is available in both manual and automatic transmission options. All variants come with 4X4 drive capabilities and first-in-segment features like an 8" Infotainment system, connected features, dual-zone AC, tire angle monitor, and front parking sensors.



BMW Launching 19 Car Models in India for, aim double-digit Growth

German luxury auto maker BMW plans to introduce 19 car models, including electric vehicles, in India this year as it looks to sustain double-digit sales growth in the country, a top company official said on 27 March. The car maker, which expects 2023 to be the best for it in terms of sales in the country so far, also aims for electric vehicles to account for about 15 per cent of its overall sales this year. The group also plans to introduce three bike models under the BMW Motorrad business in India this year.

"We are going to launch 22 products which includes 19 cars and three bikes during this year," BMW Group India President Vikram Pawah told reporters in an interaction. It would be a mix of all new product introductions and facelifts of existing model range, he added. The company has been launching over twenty products a year for the last few years, Pawah said, adding, "two-third of our volume will be either new or refreshed products which is probably for the first time that so much of the product is changing in one year itself".

Further, Pawah said that in the eight weeks between December last year and January this year, the company introduced eight products, and it has been able to create a demand and an order pipeline of 5,500 cars and 4,500 bikes.

According to him, BMW is the only company having four distinct electric models in the country. "So, out of the 5,500 total demand we have created for cars, 600 is for electric range. So, it is already crossing the 11 per cent mark. Globally, we will have 12 fully-electric products by the end of 2023. We intend to bring them all to India over a period of time depending upon the supplies and homologation process. So, clearly we will have the widest choice always and keep lead in the electric premium space.



Jeep India Launches 'Jeep Wave Exclusive'

JEEP INDIA has introduced Jeep Wave® Exclusive, a premium customer experience program that ensures a hassle-free and enhanced ownership experience by offering a range of services. The new program comes with the introduction of the new BS6 phase II compliant range and promises to offer a unique and premium experience beyond the showroom and through the customers' ownership journey.

Jeep Wave Exclusive Program is available to the entire Jeep line-up, and is filled with exclusive benefits to deliver Jeep owners the utmost care and dedicated 24/7 support. The premium customer care program entails 3 years of Jeep Comprehensive Warranty, Jeep Express Service packages starting in 90 mins, Jeep Courtesy Edge & Segment First Customer Contact Programs – Jeep Genius and Jeep Adventure Concierge to help customers gain unparalleled ownership experience.

Commenting on the launch of this premium service program, Mr Nipun J Mahajan, Head of Jeep Brand India, said, "Jeep® Wave Exclusive is our commitment to an excellent and enhanced ownership experience for our Jeep customers. Jeep is a global premium brand, and we want our customers to experience the premium Jeeplife throughout their ownership journey. With the high-quality aggregates and uncompromised build, the Jeep Wave® Exclusive offerings will provide our customers with the peace of mind they expect from the brand."

Listed below are the details of the Jeep Wave Exclusive initiative:

- 3 years Jeep Comprehensive Warranty
- Jeep Express Service starting at 90 minutes
- Jeep SUV mobility solution
- Assures quality service with time-saving benefits



Mr Nipun J Mahajan
Head of Jeep Brand India



Kia's RDE Features iMT Drive System



AFTER creating a segment-winning proposition with the launch of revolutionary Intelligent Transmission technology (iMT) in petrol versions of the Sonet and the Seltos in 2020 and 2021, Kia is now empowering all its diesel models with iMT. All manual transmission diesel versions of Kia will now be upgraded to 6iMT versions which will now come as a standard transmission in its refreshed RDE-compliant vehicle 2023 editions of the Seltos, the Sonet, and the Carens to be available from 1st April 2023. This move will transform the diesel driving experience which is considered highly inconvenient due to heavy clutch usage and India's traffic and road conditions.

The iMT technology is superior to a manual transmission and offers a range of benefits such as eliminating clutch fatigue and engine stalling in higher gears at low speeds. Additionally, it provides better fuel efficiency as the clutch operation is controlled by actuators and Transmission Control Unit (TCU). Kia's iMT technology has won over customers, with one out of every five Seltos and one out of every three Sonet sold in 2022 being iMT editions.

Kia has been known for bold and meaningful disruptions shifting customer preferences for years. We are undisputed market leaders in iMT since its launch with the petrol edition in the Sonet in 2020 and in the Seltos in 2021 and feel that it's the right time to revolutionize diesel drive experiences with the breakthrough technology. Our deep research and customer feedback showcase how India loves a clutch-free thrilling driving experience that allows them to navigate the growing traffic on the roads without restricting their long commutes to work or leisurely vacations. With iMT, Kia customers will now be able to enjoy the comfort of an automatic with the drivability of a manual transmission, said Mr. Tae-Jin Park, MD CEO, Kia India. For years, Kia has been a category creator and leader by adopting and focusing on innovative, new-age technologies backed by strong consumer insights.

100 more EV charging stations in Delhi by July

Delhi will have a hundred more electric vehicle charging stations by the end of July.

Power minister Atishi said: "These charging stations will come up at metro stations, bus depots and other strategic places across Delhi."

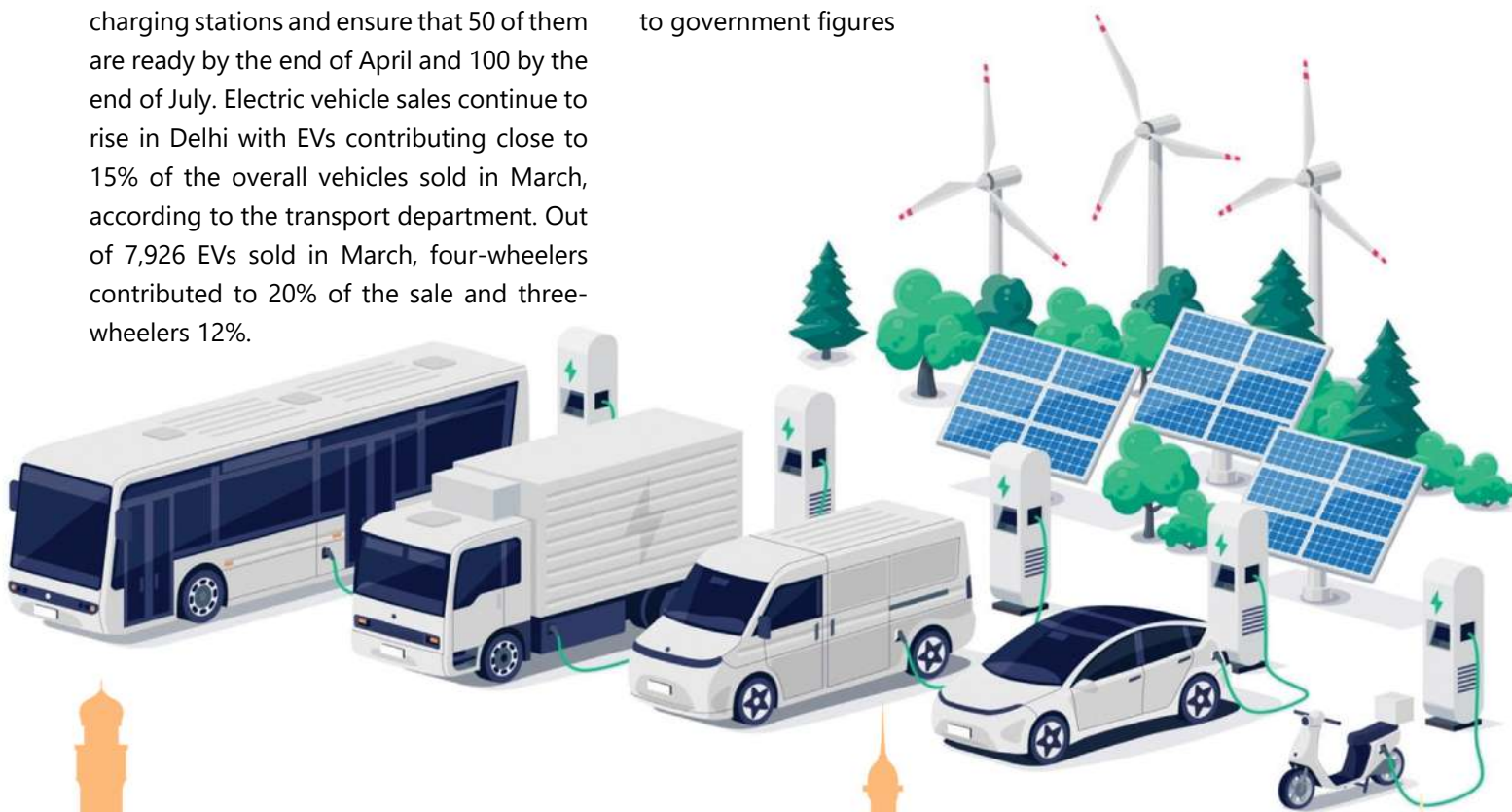
Atishi said that there would be EV charging infrastructure "in almost every part of the city, where the cost of charging per unit will be the lowest not only in the country but also the world. People will have to spend less than Rs 3 per unit for charging."

