

## Isuzu in agreement with Hindustan Motors to contract manufacture Isuzu vehicles in India, Car trials, June 28

Japanese Auto major Isuzu Motors signed an agreement with India' Hindustan Motors Limited (HML) for contract manufacturing of Isuzu SUVs and pickup trucks in India.

The components for producing these vehicles will be imported by Isuzu Motors from Thailand and assembled in HML's factory at Thiruvallur, near Chennai, Tamil Nadu.

We are very confident about the growth prospects of the SUV and LCV market in India, notwithstanding the current slowdown. We are also very happy with the positive feedback of the market to our MU7 SUV and DMAX pickup truck, which we launched in Coimbatore and Hyderabad in March this year by importing these as CBUs



from Thailand. We would now like to accelerate and carry forward this positive momentum and expand our sales operations in other parts of India, starting with the Southern region. The collaboration with Hindustan Motors will support us by carrying out assembly of our products at Thiruvallur which is about 70km from Sri City, Andhra Pradesh, where our own local manufacturing facility is planned to come up. We can thereby advance the scope of our sales operations and increase the scale of supply volumes without waiting for our local manufacturing facility to be ready, told Mr. Takashi Kikuchi, President, Isuzu Motors India.

Our agreement for contract manufacturing of Isuzu's globally renowned vehicles is a testimony to the state-ofthe-art manufacturing facilities at our Thiruvallur plant. The operations will enable HML to optimally utilise its spare capacity at Thiruvallur and make eminent business sense at a time when the Indian economy and the automobile industry, in particular, are passing through testing times. Today's agreement with Isuzu is a strategic move to keep Hindustan Motors on the growth path, told Mr. Uttam Bose, MD & CEO, Hindustan Motors.

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