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Page 1 of 13

Mladá Boleslav / New Delhi, 3 February 2020

## Press kit ŠKODA at the Delhi Auto Expo 2020

### Contents

ŠKODA at the Auto Expo 2020 in New Delhi	2
VISION IN – a powerful design and crystalline elements	6
ŠKODA VISION IN – based on market-specific platform for India	7
VISION IN – interior features both modern technology and traditional craftsmanship	8
ŠKODA AUTO DigiLab India	11



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# PRESS KIT

Page 2 of 13

## ŠKODA at the Auto Expo 2020 in New Delhi: VISION IN concept study is first car from the INDIA 2.0 project

- › First vehicle based on the new MQB-A0-IN platform provides a look ahead at a future family SUV developed specifically for the Indian subcontinent
- › VISION IN celebrates its world premiere at the Auto Expo from 5 to 12 February 2020
- › As part of the INDIA 2.0 project, ŠKODA has a leading role in Volkswagen Group's activities on the Indian market
- › ŠKODA KAROQ makes its debut on the Indian market; model updates for the SUPERB and others
- › ŠKODA AUTO DigiLab India develops tailor-made mobility solutions for Indian customers

Mladá Boleslav / New Delhi, 3 February 2020 – ŠKODA is presenting its VISION IN concept study at the Auto Expo 2020 from 5 to 12 February. The study gives a concrete preview of a new mid-size family SUV and is the first model ever to use the MQB-A0-IN variant of the MQB car platform, which has been specially adapted for the Indian market. As part of the INDIA 2.0 project, ŠKODA has been responsible for heading Volkswagen Group's model campaign on the Indian market since June 2018. The consolidation of the three Volkswagen Group passenger-car companies previously represented in India to form the new ŠKODA AUTO Volkswagen India Private Limited (SAVWIPL) in October 2019 marked an important milestone for the project. It enables coordinated, faster decision-making and increases efficiency by exploiting existing synergies. In terms of models, ŠKODA will also be showcasing the KAROQ as a newcomer to the Indian market, the updated SUPERB flagship, the MONTE CARLO and Matte Concept of the RAPID 1.0 TSI, as well as the KODIAQ and the sporty OCTAVIA RS 245.

ŠKODA CEO Bernhard Maier pointed out that, "India is one of the most exciting and most promising growth markets for Volkswagen Group. A year and a half ago, we set the course to help write this story of growth with our INDIA 2.0 project. Together with the Volkswagen brand, we are seeking a combined market share of five per cent by 2025, depending on market and segment development. For ŠKODA, India would thus become one of the five largest markets in the world. The first models being developed as part of the INDIA 2.0 project are on the home stretch, and – by unveiling the ŠKODA VISION IN – we are giving a concrete preview of the first production car."

Gurpratap Boparai, Managing Director of ŠKODA AUTO Volkswagen India Private Limited, added, "For us, localisation is the key to success and by opening our Technology Centre in Pune we have created the necessary conditions for this. In the localised MQB-A0-IN variant of the MQB, we now also have the technical prerequisite to offer state-of-the-art, attractive vehicles: they fulfil the latest safety and emission requirements for the Indian market, are in line with our customers' tastes and are tailored to their needs."

ŠKODA has continued to evolve its brand-typical design for the VISION IN and, by showcasing it in New Delhi, is giving a concrete preview of the design language for a new, mid-size family model. The Czech car manufacturer will proceed with its SUV campaign in the rapidly growing Indian market by launching the production version of the VISION IN in early 2021. It will be the first production model to use the new, localised MQB-A0-IN platform. The VISION IN offers an optimum



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# PRESS KIT

Page 3 of 13

amount of space, perfectly combined with the highest degree of versatility and state-of-the-art technologies. The 4,256-mm-long concept study has a wheelbase of 2,671 mm and is powered by a 1.5 TSI petrol engine that delivers 110 kW (150 PS).

Its elongated lines and long wheelbase make the mid-size SUV concept study appear larger and, alongside the large bonnet and 19-inch (48.26-cm) alloy wheels, bring out the extroverted and incredibly rugged exterior design of the ŠKODA VISION IN.

The VISION IN is clearly identifiable as a member of the ŠKODA SUV family thanks to the partially illuminated crystalline elements in the LED headlights and tail lights as well as on the grille and the striking light strip at the rear. Its bright orange metallic exterior colour conveys a zest for life and creativity.