Officials have been directed to address issues occurring during installation of charging stations and ensure that 50 of them are ready by the end of April and 100 by the end of July. Electric vehicle sales continue to rise in Delhi with EVs contributing close to 15% of the overall vehicles sold in March, according to the transport department. Out of 7,926 EVs sold in March, four-wheelers contributed to 20% of the sale and three-wheelers 12%.

"Now that the demand for electric vehicles is increasing so rapidly among people in Delhi, we are building 100 EV charging stations in the capital to ensure that people have enough stations available around them and do not face problems," Atishi said.

These charging stations, being set up by the Delhi government, are based on a public-private partnership (PPP) model.

The government had, while presenting its EV report for 2022, had said that over 2,300 charging points and 200-plus battery swapping stations were running across the city. It had also said that Delhi had registered 93,239 EVs till December 31, 2022. Out of these, 5,189 got registered in 2020 August 7, 2020, to December 31, 2020, 25,809 electric vehicles got registered in 2021 while 62,241 EVs got registered in 2022. EV sales contributed to 4.73%. Delhi's EV contribution was as high as 10.24%, according to government figures



Sunil Bohra, Uno Minda Awarded "CFO of the Year," by ASSOCHAM



Mr. Sunil Bohra
Group CFO, Uno Minda Ltd at the award ceremony

UNO MINDA Limited, the leading global supplier of proprietary automotive solutions and systems to OEMs, announced that its CFO, Mr. Sunil Bohra has been awarded the ASSOCHAM Vibrant Bharat "CFO of the Year Award".

Mr Bohra has been awarded as "CFO of the year" under the central theme of Bharat@100: paving the way for inclusive and sustainable global growth, for his vision, outstanding contribution to the business, especially in a globally difficult times of rising interest rates and inflation, impact of geo-political developments, administering cash flows in the midst of a recession, technology, tax & regulatory environment.

Mr. NK Minda, CMD, Uno Minda Ltd, said, "We are incredibly proud of our Sunil been named CFO of the Year by ASSOCHAM. His exceptional financial leadership, strategic vision, and unwavering commitment to our company's success have been instrumental in driving our growth and achieving our goals. This well-deserved recognition is a testament to his hard work, dedication, and outstanding contributions to our company. We are fortunate to have such a talented and respected leader on our team, and we look forward to their continued success."

Mr. Sunil Bohra, Group CFO, Uno Minda Ltd, said, "I am humbled and thank ASSOCHAM for this recognition. The industry has seen an enormous transition over the course of the past few turbulent years. As a company, we have come a long way in terms of navigating successfully in these extremely difficult global times and establishing new standards. Receiving the CFO Award is a recognition and one of the milestones of our team's accomplishments and the achievements. I sincerely appreciate our team's ongoing support and hope to see more accomplishments of this nature in the future."

Sona Comstar unveils new plant In Chakan, Pune


SONA COMSTAR

SONA BLW Precision Forgings Ltd. (Sona Comstar) has inaugurated its second-largest manufacturing plant in Chakan, Pune. The plant manufactures driveline products for electric and non-electric vehicles and caters to customers in India and globally. The plant, spread across 10 acres, will utilize advanced technologies to ensure high quality and precision in manufacturing, and will help scale up production to meet the company's growing order book of INR 238 billion. The plant has a production capacity of 11.8 million gears, which is expected to increase to 20.1 million differential gears by FY25.

The total investment for the plant is estimated at INR 231 crores. Sona Comstar's global market share of differential gears increased to 7.2% in 2022 from 5.0% in 2020, and the company continues to dominate the Indian market with a 60-90% market share. Sona Comstar is known for its R&D and engineering capabilities, and strives to supply innovative technologies and products to its customers.

Mr Hemant Sikka, President of the Farm Equipment Sector and Member of The Group Executive Board, Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd., graced the occasion as chief guest and inaugurated the plant along with Mr Sunjay Kapur, Chairman and Mr Vivek Vikram Singh, MD & Group CEO, Sona Comstar.

At the inauguration, Mr Hemant Sikka said, "I am delighted to be a part of this momentous occasion. This is Sona Comstar's second-largest plant in India and is an environmentally sustainable industrial unit. The plant will have almost one megawatt of solar capacity and also treat 100% of its used water."

"We are proud to inaugurate our new plant in Chakan," said Mr Sunjay Kapur, Chairman of Sona Comstar. "The new plant's cutting-edge technology and commitment to quality will set benchmarks in the automotive industry, showcasing India's manufacturing prowess on a global scale. Sona Comstar is proud to contribute to India's vision of becoming a global manufacturing hub and creating job opportunities for the local community."

Mr Vivek Vikram Singh, MD & Group CEO of Sona Comstar, said, "This new plant is a testament to our dedication to innovation and excellence in manufacturing. This expansion marks a significant milestone in our growth journey, as we remain committed to our vision of being a global leader in the automotive technology solutions space."



India International EV Show to Showcase in Chennai in May 2024

2nd Edition of INDIA INTERNATIONAL EV SHOW (IIEV Show) is the upcoming largest International Trade Show for Electric Vehicles and Technologies, advanced batteries, charging infrastructure, and igniting associated e-mobility applications. The IIEV Show will be held from **26th to 28th of May 2023 at Chennai Trade Centre in Chennai**. We cover all-electric vehicles, beginning with two-wheelers and on through three-wheelers, four-wheelers, and all-electric commercial vehicles. Our 200+ exhibitors represent Dealers, Distributors, Importers, Exporters, and EV Manufacturers from more than five Asian nations. Leading experts from the industry will be addressing the latest EV Technology, buyers-seller meet, policy framework, growth strategies, regulatory and business models to help reduce the environmental impact.

IIEV Show has a great combination of exhibitors displaying new product launches, E-Mobility seminars, and committed visitors. Strategic location, media tie-up, press coverage, and other measures will assist us in reaching the appropriate target audience. Our 20,000 visitors include EV fans, dealers, distributors, importers, exporters, producers of e-mobility technologies, Govt Departments, Embassies and EV Institutions.

India International EV Show is coupled with the vast opportunities and potential challenges of E-Mobility development in India. It is a common platform which unites engineers, mechanics, scientists and decision-makers to solve problems across the electric vehicle and advanced battery industries. This show capitalizes on the latest EV trends and exchanges groundbreaking ideas with experts and industry visionaries on trending topics including battery technologies, energy storage solutions and developing charging infrastructure. Our core focus at this event will be to increase efforts in Electric Vehicles growth, provide a platform for individuals, entrepreneurs and businesses to learn about and carry out e-mobility application technologies

2nd EDITION
INDIA EV
INTERNATIONAL S H O W
Infused with E-Mobility Technology

26-28 MAY 2023

Chennai Trade Centre, Nandambakkam,

CHENNAI

TAMIL NADU



Uno Minda acquires Kosei stake in 4W alloy consolidation

UNO MINDA LIMITED, a prominent Tier-1 provider of customized automotive solutions and systems to original equipment manufacturers, previously known as Minda Industries Limited, has recently announced the approval of its Board to acquire a majority stake of 81.69% in Kosei Minda Aluminum Company Private Limited (KMA) and 49.90% stake in Kosei Minda Mould Private Limited (KMM) from its joint venture partner, Kosei of Japan. The proposed acquisition will be carried out through a composite scheme of merger, involving the swap of shares with Uno Minda Ltd. The transaction will value KMA and KMM at approximately Rs 60 Cr and Rs 11 Cr, respectively.

