



The Route, Ale and Mimmo, November 02

2,000kms across ancient tribal forests, wild tiger reserves, hectic cities and hot arid plains. From Goa to Kummarakom (South West India) in 14 days, through the Western Ghat Mountains and through the diverse terrain of Goa, Kerala, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu. The rally isn't a race and there are no prizes for coming first or last - this event is all about the fundraising and... getting back in one piece.



The car is a Hindustan Ambassador 1500 DSL, one of the latest variants of the car first manufactured in 1957 by Hindustan Motors in Uttarpara, West Bengal. Based on the Morris Oxford Mk III, the Ambi (as it's affectionately known in India) has changed little since its introduction in 1957. This ubiquitous car still flaunts torsion-bar suspension at the front and semi-elliptical leaf springs at the rear, together with all-round drum brakes. Minor bodywork and structural amendments have added to its "Bollywood" style and, inside, bucket seats have replaced the bench of the earlier models. However, it's in the propulsion department that matters have been mightily improved. The reliable STRIDE Diesel engine produces 37 (!) bhp, and is mated to a heavy-duty 4-speed gearbox driving a live axle. Perhaps the best testimonial to the Ambassador is that it's been the mainstay of Indian motoring for the past 50 years - until recently, even the Indian President used an Ambassador as his official vehicle!

http://www.karmaenduro2011.com/Karma_Enduro_2011_-_Ale_%26_Mimmo/Karma_Enduro_2011_-_Ale_%26_Mimmo_%7C_Karma_Enduro.html