

## Hindustan Motors To Assemble Isuzu SUV & Trucks, Drive Spark, July 01

It is known that Japanese commercial vehicle manufacturing giant Isuzu has had its eye on India for sometime. Isuzu plans to start manufacturing SUVs and light commercial vehicles by setting up a plant near Sri City in Andhra Pradesh. Till the time the plant becomes operational though, Isuzu has decided to rely on Hindustan Motors to produce its products. The announcement was made yesterday in Chennai.



As per the agreement, HM will produce Isuzu's MU-7 SUV and D-Max pick-up truck at its Thiruvallur plant. Complete Knock Down kits will be imported from Thailand and will be assembled by HM in Chennai. The agreement with Isuzu will be beneficial to HM in a major way.

HM's Chennai plant is where it assembles Mitsubishi's products, which till recently included the Lancer, Cedia, Pajero, Outlander, Pajero Sport and the Montero. Now, only the latter two remain in production, which further brings down the production happening at the Thiruvallur plant. The production of MU-7 SUV and D-Max models will thus help HM maintain profitability.



Speaking during the occasion Hindustan Motors managing director and CEO, Uttam Bose stated, "Our agreement for contract manufacturing of Isuzu's globally renowned vehicles is a testimony to the state-of-the-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."

<http://www.drivespark.com/four-wheelers/2013/hindustan-motors-isuzu-mu-7-d-max-005036.html>