While merger will be subject to various statutory authorities, Uno Minda will start managing the business and operations of these two entities with effect from 1st April 2023. The Company will also be entering into Technical license agreement with Kosei Japan for 10 years and shall be renewed thereafter with mutual consent of the Parties, to ensure continuity of technical support.



"Kosei has been a very important partner in our growth journey in last few years where we have become the leading player in 4 W Alloy wheel player in the country facilitating self-reliance. The acquisition will further consolidate Uno Mind's leadership position in the segment. We are confident that we will scale this business to newer heights".

Mr Nirmal K Minda, CMD, Uno Minda Group

Ather & Southern Railways to set up EV charging stations in Chennai

ATHER ENERGY, India's first smart electric scooter manufacturer, announced a partnership with Southern Railways to set up electric vehicle charging stations across 10 Mass Rapid Transit System (MRTS) and Suburban stations in Chennai. The partnership is aimed at aiding the company's vision of building a smart and connected charging ecosystem, alleviating range anxiety, and increasing EV adoption in the country.

As a pioneer in the Indian EV space, Ather Energy is committed to empowering the entire EV ecosystem with charging solutions. The partnership with Southern Railways will provide Ather Energy with a dedicated space of 100 sq. ft. at each MRTS/Suburban station to set up a charging zone enabling the company to place three chargers in one single location. This will help to increase the accessibility and convenience of charging infrastructure for EV owners in Chennai. The fast charging network can be used by all electric two-wheelers and electric four-wheelers owners.

Speaking about the partnership, Aravind Prasad, Head -Charging Infrastructure, Ather Energy, said, "Since inception, Ather has been at the forefront of building a robust ecosystem to facilitate the faster adoption of EVs. We have already installed 60+ Ather Grids across Chennai and 185+ across Tamil Nadu. Our partnership with Southern Railways will allow us to install 10 fast charging points at MRTS/Suburban stations in Chennai, making it more accessible. This will go a long way in promoting the adoption of electric vehicles in the city and pave the way to more such PPP (Public-Private Partnerships) models and in shaping the e-mobility landscape."



BMW Motorrad partners with Gallops Motorrad in Surat.

BMW Motorrad appoints Gallops Motorrad as its new dealer partner in Surat, Gujarat. Gallops Motorrad now represents BMW Motorrad in Ahmedabad and Surat. The dealership facility is located at G/4 and G/5, The Lenora, Vesu, Majura, Surat, Gujarat. The dealership is headed by Mr. Tanuj Pugalia, Dealer Principal, Gallops Motorrad.

Mr. Vikram Pawah, President, BMW Group India said, "BMW Motorrad delivers a promise not only of outstanding products, but also of outstanding moments for a lifetime. Our ultimate riding machines are designed for all kinds of riding enthusiasts. We are thrilled to appoint our trusted partner Gallops Motorrad as our new dealer in Surat. The new facility will play an instrumental role in offering an unparalleled experience to our community of riders in the region."

Mr. Tanuj Pugalia, Dealer Principal, Gallops Motorrad said, "We take great pride in our long-term relationship with BMW Motorrad and are thrilled to extend our operations to Surat. We are excited to tap the increasing potential in Gujarat market. The launch Gallops Motorrad dealership in Surat will offer unrivalled sales, aftersales experience to riding enthusiasts. Further, our focus will be on building a strong riding community, celebrating love for riding, going to places unexplored and to 'Make Life a Ride'."



Mr. Tanuj Pugalia
Dealer Principal, Gallops Motorrad



Mr. Vikram Pawah
President, BMW Group India



CEAT and Harmanpreet Kaur Launches Two-Wheeler Campaign

THE new TVC conceptualised by Ogilvy, shows an interesting conversation between Harmanpreet Kaur riding a two-wheeler and her coach riding as pillion as she faces various obstacles enroute to her destination. Harman champion of the game called cricket faces a new 'Game' on the road which she overcomes safely with the stability and grip of CEAT two-wheeler tyres. The campaign reiterates CEAT's purpose of 'Making Mobility Safer & Smarter. Everyday'.

Speaking on the campaign, Mr. Lakshmi Narayanan B, Chief Marketing Officer - CEAT Limited said, "CEAT has been passionate about cricket and as the cricket fever grips in – we all see cricket in every moment. 'For The Game Called Road' is Harmanpreet's perspective of Indian roads and how she sees cricket at every turn and corner. It's a light-hearted and fresh take of a rider on road seeing a parallel world of cricket. It's CEAT's way of paying a tribute to the sport and its fans."

Rohit Dubey, Executive creative director, Ogilvy said, "On the face of it, it's a safety and product story with metaphors from cricket. But if you look closely, it's the story of learning from the young, entrusting them - with a senior male coach, confidently taking the pillion seat, we're implicitly trying to break stereotypes as well. And when it comes to riding, Harmanpreet does it so affably, without a sense of malice towards the road, but a playfulness... we were pleasantly surprised with her performance."



Fuelling Green Growth REVFIN

35+ OEMs and other strategic partnerships, over 650+ dealers, more than 15000 customers and trust of some of the best in industry lenders & investors is keeping Revfin ahead of others in this electrifying journey of EV-adoption in India.

FUELLING India's "Green Growth" journey towards Net Zero, Revfin, an advanced digital lending platform is playing a focal role in creating a sustainable future for the planet and for the EV ecosystem.

Revfin in the last 51 months has financed over 17,118 Electric vehicles, this means in the last 1530 days every single day, Revfin financed 11 electric vehicles. These vehicles are plying in over 200 cities across 16 states of India thereby creating a sustainable future for generations to come – Revfin has already contributed to reduction of 30486 metric ton of CO2 emission and every single minute this emission abatement is increasing.

Revfin, India's No. 1 and Fastest growing EV Finance company has advanced digital lending platform and proprietary digital underwriting capabilities which enables it to underwrite financially excluded and underserved segments in tier 2 and tier 3 cities also.

Aiming to finance 2 million electric vehicles in the next 5 years, Revfin has already established a nationwide presence with strong market share in Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Jharkhand and strengthening market presence in Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Punjab and Assam in partnership with more than 650 dealerships. It has teamed up with 26 OEMs, including some major ones like Kinetic Green, Yatri, Saarthi, Mayuri, Lectrix, Hero Electric, and Piaggio to expedite the adoption of EVs and create a robust infrastructure for clean mobility.



Kia updates with BS6 Phase II powertrains

KIA INDIA, one of the fastest-growing carmakers in the country, introduced its refreshed RDE compliant vehicle line-up with updated powertrain and additional features in the Seltos, the Sonet and the Carens. This came in alignment with the Government of India's vision for cleaner emissions with transition to Phase II of BS6 norms. The refreshed line-up now comes with enhanced petrol powertrain which is now compatible to the E20 fuel. While the petrol engine in Sonet remains unchanged, the turbo petrol engine in Carens – the Smartstream G1.4 T-GDi is now replaced by the Smartstream G1.5 T-GDi which churns out 160PS of power and 253 Nm of Maximum torque between 1500 to 3500 RPM. In the Diesel powertrains, the Sonet's 1.5 CRDi WGT has been replaced by the 1.5 CRDi VGT with enhanced power output of 116 PS from the earlier 100 PS. The same engine in Seltos and Carens get minute power output enhancement, offering 116 PS from the earlier 115 PS.

Commenting on the development, Mr. Tae-Jin Park, MD & CEO, Kia India, said, "The upgrades in the powertrain, combined with advanced features like Kia Connect Skill for Alexa and ISG will ensure utmost convenience and fun to drive experience to our customers. With these changes, we once again reiterate our commitment towards the Indian market and pledge to keep up to the government's vision of sustainable mobility."



