



Indian Market Review

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Automobile Industry

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1. Automotive : OEMs

- Honda plans to launch diesel cars in India because of increase in demand for such vehicles against the backdrop of high petrol prices. It is to be noted here that the company is engaged in developing diesel engines back in Japan. The proposed diesel engine was being developed for a specific market like India as most of the markets worldwide prefer petrol cars
http://articles.economictimes.indiatimes.com/2011-10-03/news/30238605_1_diesel-engines-diesel-cars-honda-plans
- Honda Siel Cars India said its primary focus will be the domestic market but it does plan to export cars to Nepal, Bangladesh, Bhutan and Sri Lanka. The company presently exports component and engine parts from its factory in Rajasthan and expects to witness a turnover of Rs 112 crore this fiscal
http://articles.economictimes.indiatimes.com/2011-10-10/news/30263130_1_honda-brio-kerala-market-honda-siel-cars-india
- Toyota will begin exporting vehicles that it makes in India to South Africa the first time the Japanese automaker is selling its made-in-India cars elsewhere. The company said that the Indian-made Etios sedan will be exported to South Africa from March 2012
http://articles.economictimes.indiatimes.com/2011-10-07/news/30253940_1_vehicle-exports-etios-top-automaker
- Mercedes Benz said it plans to offer cars to Indian customers on lease basis after the launch of its financial services arm. The lease concept which is relatively new in India would be made available once their financial services arm (Mercedes Benz Financial Services) was also launched
http://articles.economictimes.indiatimes.com/2011-10-07/news/30254040_1_diesel-variants-luxury-car-peter-honegg
- Tata Motors is in discussions with Myanmar government for setting up a bus-assembly line apart from supply of passenger vehicles to the neighboring country. The success of these projects is a precursor to everlasting strong commercial relation relations between the two countries
http://articles.economictimes.indiatimes.com/2011-10-14/news/30279151_1_myanmar-minister-india-and-myanmar-myanmar-government
- Tata Motors is showcasing its Manza sedan and Prima range of world trucks at the Johannesburg International Motor Show in South Africa, with plans to formally launch these vehicles in the country early next year. The new Tata vehicles being introduced in South Africa will bolster the company's portfolio in the country
http://articles.economictimes.indiatimes.com/2011-10-07/news/30254089_1_prima-range-p-m-telang-range-of-world-trucks
- Jaguar Land Rover is revving up to assemble two more models in India which will increase its competitiveness in the fast-growing domestic luxury automotive market. JLR is looking to roll out locally-assembled Jaguar XF sedan and Range Rover Evoque SUV within 12-18 months. The new offerings will beef up JLR's presence in the segment where German rivals BMW, Mercedes and Audi hold sway
http://articles.economictimes.indiatimes.com/2011-10-18/news/30295729_1_jlr-range-rover-evoque-jaguar-land-rover
- Volvo announced a new momentum to its operations in the country announcing approximately Rs. 400 crore investment plans for the next 5 years. In the first phase of this plan the company will expand its current industrial establishment to 2,500-unit capacity and introduce a range of new products in the coming years starting as soon as 2012
http://motownindia.com/Motown/Gadgets/View_Details.aspx?id=366&type=National_News
- Maruti Suzuki is feeling the pinch of labour strikes with about 2-4% of the prospective customers of one of its successful models, Swift, deciding to cancel orders due to the long waiting period. Because of the long waiting period many people are cancelling their bookings
http://articles.economictimes.indiatimes.com/2011-10-28/news/30332607_1_swift-mayank-pareek-petrol-and-diesel
- Caterham Cars is entering India with the Dabur at the helm of the operations here. The company will start selling its Caterham Seven, built- to-order models priced ranging from Rs 28 lakh up to Rs 90 lakh by the first half of next year. It also plans to bring its latest sports car SP300, that is priced at 66,000 pounds, to India by next year
<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/news-by-industry/auto/automobiles/caterham-cars-makes-india-entry-priced-up-to-rs-90-lakh/articleshow/10508806.cms>
- PSA Peugeot Citroen initiated its India operations at Sanand by conducting a stone laying ceremony for its Rs 4,000 crore facility at the project site situated about 40 kilometers from Ahmedabad. The company is slated to roll out its first car from the Sanand plant in mid-2014. The car-maker will produce B-plus, C and D class cars for the Indian market
<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/news-by-industry/auto/automobiles/peugeot-begins-work-on-rs-4000-cr-facility-at-sanand/articleshow/10594716.cms>

