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PRESS RELEASE

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The Volkswagen Group intends to merge all passenger car entities in India

- › The proposed merger has been considered and approved by the Boards of the three companies: Volkswagen India Private Ltd (VWIPL), Volkswagen Group Sales India Private Ltd (NSC) and SKODA AUTO India Private Ltd (SAIPL)
- › The integration of the three entities is subject to regulatory and statutory approvals
- › The restructuring of the Volkswagen Group companies is a significant milestone in the ŠKODA-led 'INDIA 2.0' project and aims to sustainably strengthen the Volkswagen Group's position in India by increasing efficiency in existing synergies
- › ŠKODA AUTO takes over steering responsibility of the Volkswagen Group in India

Mumbai/Pune/Aurangabad, 3 April 2019 – The Volkswagen Group has announced its intent to merge its three Indian subsidiaries: Volkswagen India Private Ltd (VWIPL), Volkswagen Group Sales India Private Ltd (NSC) and SKODA AUTO India Private Ltd (SAIPL). The merger has been considered and approved by the Boards of the three companies in India and is now subject to the necessary regulatory and statutory approvals. The restructuring of the Volkswagen Group companies in India is an important milestone in the ŠKODA-led 'INDIA 2.0' project of the Volkswagen Group.

The proposed merger of the three companies will make more efficient use of the existing synergies in developing this important growth market. The Volkswagen Group brands, viz. Volkswagen, ŠKODA, Audi, Porsche and Lamborghini, will maintain their individual identities, dealer network and customer experience initiatives. However, the brands will work under the leadership of Mr. Gurpratap Boparai with a common strategy for the Indian market.

Mr. Gurpratap Boparai, Managing Director, Volkswagen India Private Ltd and SKODA AUTO India Private Ltd commented, "India is an important and an attractive growth market for the Volkswagen Group. With the proposed merger, we intend to combine the technical and managerial expertise of the three companies to unlock the Volkswagen Group's true potential in India's competitive automotive market. The integration will lead to coordinated and faster decision making and increased efficiency using existing synergies."

In July 2018, the Volkswagen Group confirmed investments of INR 8,000 crore (EUR 1 billion) in the 'INDIA 2.0' project. In January 2019 the Technology Center was opened in Pune, laying the foundation for the development of products based on the localised sub-compact MQB-A0-IN platform tailored to the needs of customers in the Indian subcontinent. In the second phase of the project, Volkswagen Group will be examining the possibility of exporting vehicles built in India.



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Media image:



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Source: ŠKODA AUTO

ŠKODA AUTO

- › was founded during the pioneering days of the automobile in 1895, making it one of the longest-established automobile companies in the world.
- › currently offers its customers nine passenger-car series: the CITIGO, FABIA, RAPID, SCALA, OCTAVIA, KAROQ, KODIAQ, as well as the KAMIQ and the SUPERB.
- › delivered more than 1.25 million vehicles to customers around the world in 2018.
- › has belonged to Volkswagen Group since 1991. The Volkswagen Group is one of the most successful vehicle manufacturers in the world. In association with the Group, ŠKODA AUTO independently develops and manufactures vehicles, as well as components such as engines and transmissions.
- › operates at three locations in the Czech Republic; manufactures in China, Russia, Slovakia, Algeria and India mainly through Group partnerships, as well as in Ukraine and Kazakhstan with local partners.
- › employs over 39,000 people globally and is active in more than 100 markets.
- › is pressing ahead with the transformation from a traditional car manufacturer to the 'Simply Clever company for the best mobility solutions' as part of the ŠKODA 2025 Strategy.