Mr. Tae-Jin Park
MD & CEO, Kia India



Maruti Suzuki Rewards strengthens collaboration with IOCL

Launches additional benefits and services for Maruti Suzuki Rewards members

- Loyalty program to offer a value-add services to over 8 million Maruti Suzuki Rewards members
- The additional benefits will incentivize members every time they refuel their vehicle at any IOCL petrol pumps



MARUTI SUZUKI Rewards, a fully digital loyalty program by Maruti Suzuki India Limited, has strengthened its collaboration with Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) to offer additional benefits and convenience for customers. For the latest initiative with IOCL, the Maruti Suzuki Rewards App has been updated to incorporate various new functionalities after April 1, 2023. The new features will be available to 8 million+ Maruti Suzuki Rewards members, who can easily enrol for the XtraRewards program. The IOCL related section of the Maruti Suzuki Rewards App will also allow customers to view their IOCL XtraRewards points (separate from Maruti Suzuki Rewards program points).

The program incentivizes customer refuelling behaviour by offering 100 XtraRewards* points as a Customer Onboarding Bonus, along with 2 XtraRewards points per INR 100 spent on each fuel transaction at an IOCL station. Indian Oil Corporation will also award 350 XtraRewards points (worth INR 105) as part of milestone-based additional benefits to those customers** who spend INR 25,000 in a quarter.

Speaking about this unique initiative, Mr. Shashank Srivastava, Senior Executive Officer (Marketing & Sales), Maruti Suzuki India Limited, said, "Maruti Suzuki Rewards is a fully digital loyalty program, offering a bouquet of delightful services to customers by providing a premium, reliable and benefit-driven post-purchase experience. We are confident that the additional features and benefits in this program will help us build a stronger connection with customers and enhance their experiences further."

Sharing his thoughts on the partnership, Mr. Saumitra Srivastava, Executive Director (Retail Transformation), Indian Oil, said, "This association with Maruti Suzuki is another major step in the direction of leveraging loyalty programs of both the partners to provide seamless and enhanced experiences to customers."

The Sustainer launches Mumbai's 1st EV Charger

THE Sustainer has launched Mumbai's first EV Charging store with an extensive selection of AC & DC Chargers for 4-wheelers and 2-wheelers.

The Sustainer launches Mumbai's 1st EV Charger Store where you can shop for an extensive selection of AC & DC Chargers for 4-wheelers and 2-wheelers. Whether you're looking to meet your everyday charging needs at home or need a bespoke EV charging installation at the office, The EV charger Store by The Sustainer offers the most practical, cost-effective and efficient workplace charging and home charging solution. The range of products are being provided by Exicom - a renowned manufacturer of electric vehicle charger and lithium-ion battery in India.

The adoption of electric vehicles (EVs) is gaining momentum in India, and one of the major factors driving this massive transition is the quick development of the charging infrastructure, which gives EV owners confidence and reduces their worry about running out of gas.

With 429,217 electric passenger vehicles, e-two-wheelers, e-three-wheelers, and e-commercial vehicles sold to consumers, EV sales in India reached a record high in fiscal 2022. While cumulative EV sales last fiscal year increased significantly by 218 percent year over year over fiscal 2021's total volumes of 134,821 units, EV sales in India are expected to break previous records this fiscal. These zero-tailpipe-emission cars sold 211,398 units in the first quarter of this fiscal year, a staggering increase of 686 percent compared to the 26,833 units sold in the same quarter last year.



PMC sets up 82 EV charging points in Pune

THE civic administration is planning to set up 82 e-charging stations in the next few months for the ease of e-vehicle users. Most stations will be set-up at Pune Municipal Corporation (PMC) run buildings, premises, ward offices and parking lots. The PMC is in the process of identifying the locations and the stations will be installed on a public-private-partnership (PPP) basis. PMC will not incur any expenses on the infrastructure. They aim to have 500 charging stations installed in phases.

A PMC official said, "Since numbers of vehicles running on batteries are rising, the administration is extending facilities like charging stations. Charging points have already been set-up at the main PMC building. Thirty stations will be installed in parking lots at various other PMC-run buildings. At least four cars can be charged at any given time." Another official added that they will check the functioning of the stations proposed in the first phase and introduce changes following user feedback.





PEOPLE

Piaggio group appoints Ajay Raghuvanshi as Business Head, 2W

THE Piaggio Group has appointed Ajay Raghuvanshi as Business Head of its two-wheeler category. Raghuvanshi has over a decade of experience in the auto industry and has been associated with many companies across the sector. Prior to joining Piaggio, he was heading sales at Skoda India. Before joining Skoda, Raghuvanshi was General Manager, Sales, Nissan Middle East. Raghuvanshi has also served as the Vice President, Sales, Marketing and Dealer Management, Nissan Motor India.



Mr Ajay Raghuvanshi

RattanIndia's Revolt Motors appoints Mr. Pankaj Sharma as CBO

RATTANINDIA'S Revolt Motors, the largest selling EV bike company in the country, announced the appointment of Mr Pankaj Sharma as Chief Business Officer (CBO) of the company. Mr. Sharma has earlier worked as India Head of Ola Electric with responsibilities including Sales, Service, Distribution, Customer Experience and Go To Market for the company.

Mr. Pankaj Sharma is a veteran of auto industry in India with nearly three decades of experience having worked in leadership positions in top notch auto companies in two wheeler, four wheeler and commercial vehicle segments with extensive experience in strategy, sales, marketing, servicing, customer experience, dealer development and digital transformation in automotive industry



Mr. Pankaj Sharma

CEAT appoints Mr. Arnab Banerjee new CEO & MD

ARNAB BANERJEE has been appointed as CEO and MD for two years, from 2 years from April 1, 2023 to March 31, 2025. "The Board of the Company had been grooming Arnab to take over the top post at the company, giving him company-wide exposure as its Chief Operating Officer," CEAT said in a statement.



Mr Arnab Banerjee

Total Energies enters India's online auto care market

TOTALENERGIES Marketing India Private Limited (TEMIPL) has inked partnership agreements with two Online to Offline (O2O) automobile service aggregators in India to enhance customer touchpoints across multiple channels. The service aggregators are VehicleCare and Automovill based in Gurugram and Bengaluru respectively.

At TotalEnergies, customer centricity is a core focus of its efforts to enhance customer experience. The strategic partnerships between TEMIPL and the two O2O aggregators will allow TotalEnergies' automotive lubricants to reach customers at over 750 car servicing workshops across the country by end 2023.

Commenting on the partnerships, Olivier Sabrié, Chairman & Managing Director, TEMIPL, said, "TotalEnergies has been at the forefront of driving digital innovation to offer greater value to our customers. Collaborating with Automovill and VehicleCare is in line with our focus to deliver quality lubricants through our partner workshops, directly to consumers.

Mridu Mahendra Das, CEO of Automovill, said, "Automovill is excited for aligning itself with TotalEnergies O2O vision. Team Automovill is aggressively working on democratizing the aftersales service ecosystem in India through aggregating as well as onboarding workshop in its network.

Arvind Verma, CEO of VehicleCare, added, "VehicleCare is thrilled to collaborate with TotalEnergies, and we believe that our shared vision of customer centricity will empower us even more in serving our customers better. With this new alliance, we look forward to providing our customers with unique digital experience along with quality products.



Arvind Verma
CEO, Vehicle Care

Olivier Sabrié
Chairman & Managing Director

Mridu Mahendra Das
CEO of Automovill



Valvoline Launches New TVC Campaign

VALVOLINE Cummins the Original Engine Oil maker and a leading global lubricant manufacturer has always been at the forefront of innovation and research. The brand has introduced many industry-first products and unique campaigns to connect with its consumers. With the introduction of Champ 4T Fuel efficient, India's first 8% more fuel efficient engine oil into the market, the brand has again come up with a power packed TVC #2000kmZyadaKaVaada.

The campaign film starts with the most customary question with regards to mileage 'Kitna Deti Hai' and gets an unbelievable response '2000 kms Se Bhi Zyada'. Valvoline has been eternally committed to easing the lives of its consumers with superior quality products backed by research and innovation. Realizing the economic aspects of daily commuting, the campaign is a testament to brand's dedication in creating need specific products that brings major impact in their lives. The film ends with a promise to ride up to 2000 kms more in a year with its new Champ 4T Fuel Efficient engine oil. With 8% more fuel efficiency, an average daily rider who travels 60-70kms will be able to translate additional 2000km in 12 months. The new TVC will be aired across India's national and regional GEC & sports channels along with other social media platforms.