- Hyundai has lined up 10-15 launches in India in the next four to five years in an attempt to protect and boost its market share that is under pressure due to increasing competition. The firm whose market share in India has fallen to 18.3% from 21% in the past 12-18 months plans to overhaul its portfolio with stylish so-called "fluidic" designs and enter categories where it has no presence
<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/news-by-industry/auto/automobiles/hyundai-lines-up-15-launches-in-india-over-next-5-yrs-to-boost-market-share/articleshow/10660511.cms>

2. Vehicle Development

Compact cars

- Maruti Suzuki will raise production of its best-selling hatchback Swift by more than 40%. It will also shift its entire output to the Manesar factory after a month-long industrial unrest. This will help them increase the output of Swift to 17,000 units a month from our historical highs of 12,000 units a month
http://articles.economictimes.indiatimes.com/2011-10-04/news/30242667_1_manesar-maruti-suzuki-gurgaon-plant
- Maruti Suzuki introduced limited editions of its brand Alto. Branded as Alto Xplore this limited edition is packed with new features both on the inside and outside. The Xplore models are loaded with more than 10 new features. The new limited edition of Alto is launched to coincide with the ongoing festive season
http://articles.economictimes.indiatimes.com/2011-10-13/news/30275448_1_limited-edition-alto-lxi-alto-k10
- Hyundai has launched EON directly pitted against Maruti Suzuki's global top seller Alto, firing a warning shot across the bow of its bleeding arch rival which has been wounded by a strike at one of its plants. Eon, Hyundai's first car developed from scratch for India and is aimed at the bulging middle of the country's car market, has a starting price of Rs 2.7 lakh
http://articles.economictimes.indiatimes.com/2011-10-14/news/30279409_1_800cc-small-car-alto
- Hyundai Motor launched a liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) powered variant of its hatchback i10 priced between Rs.416, 144 and Rs.430, 659 (ex-showroom Delhi). The new variant is powered by a 1.1 litre iRDE2 engine which can run on both LPG and petrol. The car has a factory-fitted LPG kit
<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/news-by-industry/auto/automobiles/hyundai-launches-lpg-variant-of-hatchback-i10-priced-between-rs-416144-and-rs-430659/articleshow/10829848.cms>
- Tata Nano will go on sale in Bangladesh but with a price tag nearly triple what it is at home. Both the Nano and other rival small cars produced by companies such as Maruti are significantly more expensive in Bangladesh as importers have to pay 132% tax on each car
<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/news-by-industry/auto/automobiles/tata-motors-to-launch-nano-car-in-bangladesh/articleshow/10353531.cms>
- Skoda is lining up a new compact car Citigo for India the small car originally planned for Europe. The company has not been able to crack the big volume compact car segment in India with the Fabia, and it now plans to launch new products in the lower-end of the market to corner higher numbers and market share
http://articles.economictimes.indiatimes.com/2011-10-10/news/30263326_1_small-car-compact-car-skoda-brand
- Brazil expressed interest in taking the world's cheapest car Tata Nano to the South American nation. Tata Motors started exports of completely built units (CBU) of Nano to Sri Lanka and Nepal earlier this year, and is considering the option of assembling the car abroad, through the completely knocked down units (CKD) route
http://articles.economictimes.indiatimes.com/2011-10-14/news/30279214_1_tata-nano-brazil-cheapest-car
- Renault is planning to follow the footsteps of rivals like Hyundai, Toyota, Suzuki and Honda to develop an all new car platform solely for India as the company tries to push sales in one of the world's high-potential market. Meanwhile the company unveiled first small car, Pulse, which shares platform with Japanese partner Nissan's V-platform
<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/business/india-business/Renault-plans-India-specific-small-car/articleshow/10560660.cms>
- BMW said it will launch the Small luxury car Mini in India by next year at a price that is expected to be above Rs 25 lakh. The company also said it will set up separate showrooms for the brand and aims to have up to 12 dealerships across the country for the Mini in the coming years. BMW had earlier planned to launch the Mini in India in 2009, but shelved it citing feasibility reasons
http://articles.economictimes.indiatimes.com/2011-10-17/news/30289902_1_president-andreas-schaaf-bmw-india-german-auto-major-bmw