Commenting on the launch of the Campaign, Ms Ipshita Chowdhury, Chief Marketing Officer, Valvoline Cummins India JV, said, "Our new campaign reinforces the brand's promise of continuous innovation that has been a constant for us, for over 150 years. The inspiration for this campaign has come from the most common question that a person asks with regards to mileage 'Kitna Deti Hai' and how we at Valvoline are constantly innovating to bring solutions like Champ 4T fuel efficient. India is moving forward, and we are determined to provide optimum solutions to fuel the ambitions of our bikers to help them with better mileage at an affordable price."



ExxonMobil to Invest INR 900 Cr

EXXONMOBIL is investing nearly INR 900 crore (USD 110 million) to build a lubricant manufacturing plant at the Maharashtra Industrial Development Corporation's Isambe Industrial Area in Raigad, the company said.

Once operational, the plant will have the capacity to potentially manufacture 159,000 kl of finished lubricants annually to meet the growing domestic demand from industrial sectors like manufacturing, steel, power, mining, and construction, as well as from passenger and commercial vehicle segments. It is expected to begin operations by the end of 2025.

"We are proud to deepen our longstanding commitment to India with our first greenfield investment. Maharashtra is amongst India's largest manufacturing hubs and a natural choice for our lubricant plant thanks to its attractive investment environment," Monte Dobson, lead country manager for ExxonMobil affiliates in India, said.

In a significant boost to the "Make in India" initiative, the plant will source a larger part of the base stocks, additives, and all packaging locally. It is expected to create nearly 1,200 jobs during the construction phase.

"This is a step change towards bolstering our position as one of India's leading providers of high-performance lubricants. Manufacturing locally will simplify our supply chain, enabling us to serve the needs of our Indian customers and consumers more readily. We are excited about our growing role in supporting the India growth story," Vipin Rana, CEO, ExxonMobil Lubricants Pvt. Ltd, said.



Uday Samant, Minister of Industries of Maharashtra, Monte Dobson, Country Manager, ExxonMobil India, Devendra Fadnavis, Deputy Chief Minister, Vipin Rana, CEO, ExxonMobil Lubricants Pvt. Ltd.

Hyundai aims to double new Verna sales



Tarun Garg,
Chief Operating Officer of Hyundai Motor India

IN a bid to counter the competition, India's second-largest carmaker, Hyundai Motor India has launched the sixth generation Verna at INR 10,89,900. The company is expecting to double the sales of Verna this year with advanced new features such as ADAS and HVAC touch panel switchable with infotainment controls.

Tarun Garg, Chief Operating Officer of Hyundai Motor India, said, "In the past couple of years we have seen multiple launches in the SUV segment but due to a lack of products in the sedan segment we haven't seen much traction. However, as Indians, we have always aspired for a sedan or bigger car."

With new features and futuristic design, the company is confident that it can double the sales of Verna this year as it has received 8,000 bookings in one month. Verna has loyal customers and 41% of them are repeat buyers of Verna, he said. The company sold 19,000 units of Verna in 2022. According to experts, the launch of Verna is very crucial for Hyundai Motor India to maintain the lead over Tata Motors which doesn't have a mid-size sedan in its product portfolio.

Hyundai Verna will compete with the likes of Honda City, Skoda Slavia and Volkswagen Virtus. The mid-size sedan segment grew by 10.8% to 4,12,000 units in 2022 compared to 296,000 units in 2019, as per the industry data. The primary reason behind the increase in sales of midsize sedans is the introduction of two new products - Volkswagen Virtus and Skoda Slavia. Moreover, the segment leader has also re-introduced Honda City with hybrid technology and ADAS features.

ACMA Automechanika 2024



WITH the rapid growth in vehicles and new launches on the rise, India's automotive aftermarket is gearing up with solutions that are both innovative and enduring. Customers have started to move towards larger/more powerful vehicles across all segments. According to the Auto Components Industry Review by ACMA, private and commercial vehicles production in 2022 increased by ~20% and ~30% respectively due to increased demand and fewer supply chain disruptions as compare to FY21.

Set to return in 2024, ACMA Automechanika New Delhi will kick off on 1 February 2024 bringing the latest aftermarket advancements in the auto components industry. The three-day event will witness the who's who of the automotive industry converging at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi to take advantage of endless business opportunities presented, make connections and build new relationships.

Mr Vinnie Mehta, Director General, ACMA said: "The country has witnessed the rise of new entrants in the mobility space. India had a trade surplus of 700 Mn USD for auto components demonstrating a strong demand for exports. The mega event will serve as a hub for networking and collaboration, both locally and globally.

The vibrant automotive sector and rising vehicle ownership in rural markets of new and used vehicles are driving demand for aftermarket auto components in India. The auto-components industry has grown 23 y-o-y on the back of strong exports performance replacement market growth. The steady progress in India's automotive industry has caught the attention and focus of the world's leading manufacturers of vehicles and components over the last decade. India is the third largest car manufacturer globally and an emerging global hub for automotive component sourcing and manufacturing. Mr Raj Manek, Executive Director Board Member, Messe Frankfurt Asia Holdings Ltd said With India emerging as a key global market for automobiles and auto components, ACMA Automechanika New Delhi 2024 will provide a unique opportunity for industry stakeholders to come together and showcase the latest technologies solutions for the aftermarket



Bajaj launches electric 3-wheeler in April

WE will start the sales in April for cargo and passenger electric three-wheeler vehicles. There will be a limited launch as we want to take it step by step, as it is very important to give a stable product to the commercial user," said Rakesh Sharma, Executive Director of Bajaj Auto.

Bajaj Auto will finally unveil its first three-wheeled electric vehicle in April 2023. The product will be introduced for both the passenger and cargo vehicle categories, but will initially only be made accessible in a select number of locations since the business intends to roll out the product gradually.

"We will start the sales in April for cargo and passenger electric three-wheeler vehicles. There will be a limited launch as we want to take it step by step, as it is very important to give a stable product to the commercial user," said Rakesh Sharma, Executive Director of Bajaj Auto. The business originally intended to introduce electric three-wheelers last year, but it postponed it due to user safety concerns

"The FAME approval and ARAI certification has been done. There will be limited dispatches in the next couple of weeks... The dealerships are being prepared and the training is underway," Sharma added. According to an ICRA report, the prevalence of electric three-wheelers in India would rise from 8% to between 14% and 16% by FY25. The rating agency predicts that as the product acquires greater popularity and problems connected to financing recede, the penetration will increase to 35–40% by FY30. As of Q3 FY23, Bajaj Auto has a 76% market share for three-wheelers. To compete with competitor Mahindra & Mahindra, which is now the market leader in the electric three-wheeler sector, it lacked an electric product in its lineup.



Rakesh Sharma,
Executive Director
Bajaj Auto.



Nissan e-4ORCE Moon Trail Project with JAXA

NISSAN'S e-4ORCE technology is used by the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) to control the prototype lunar rover's driving force. This technology enables the prototype rover to properly drive in extreme conditions, such as the rugged, volcanic landscape of Miyakejima, a Japanese volcanic island, where the basaltic sand is similar to the Moon's regolith. The powerful performance of the Nissan X-Trail brings comfort and confidence to the driver, even on tough and rough terrains like those of a moon's surface. e-4ORCE controls front and rear drive force and left and right braking, enabling precise cornering and reduced steering correction even on tough roads. e-4ORCE can control the motor down to 1/10,000 of a second, enabling the precise response on any road surface and making driving in rough terrain easier. The second-gen e-POWER with a VC turbo engine lowers the RPMs and the frequency of the engine starts. By cancelling engine noise by emitting an opposite soundwave, a much quieter cabin is achieved.

In December 2021, Nissan Motor Co., Ltd. unveiled a lunar rover prototype jointly developed with JAXA at its Nissan Futures event in Japan. The JAXA Space Exploration Innovation Hub Center is conducting research on lunar rovers — a key technology for space exploration. Nissan has been working with JAXA on driving controllability of the rovers since January 2020. A lunar rover must be able to traverse the moon's powdery, rocky and undulating terrain and be energy efficient. Furthermore, energy sources for operating vehicles in space are limited. Nissan's research applies the motor control technology it has developed through its production of mass-market electric vehicles such as the LEAF as well as the e-4ORCE all-wheel control technology featured on the all-new Ariya electric crossover. In particular, it is e-4ORCE that is boosting the lunar rover's performance over tricky terrain.



Renault Enhances Car Exports with Kamarajar Port Agreement



Venkatram Mamillapalle, Country CEO & MD, Renault India Operations; Sunil Paliwal, CMD, Kamarajar Port; Frank Torres, President, Nissan Motor India; and Keerthi Prakash, MD, RNAIPL

THE Renault Nissan Alliance has signed an agreement with Kamarajar Port Ltd (KPL) for the exports of cars manufactured in Chennai by Renault Nissan Automotive India Pvt Ltd (RNAIPL) to regional and global destinations. The agreement was signed by Frank Torres, President, Nissan Motor India and Sunil Paliwal I.A.S., Chairman and Managing Director, Kamarajar Port Ltd in the presence of Venkatram Mamillapalle, Country CEO and Managing Director, Renault India Operations and Keerthi Prakash, Managing Director, RNAIPL.

The Renault Nissan Alliance was the first car manufacturer in the region to commence exports of cars through Kamarajar Port. So far, over more than 13 years, the Alliance has exported over 1.15 million cars from Kamarajar Port to around 108 global destinations. The agreement builds on the existing partnership between the Renault Nissan Alliance and Kamarajar Port Ltd and will facilitate further exports of cars via KPL.

Commenting on the milestone, Frank Torres, President, Nissan Motor India and Divisional Vice President Business Transformation AMIEO, said, "The global Renault Nissan Alliance has recently announced a new long-term vision for India, increasing production and R&D activities, introducing electric vehicles, and transitioning to carbon-neutral manufacturing. This agreement will help ensure that we are able to further strengthen our exports from India."

Sunil Paliwal, CMD, Kamarajar Port, said, "We are delighted to continue our long-standing partnership with the Renault Nissan Alliance and to provide them with our world-class Port services for the export of vehicles to multiple countries from India. This partnership with the Alliance is an exciting opportunity for Kamarajar Port to further contribute to India's growth story through positive impact from automotive exports."

Big alliance for next-gen CV software

TEAMS at the one-year-old Daimler Truck Innovation Center India are the software and electronics engineering backbone and IT solutions providers for Daimler's trucks and buses. The world's largest truck maker's new operating system is being largely designed in Bengaluru.

New vehicle operating system

The most crucial product will be the new Daimler truck operating system in which DTICI is playing a major role. Commercial vehicles, which are mainly mechanical now, are set to get a software-driven makeover as the Software Defined Vehicle SDV trend gathers pace. Unlike in passenger vehicles, whose software content has been on the rise for years, the evolution in the commercial vehicle space is expected to be dramatic, especially in the more matured Western markets. The architectural software and electronics getting designed by engineers at DTICI could play a significant role in this transformation.

Digital infrastructure

DTICI engineers in Bengaluru are working on projects beyond advanced software for trucks and buses, including building new IT infrastructure for PLM and PDM. This infrastructure is considered the nerve centre of the business and is crucial for designing, manufacturing, selling, and servicing trucks. The project is global, highly complex, and expected to cost "triple digit million euros," taking five to seven years to complete.

The need to entirely re-implement the IT platform arose due to Daimler's reorganisation, which led to separate car and commercial vehicle businesses. DTICI was also carved out of MBRDI, the German OEM's largest global engineering centre outside Germany.



Best-ever time for Indian talent

DTICI, formally inaugurated on December 1, 2021, would qualify as the youngest among the other global engineering centres in India. The other global centres from the auto industry are of Stellantis, Renault-Nissan, Bosch, Continental, and ZF. With the growing trend of softwarisation of the automobile, times were never better for Indian engineering talent. India is providing this intelligence to the world to make things better using software. And there isn't a better place than India to innovate around software, and it can be done remotely. We've been very successful in moving up the value chain not only in coding the software, but also designing, architecting and conceptualising it, says Vaidya, MD & CEO, Daimler Truck Innovation Center India (DTICI).

Nissan India felicitated

Nissan Motor India awarded for its “Outstanding Contribution to Exports and Compliance from India” by Chief Commissioner of Customs, Chennai

NISSAN MOTOR India Pvt. Ltd. (NMIPL) was honoured by Mr. Mandalika Srinivas, Chief Commissioner of Customs (Chennai Customs Zone), for its outstanding contribution to exports from India. The award underlines Nissan India's commitment to “Make in India, Make for the World”, embodied by the success of the Nissan Magnite, which is currently exported to 15 global markets.

Rakesh Srivastava, Managing Director, Nissan Motor India, said, “It is an honour to receive this award. It underlines our strong commitment to the India market and to the “Make in India” initiative. The Nissan Magnite, born of the ‘Make in India, Make for the World’ philosophy, is a true global success and we look forward to expanding our overseas footprint with it.”

Nissan India's strong export performance is in line with its focus on the global market and is backed by the contemporary and aspirational nature of Nissan's offerings. Nissan Motor India crossed the key milestone of exporting one million units in July 2022.

The big, bold, beautiful Nissan Magnite is exported to 15 global markets, with its most recent launches in Seychelles, Bangladesh, Uganda and Brunei. Nissan India commenced exports in September 2010 and currently exports vehicles from its Renault-Nissan Automotive India Ltd. plant via Chennai's Kamarajar Port (formerly Ennore Port) to 108 countries including New Zealand, Australia, Middle Eastern countries, and countries in Europe, Latin America, South-East Asia, SAARC, Sub Sahara, and Africa. In recent years, Nissan India has shifted its primary export market from Europe to Middle Eastern countries such as Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Oman, Qatar, Bahrain, and Kuwait.



Rakesh Srivastava
Managing Director,
Nissan Motor India



India plans green hydrogen incentives

INDIA is set to launch a new incentive scheme worth at least 10% of production costs, or 30 Indian rupees per kilogram (kg), for green hydrogen fuel producers under a USD 2 billion plan that will commence before the end of June, according to a top government official. The move comes after New Delhi approved a 174.9 billion rupee incentive plan earlier this year to promote green hydrogen and reduce carbon emissions, with the goal of becoming a leading exporter in the sector.

Currently, the cost of manufacturing green hydrogen, which is produced using renewable energy sources rather than fossil fuels, in India stands at approximately 300 rupees per kilogram. Of the total incentive plan, around 130 billion rupees will be allocated for green hydrogen production, while the remainder will be designated for manufacturing electrolyzers, which are used to split hydrogen and oxygen molecules using electricity.

India has set ambitious targets of achieving half of its installed electricity capacity from non-fossil fuel sources by 2030 and reaching net-zero carbon emissions by 2070. However, the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy and Press Information Bureau did not immediately respond to requests for comments on the scheme.

Under the new incentive plan, the government will kick off the bidding process for companies seeking incentives before the end of the current quarter. The incentives will be gradually tapered every year, with the government aiming to support 3.6 million tonnes of hydrogen production capacity over the next three years.

The bidding process will be conducted in three tranches for green hydrogen supply and two tranches for electrolyzers. This approach is intended to gain market insights, absorb new technologies, and realize cost reductions. The auction for green hydrogen supply is expected to be open to companies with renewable energy plants or those already producing hydrogen and ammonia. Contracts will be awarded to companies offering the lowest incentives, and major Indian companies such as Reliance Industries, Indian Oil, NTPC, Adani Enterprises, JSW Energy, ReNew Power, and Acme Solar, which have already announced plans for green hydrogen, are expected to participate.

Each tranche for manufacturing electrolyzers is anticipated to have a capacity of 1,500 megawatts (MW), with a fixed incentive of 4,440 rupees per kilowatt. The government aims to support around 3,000 megawatts of annual electrolyser capacity for five years through the scheme, with the first tranches scheduled for this quarter and the next tranche in the third quarter of 2023.