Mid-Size or Sedan

- Nissan India plans to start exporting Sunny it's locally made mid-level sedan to West Asia and Africa early next year as it looks to tap into high demand for such cars in these regions. Sunny is Nissan's second locally made vehicle after Micra which was launched last October
http://articles.economictimes.indiatimes.com/2011-10-03/news/30238544_1_ennore-port-micra-kiminobu-tokuyama
- Rolls-Royce Motor Cars launched a new variant of its Ghost model at a starting price of Rs 3.05 crore to tap the growing luxury car market in the country. The Ghost Extended Wheelbase is powered by a 6.6 litre petrol engine and will be available in the market soon. The company sold around 80 units in the country last year
http://articles.economictimes.indiatimes.com/2011-10-05/news/30247021_1_motor-cars-today-ultra-luxury-car-maker-rolls-royce
- Skoda said it has started production of its yet-to-be-launched entry level sedan Rapid from the group's Chakan plant near Pune. The Rapid is the first car from the company which has been designed keeping in mind the special needs of Indian customers and will be exclusively manufactured in India
http://articles.economictimes.indiatimes.com/2011-10-07/news/30253970_1_chakan-plant-fabia-skoda-auto-india
- Mahindra & Mahindra launched a limited edition of its Verito sedan called Verito Executive priced in the range of Rs 5.95-7.09 lakh (ex-showroom Delhi). The new variant targeted at corporate professionals or businessmen will be available in two colours pearl white and walnut brown
<http://daily.bhaskar.com/article/BIZ-AUT-mahindra-launches-verito-executive-priced-at-rs-5-2491765.html>
- Honda is all set to relaunch its flagship Sedan City in India. Honda launched the new City in Thailand in September. The new City will have no changes in engine platform and pricing however there will be changes made in the exterior and interior of the car
<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/news-by-industry/auto/automobiles/honda-to-relaunch-city-sedan-in-mid-december/articleshow/10818121.cms>

Utility Vehicles

- Mahindra & Mahindra said it is temporarily suspending booking for its newly launched XUV500 as the vehicle is sold out four long months. This temporary suspension of booking has been necessitated due to the overwhelming response to the XUV500. The new vehicle is available only in Mumbai, Delhi, Bangalore, Chennai, and Pune
http://articles.economictimes.indiatimes.com/2011-10-12/news/30270859_1_bookings-mahindra-mahindra-overwhelming-response
- Mahindra & Mahindra (M&M) is developing SUV with SsangYong Motors. Codenamed the S101 the Nano SUV will be powered by 1-1.2 litre petrol engines and 1.5-litre diesel engines. Work on the project began a year ago and the vehicles are expected to roll out of M&M's plant in Chakan on the outskirts of Pune in 2013
http://articles.economictimes.indiatimes.com/2011-10-20/news/30301432_1_suv-maker-m-m-spokesperson-rajn-wadhera
- Marqee is expected to bring in two new cars by mid-November. Range Rover Evoque a luxury SUV is expected to hit Indian roads in the first week of November followed by the Jaguar XF a mid-sized luxury saloon. JLR is expected to offer both petrol and diesel versions of these cars which are expected to be priced between Rs. 50-60 lakh
http://articles.economictimes.indiatimes.com/2011-10-25/news/30320087_1_motors-owned-range-rover-evoque-petrol-and-diesel
- Lamborghini launched the all-new Aventador LP 700-4 model in India priced at Rs 3.69 crore (ex-showroom, Delhi). Powered by a 12-cylinder and 6.5-litre engine the Aventador is among the fastest street-legal cars in the world and can touch a top speed of up to 350 km per hour
<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/news-by-industry/auto/automobiles/lamborghini-rolls-out-aventador-lp-700-4-priced-at-rs-3-69-cr/articleshow/10600447.cms>
- Nissan launched a limited edition of its popular SUV X-Trail as part of an adventure reality show called X-treme Trail. The new model comes with a new 2.0L diesel engine and is priced at Rs 22.79 lakh (ex-showroom Mumbai)
<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/news-by-industry/auto/automobiles/nissan-launches-limited-edition-suv-x-trail/articleshow/10595441.cms>
- Nissan India's urban multi utility vehicle is expected to be launched in August 2012. The MUV will resemble Nissan NV 200 sold in Europe and other parts of the world and will be pitted against Toyota Innova. The MUV will be unveiled at the Delhi Auto Expo to be held in January
<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/news-by-industry/auto/automobiles/nissan-to-launch-muv-in-aug-2012/articleshow/10778650.cms>