Tata Motors renews 6th year IPL partnership

Furthering its legacy of partnering with some of the country's most prominent sporting events, Tata Motors has announced the Tiago.ev as the Official Partner for this year's edition of the Tata Indian Premier League. Continuing this association for the sixth consecutive year with the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI), the Company will leverage this prestigious platform to increase awareness of EVs, while showcasing and driving engagement for its recently launched premium electric hatch – the Tiago.ev. The Tata IPL 2023 is scheduled to begin on March 31st, 2023.

Commenting on this partnership, Mr. Vivek Srivatsa, Head, Marketing, Sales and Service Strategy, Tata Passenger Electric Mobility Ltd. said, "After 5 consecutive successful runs, we are back with the Tata IPL showcasing our newest EV offering, our premium electric hatch – the Tiago.ev. With this exciting new product, we want to democratize EVs in India. In addition to some exciting engagement activities, we are looking forward to educating the masses on EVs at large and bust common myths through an integrated ad campaign. This association with India's biggest media property will help us highlight the importance of EVs, not only in urban India, but in smaller towns as well. We wish to drive tremendous value from this partnership and fast forward the ongoing revolution towards the future of mobility by encouraging rapid adoption of EVs in India."

Tata Motors will use the Indian Premier League (IPL) platform to showcase their new Tiago.ev car across all 12 stadiums and engage with consumers through various activities. One such campaign, "100 reasons to go.ev with Tiago.ev," aims to address mental barriers towards electric vehicle adoption through relatable examples. The Tiago.ev Electric Striker Award will be given to the player with the highest strike rate, with a cash prize of INR 1,00,000 and the Tiago.ev Electric Striker of the Season will receive a brand new car. Tata Motors will also donate INR 5,00,000 each time the ball hits the Tiago.ev car on display, towards planting saplings to enhance the biodiversity of Coffee Plantations in Karnataka. Tata EV owners will be rewarded with IPL match tickets and engagement activities, with some lucky owners getting the chance to present an award to cricketers.



GLOBAL EYE



Tesla's Price War to Drive Record Sales with Cheaper Cars

SUMMARISE the article "Tesla may have handed over 430,000 vehicles in the quarter ended March 31, according to analysts' estimates collected by Refinitiv. That would be up 6% from the previous quarter, and up 39% from a year earlier.

Tesla Inc investors are waiting to see how much Elon Musk's price cuts will pay off: the electric vehicle (EV) maker is expected this weekend to report record sales as cheaper sticker prices, helped by U.S. subsidies, spurred demand.

Musk's action in January kicked off a price war that was especially heated in China, betting that Tesla's industry-leading profit margins would let it rebuff growing competition and appease customers in a weak economy.

Tesla may have handed over 430,000 vehicles in the quarter ended March 31, according to analysts' estimates collected by Refinitiv. That would be up 6% from the previous quarter, and up 39% from a year earlier.

Production is expected to have risen as the automaker ramped up production at new factories in Texas and Berlin, and as China production recovered from a COVID-19 lockdown hit.

Analysts expect Tesla to further lower prices as many automakers have matched the price cuts and concerns about a weakening economy persist.

"With Tesla likely to continue ramping production at both Austin and Berlin, additional supply is likely to drive further price cuts," Barclays analyst Dan Levy said.



SPREADING WINGS



Ashok Leyland LCV strengthens retail footprint

HINDUJA GROUP flagship Ashok Leyland has inaugurated its new light commercial vehicle retail outlet in Tamil Nadu under its move towards strengthening presence, the company said on 27th March. The company inaugurated its 11th light commercial vehicle dealership at Thiruparankundram Main Road, Pasumalai in Madurai on offering sales, service and spares facility to customers.

"This new dealership in Madurai will bolster our presence in the geography. The robustness of the product and our network has been one of the main factors in the phenomenal success of our 'DOST' range and more recently the BADA DOST," Ashok Leyland light commercial vehicle business head Rajat Gupta said.

"Our partner Balaji Trucks with the new 3S sales, services and spares facility will ensure we serve our family of customers better and will help us get even closer to our customers in the region," he said. Ashok Leyland would retail its LCV products including BADA DOST, DOST, PARTNER and MiTR range of vehicles.

"The new dealership is being opened to further strengthen our reach and would take us one step closer to achieve our vision of being one of the top 10 LCV makers in the world." Ashok Leyland has more than 1,700 exclusive outlets ensuring authorised service centres at every 75 kms on major highways, the company said.



Ola Electric launches 50 experience centres in a single day

OLA ELECTRIC launched 50 stores on 26th march, its CEO Bhavish Aggarwal announced in a post on social media platform Twitter. These stores were opened across different cities including the likes of Visakhapatnam, JP Nagar, Saharanpur, Lucknow, Kanpur, Jodhpur, Varanasi, and many other cities.

A month ago, the electric vehicle major announced a new range of e-scooters called Ola S1 Air. The scooters in this category will be available in three variants including 2KWh, 3KWh and 4 KWh. In addition, it has also launched a new model in the S1 range which has a 2KWh battery pack priced at Rs 99,999. Aggarwal also hinted towards venturing into the e-bikes segment soon in a presentation in February.



Yulu and Zomato join hands to make Last-mile Deliveries Green

YULU, INDIA'S largest shared electric Mobility-as-a-Service (MaaS) player today announced its association with Zomato for using Yulu DeX EV for intra-city deliveries. Kicking off this project, about 25,000 - 35,000 Yulu DeX will be given to delivery partners onboarded on Zomato's platform for last-mile deliveries on custom-made rental plans. Yulu is committed to making urban transportation sustainable and the association with Zomato is a significant step towards making last-mile delivery green and efficient. Rising fuel prices and financial challenges are significant barriers for youth who want to onboard themselves as delivery partners.



Tummoc to expand its footprint in 100 cities

TUMMOC, India's only patented Multi-Modal Public Transit App is planning to expand its footprints in 100 cities in the next 1 year and outreach 10 million users by the end of FY24. Recently, the app has launched its services in Indore, Pune, Bhubaneshwar, Vadodara, Kanpur, Hubballi-Dharwad and is now available in 19 cities with 2.5 million users.

In the recently launched cities, Tummoc is seeing over 10,000 daily active users, of which 65% are male and the remaining 35% are females. The app has completed more than 3,000 trips since it launched in new cities.

Since its inception in 2021, Tummoc has observed over 60,000 daily active users and about 3,50,000 monthly users across cities.

On achieving step-by-step goals set up by the company, Hiranmay Mallick, CEO & Co-Founder at Tummoc said, "Mobility & Transportation industry is experiencing a huge evolution and we're extremely proud to play a significant role in driving the industry forward through connected technologies, and making lives of daily commuters hassle-free today."



Renault to uplifts water bodies in Oragadam

ON the occasion of International Water Day, Renault Nissan Automotive India Private Limited has announced that it is working to revitalise ten lakes and ponds in and around Oragadam in Kanchipuram district, home to its manufacturing plant. The company has set aside close to INR 3.7 crores of CSR funds for restoring and revitalising these water bodies.

Work has already commenced on Oragadam lake, which is the primary source of water for six villages. Over the years, the lake has been gradually losing its carrying capacity due to a combination of soil deposition and other activities. As part of its revitalization work, RNAIPL will undertake to desilt and deepen the lake, amongst other protective actions, in order to increase its capacity by adding 1,17,500 kilo litres equivalent of extra storage, support groundwater recharging and increase biodiversity. In addition to strengthening the embankment of the lake, a 1500 metre fence will also be built around the perimeter of the waterbody to prevent encroachment. The project is expected to be completed by the end of 2023.

The company has also initiated work to protect nine other lakes and ponds in and around Oragadam including in Ezhicur, Kandigai, Appur, Serapanenchery, Valayakaranai, Karanai Thangal, Perinjampakkam and Vattampakkam villages. The water bodies will be dredged, deepened and desilted to an average depth of about of one metre, adding much needed water capacity, thereby directly improving the neighboring community's living conditions and sustaining the availability of drinking water in the wells and borewells.



ONGC to start oil production in Bay of Bengal



OIL and Natural Gas Corporation's (ONGC) delayed Krishna Godavari basin KG-D5 project is likely to start crude oil production in May this year and gas output a year later, a senior company official said. ONGC was originally to start gas production from Cluster-II fields in block KG-DWN-98/2 (KGD5) in June 2019 and the first oil was to flow in March 2020.

The company blamed contracting and supply chains issues due to the pandemic for shifting the start of oil production first to November 2021, then to third quarter of 2022 and now to May 2023. Gas output start target was first revised to May 2021, then to May 2023 and now to May 2024.

ONGC Director (production) Pankaj Kumar said a floating production unit, called FPSO, which will be used to produce oil, is already in Indian waters. "We estimate oil production should start in May," he said. The block is currently producing 1.7 million standard cubic meters per day of natural gas.

"We will start with 10,000 to 12,000 barrels per day and reach the peak of 45,000 bpd in 2-3 months," he said adding some 2 mmscmd of gas would also flow with oil but actual gas output will start in May 2024 when 7-8 mmscmd production is expected. The production estimates are however much lower than what was originally projected.

ONGC's KG-DWN-98/2 block, located offshore the Godavari river delta in the Bay of Bengal, has a number of discoveries divided into three clusters. Cluster 2, consisting of blocks 2A and 2B, was expected to produce 23.52 million metric tonne of oil and 50.70 billion cubic metres (bcm) of gas over its lifetime. However, the estimated output is now lower, with Cluster 2A expected to produce 45,000 bpd of oil and up to 2.5 mmscmd of associated gas, and Cluster 2B expected to produce around 9 mmscmd of free gas from eight wells over a 16-year period. Despite this, ONGC hopes to reverse the decline in crude oil production in the next fiscal year and expects natural gas output to rise. The estimated capital expenditure for the project is USD 5.07 billion, with operational expenditure expected to be USD 5.12 billion over 16 years.

Keshub Mahindra, Former Chairperson of M&M passes away



1923 - 2023

IN a shocking incident, former chairperson of Mahindra & Mahindra, Keshub Mahindra, and India's oldest billionaire, passed away at the age of 99, April 12, 2023.

Tweeting about Keshub Mahindra's demise, Pawan K Goenka wrote, "The industrial world has lost one of the tallest personalities today. Shri Keshub Mahindra had no match; the nicest person I had the privilege of knowing. I always looked forward to mtgs with him and inspired by how he connected business, economics and social matters. Om Shanti."

Mr Vinod Aggarwal, President, SIAM, wrote, "The Indian Automobile Industry today lost one of its pioneers Shri Keshub Mahindra, at the age of 99. His leadership in the early years of the journey of the Indian Auto Industry had led to India being recognised as an important player globally and also helped in India becoming a manufacturing hub for the Automobile sector. He was the President of SIAM during the year 1964. SIAM and the Indian Automobile Industry condole the passing away of a true visionary and pray for the departed soul to rest in peace".

Keshub Mahindra, chairman emeritus of Mahindra & Mahindra graduated from Wharton, University of Pennsylvania. He served as the chairman of the Mumbai-listed conglomerate for decades, from 1963-2012. He is also known for transforming the company to a diversified conglomerate under his leadership.

Mahindra's demise leaves a space that can't be filled. A well-known philanthropist, Keshub Mahindra is also known for his contributions towards the cause of building ethical corporations in India. Just like his many other stints, he was also appointed by the government to serve on several committees such as Sachar Commission, Central Advisor Council of Industries and so on.

Euler Motors launches HiLoad EV 2023

EULER MOTORS, an electric vehicle company, launched its advanced version of HiLoad EV 2023 – with the highest battery pack and range in the 3W cargo segment. The new HiLoad EV 2023 comes with industry highest 13 (12.96) kWh battery pack, 170 km kilometre ARAI certified range (Real Range™ 100-120 km), and a 30% higher payload capacity (688 kg) and 30% earnings than any other 3W cargo in India.

With the utmost focus on driving partner profitability and cater to the needs of institutional and e-commerce customers, the new HiLoad also offers a load body of 170 cubic feet in addition to an existing 120 cubic feet variant.

Built to carry any kind of payload and across every Indian terrain, HiLoad EV 2023 features several design upgrades to offer a sharper exterior and cutting edge design. These include wider windshields and slider windows for better driver ergonomics, Front fascia upgrades via new halogen headlamps for superior visibility in low-light and foggy conditions. The cabin has been optimized with smoother touch-point finishes along with a backrest for better access to the spare wheel and space utilization.

The existing strong fundamentals of industry-leading 200 mm front disc brakes and the independent drive train allows unparalleled stopping power with an independent axle system that delivers better turning and driving dynamics. Additionally, the vehicle is equipped with better suspension and steering control and boasts a 30% increase in tyre width, providing exceptional road grip.

The design improvements also include its overall weight reduction of 30 kg, which adds to higher operational efficiency, and better performance. Complementing the newly designed vehicle, critical software features such as public charging compatibility and remote immobilization have been incorporated.

Commenting on the launch of the new HiLoad, Saurav Kumar, CEO, and Founder, Euler Motors, said, "The success of our first commercial EV, Euler HiLoad EV has been tremendous, and we are thrilled with the positive customer feedback. Building on this momentum, we have introduced an upgraded version, the HiLoad EV 2023, which is built to carry and ride highest payload for the customer and contribute to higher earnings and lower operational costs. We have incorporated intricate design and aesthetic upgrades into the vehicle, all which improve the driver ergonomics, and comfort. We are confident that the advanced version will also strike a lasting chord with existing and new customers across segments and geographies alike."



Gadkari urges businesswomen and promote road safety culture

NITIN GADKARI, Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways, emphasized the need for a culture of road safety among road users in India during the Young Achievers awards function organized by the Young FICCI Ladies Organization. He noted that changing human behavior is crucial to improving road safety, and the government alone cannot achieve this. Women entrepreneurs can play a vital role in promoting road safety at the school level, teaching their employees and families, and using their logistics and carriers to propagate the message. Education on road safety and enforcement of rules are key to improving safety standards in India.

Gadkari also spoke about the importance of alternative fuels like biodiesel, natural gas, ethanol, methane, propane, electricity, and hydrogen to power vehicles of the future. He also mentioned the development of the six-lane Urban Extension Road (UER) II to improve air quality in Delhi, which will be operational by the end of the year. The UER II will divert all North and West traffic from Delhi roads and decrease pollution, as mostly commercial vehicles ply on these routes. Finally, 20 young achievers, including businesswomen, entrepreneurs, sportswomen, and social workers, were awarded during the ceremony.



JUMPS

Electricals | Plastics | Electronics | Mechatronics



STARTER MOTORS



ALTERNATORS



JUMPS - "The Export Experts"

- ★ Company of the Year
- ★ Export Excellence Award
- ★ Star Export House Status
- ★ IATF 16949 Certification

Exported to 50+ countries since 1990

- ✓ Reputation for Quality
- ✓ Preferred Choice for Critical Applications
- ✓ Proudly "Made in India"
- ✓ Fast Delivery - Competitive Prices
- ✓ Strong R&D and Engineering



Scan & Visit
www.jumpsindia.com

JUMPS AUTO INDUSTRIES LIMITED

125, Pace City I, Sector 37, Gurugram, Haryana 122001

☎ +91 124 4710100

✉ info@jumpsindia.com

PAVNA

ADDING VALUE TO
automobile
WORLDWIDE

— SINCE 1971 —

PAVNA GROUP

enjoys a history of more than



of innovation, technology, manufacturing and market leadership, as the most experienced automotive part solutions company in **South Asia.**



High Quality Genuine Spare Parts
for Automotive Industry

Global Technical Alliance

Ultra - Modern Manufacturing Plants
in Aligarh, Pune, Waluj & Pantnagar



4 Wheeler Parts



3 Wheeler Parts

Grab Handle



Chain Tensioner



Blinkers



Fuel Tank Cap



Ignition Locks



Lever



Fuel Cock



Oil Pump



Coupling
with Sprocket



Scan & Visit
www.pavnagroup.com

+91 80064 09330

enquiry@pavnagroup.com

Vimlanchal, Harinagar, Gopalpuri
Aligarh - 202001