Commercial Vehicles (Bus, Truck)

- Ashok Leyland launched Dost a light commercial vehicle which they jointly developed with Nissan Motors in the Kerala market. Dost have a payload capacity of 1.25 tonnes and is priced at Rs 3.79 lakh to Rs 4.38 lakh. With the commercial launch of Dost Ashok Leyland fills an important gap in its product line-up
http://articles.timesofindia.indiatimes.com/2011-10-22/kochi/30310109_1_nissan-ashok-leyland-powertrain-kerala-market-hinduja-automotive
- Daimler has lined up dozens of trucks that it will launch in India starting next year to challenge the dominance of Tata Motors and Ashok Leyland in the country's lucrative truck market. The world's biggest truck maker which plans to launch its heavy vehicles under the Bharat Benz brand in India will showcase its entire range at the Auto Expo in Delhi in January
<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/news-by-industry/auto/automobiles/daimler-to-enter-indian-truck-market-to-challenge-tata-motors-ashok-leyland/articleshow/10599870.cms>
- Asia Motor Works launched its new 1618 TP Tipper model at the EXCON exhibition in Bangalore. This new model marks AMW's entry into the competitive 16 tonne segment of the Indian commercial vehicle market. The 1618 TP is a single axle (4X2) tipper powered by a 178bhp diesel engine, mated to a 6-speed gearbox
http://motownindia.com/motown/Gadgets/View_Details.aspx?id=390&type=National_News
- Tata Motors said it is planning to set up factories for trucks and buses in South East Asia and Latin America. It is to be noted here that the company has already started assembling trucks in South Africa facility
http://articles.economictimes.indiatimes.com/2011-10-18/news/30295883_1_tata-motors-president-ravi-pisharody-commercial-vehicle-business

Concept Cars/Hybrid vehicles/Electric Vehicles

- Ashok Leyland is looking at launching electric variants of its passenger and commercial vehicles using indigenous technology. The company is planning to introduce electric vehicles across the spectrum (both buses and commercial vehicles) including the recently launched LCV Dost
<http://ashok-leyland-ltd.blogspot.com/2011/10/ashok-leyland-plans-electric-variants.html>
- Volvo would be launching its two green concept cars globally by 2015. Unconfirmed reports are saying that the concept cars 'U' (sedan) and 'Universe' (S-class) would be equipped with online communication technologies. These cars will have online features like live streaming of videos and technologies wherein cars talk to each other
<http://in.news.yahoo.com/volvo-launch-green-concept-cars-u-universe-2015-101423310.html>
- Tata Hispano unveiled the CNG-Electric hybrid urban bus with a new area body design at the International Bus world fair 2011. With this launch Tata Hispano heads the offer in hybrid technologies by offering two clearly differentiated options for urban transport operators in Europe-Diesel-Electric chassis and CNG-Electric chassis both developed in collaboration with Siemens
http://machinist.in/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=3875&Itemid=2

3. Technology

- Maruti Suzuki is planning to add more models with environment-friendly CNG option to its existing fleet of five such cars. The company currently offers five models in CNG options compact cars Alto, WagonR and Estilo, multi-purpose van Eeco, and sedan SX4
<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/news-by-industry/auto/automobiles/maruti-suzuki-plans-more-models-with-cng-options/articleshow/10805340.cms>

4. Defence, Agricultural Equipment, Construction Equipment - Industry activity

- International Tractors that sells the Sonalika brand is in talks with private equity players to sell 10% stake for around Rs 450 crore. The fund will be used to fuel production capacity and acquire an overseas company. ITL has installed capacity of 60,000 tractors a year and it want to scale it up to 1 lakh, within two years
http://articles.economictimes.indiatimes.com/2011-10-16/news/30286295_1_international-tractors-itl-ld-mittal
- The Rs 5000 crore Sonalika Group plans to expand its engine manufacturing capacity at its Hoshiarpur factory in Punjab from 75,000 units p.a. to 150,000 units p.a. in the next fiscal. The company plans to increase its tractor manufacturing capacity from 60,000 tractors a year to 1 lakh, within two years
http://machinist.in/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=3839&Itemid=2
- The sales of small tractors on which spraying systems are mounted have gone up in Maharashtra. Tractor-mounted spraying systems help in spraying the pesticides uniformly. The work is done so fast that one person can spray a 10-12 acre in one day. In the manual spraying system, one person can spray about 1.5-2 acres in a day
http://articles.economictimes.indiatimes.com/2011-10-24/news/30316580_1_spraying-schedule-tractors-labour-shortage
- Mahindra and Mahindra (M&M) has increased the production of Yuvraj215 tractors at its Shapar plant from 1,800 units to 2,500 units per year. It is to be noted here that M&M has introduced Yuvraj by targeting the farmers who hold 2 to 5 acres of land
<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/news-by-industry/auto/automobiles/mahindra-ramps-up-production-of-yuvraj215-tractors/articleshow/10681842.cms>
- Putzmeister Concrete Machines said it will invest four million euros over the next three years to expand production capacity at its Goa manufacturing plant as well as service hubs spread across the country. The Company has already invested six million euros in our India operations and will now invest four million euros more to increase their capacity
http://www.thaindian.com/newsportal/business/putzmeister-to-invest-four-million-euros-in-india_100571222.html

5. Automotive components

- Wheels India said it plans to enter into manufacturing of air-suspension for truck and trailers .The Company is looking to enter into domain of truck suspension and trailer suspension. The company proposed to increase the capacity of its five plants to 15 million wheels by next year from the present 13 million wheels at an investment of Rs 70 crore
http://articles.economictimes.indiatimes.com/2011-10-27/news/30328280_1_manufacturing-plant-wheels-india-suspension
- Fiat Padmini close to signing pact to source 1.3 litre multijet diesel engines for Rio. Premier is very close to signing a commercial agreement with its former partner for the 1.3 litre multijet diesel engine the one that drives Maruti's Swift and Tata Motors' Vista for its compact sports utility vehicle (SUV) Rio. Premier plans to source 6,000 to 8,000 engine units from Fiat, which conform to Bharat Stage IV emission standards and caters to top 13 cities
http://articles.economictimes.indiatimes.com/2011-11-22/news/30428862_1_multijet-fiat-india-kurla-plant
- ZF India has crossed the production of 1000 transmissions at its transmission plant in Chakan. The company's facility in Pune supplies Axles and Transmissions to the growing Off Road Market. ZF India is till date the only production unit in India to assemble fully power shiftable Backhoe Transmissions
http://machinist.in/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=3943&Itemid=52
- Lucas-TVS has entered into a business co-operation agreement with Remy International, Inc, a producer of starters and alternators, headquartered in Pendleton, Indiana. The agreements between the companies include cross-technology licenses, product sales, engineering support and supplier sourcing support etc
http://machinist.in/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=3889&Itemid=2
- GKN Driveline has opened a new precision forging facility at Oragadam near Chennai in Tamil Nadu. GKN Driveline has invested nearly 48 crores INR (£6.6m UK) in the new forging facility which will ensure that its CVJ Systems benefit from GKN Driveline's proprietary forging technologies and quality
http://machinist.in/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=3915&Itemid=2
- TI Automotive is expanding its reach into the India automotive market with two new facilities in Bangalore and Chennai. Both facilities will produce technology for the domestic Indian market. TI Automotive now has five facilities in India. The Chennai facility is the company's first fuel tank systems location within India and will produce low-emission plastic fuel tanks
http://machinist.in/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=3888&Itemid=2

6. Upcoming Events

Automotive Logistics India (Conference)	Hilton/Janakpuri Hotel, New Delhi	7 th Dec 2011	9 th Dec 2011
11th Auto Expo 2012	Pragati Maidan, New Delhi	7 th Jan 2012	11 th Jan 2012
Automotive Testing Expo 2012	Chennai Trade Center, Chennai	6 th Mar 2012	8 th Mar 2012
Acme 2012 (Expo)	Chennai Trade Center, Chennai	14 th Jun 2012	18 th Jun 2012
Automotive Mega Trends India 2012 (Seminar)	Hilton Hotel, Chennai	11 th Sep 2012	14 th Sep 2012