## **Modern technologies, Indian heritage and vegan materials**

In the interior of the VISION IN, ŠKODA has combined state-of-the-art technologies and innovative vegan materials with traditional Indian design and Bohemian crystal glass art. The decorative trim on the dashboard has drawn inspiration from Kalamkari, an Indian textile printing technique that uses hand-carved wooden stamps to print traditional fabric patterns. The interior also makes use of rhubarb leather, an innovative organic leather, as well as oak leather and the leather alternative made from waste pineapple leaves, Piñatex, for the seat covers, for example. The roof lining is made of recycled plastic fibres, whilst the decorative strips are made of genuine crystal. A crystalline assistant in the centre of the dashboard acts as a bridge to the digital world, as do the free-standing central display with a 12.3-inch (31.24-cm) screen, the individually customisable Virtual Cockpit and shift-by-wire technology for the 7-speed DSG.

## **Other new ŠKODA models for the Indian market**

Alongside the KAROQ featuring a 1.5 TSI engine with a power output of 110 kW (150 PS) as a newcomer to the Indian market, ŠKODA is also showcasing a SUPERB L&K and a KODIAQ L&K, each fitted with a 2.0 TSI delivering 140 kW (190 PS), at the Auto Expo 2020 in New Delhi. The sporty OCTAVIA RS 245 producing 180 kW (245 PS), the RAPID in the MONTE CARLO trim level and Matte Concept of the RAPID 1.0 TSI, as well as a 2.0 TDI SUPERB SPORTLINE outputting 140 kW (190 PS) round off the ŠKODA models on display at the exhibition.

In addition to current models, ŠKODA will also exhibit a 1948 ŠKODA SUPERB OHV at its stand. The vehicle equipped with bodywork manufactured in the Kvasiny plant has been lovingly restored over the last three years.

## **ŠKODA AUTO is responsible for leading Volkswagen Group's model campaign in India**

Since mid-2018, ŠKODA has been heading the INDIA 2.0 project and has thereby also been responsible for Volkswagen Group's model campaign in India. In order to strengthen its position in this important growth market for the long term, Volkswagen Group is investing a total of one billion euros in the project, 250 million euros of which will go into research and development. ŠKODA and Volkswagen are seeking to achieve a combined market share of five per cent by 2025, depending on market and segment development. ŠKODA and Volkswagen's upcoming volume models for the Indian market are based on the locally developed and produced MQB-A0-IN platform.



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# PRESS KIT

Page 4 of 13

## **Models developed for India to be based on market-specific MQB-A0-IN platform**

ŠKODA has developed the MQB-A0-IN platform specifically with a regional focus, ensuring that it already fulfils the upcoming, stricter safety and emission requirements for new vehicles on the Indian market. The platform will be the basis for all future ŠKODA and Volkswagen brand models developed in the region. ŠKODA will also be assessing the possibility of exporting cars manufactured in India to other countries. The [ŠKODA VISION IN](#) concept study, being unveiled at the New Delhi motor show, is the first vehicle based on this platform.

## **Maximum market proximity is a key factor in the highly dynamic Indian market**

The Technology Centre opened in Pune in January 2019 guarantees optimum market proximity: 95 per cent of the vehicles based on the MQB-A0-IN platform will be built locally. October 2019 then saw the transformational merger of Volkswagen India Pvt Ltd (VWIPL), Volkswagen Group Sales India Pvt Ltd (NSC) and ŠKODA AUTO India Pvt Ltd (SAIPL), forming ŠKODA AUTO Volkswagen India Private Limited (SAVWIPL) with the aim of making better use of existing synergies. In addition to cars from ŠKODA and Volkswagen, the joint venture's portfolio will include vehicles from the Audi, Porsche and Lamborghini brands, and will cater to various market segments and budgets with almost 30 models.

## **Integrating local knowledge in the next steps of the 2025 Strategy**

The opening of ŠKODA AUTO DigiLab India also demonstrates India's importance to ŠKODA. The carmaker is expanding the network of its innovation hubs and developing clever mobility solutions locally. The [new solar-power rooftop system at the plant in Pune](#) also set new benchmarks. Consisting of 25,770 photovoltaic modules covering 63,000 m<sup>2</sup>, it is one of the largest of its kind in India and will cut the site's carbon footprint by 9,000 tonnes per year in future. The manufacturer has thereby laid the foundations for becoming climate-neutral by 2030.

## **ŠKODA AUTO's rich history on the Indian market**

ŠKODA currently offers four locally manufactured model ranges in India, which are produced at two plants: the ŠKODA RAPID is made at the site in Pune; the ŠKODA OCTAVIA, SUPERB flagship, and the KODIAQ SUV roll off the line in Aurangabad. The KAROQ, which is being presented in New Delhi as a new model for the country, will be launched onto the market this year.

In addition to its headquarters in Pune, ŠKODA AUTO Volkswagen India Private Limited has regional offices in Delhi, Mumbai and Bengaluru.

ŠKODA's history in India goes back a long time: In May 1934, four ŠKODA POPULARs set off on a 15,000-km-long journey that led from Prague to the Balkans, Turkey, present-day Syria, Iraq and Calcutta. From there, they went to Mumbai and finally sailed back to Prague via Trieste.

Just two years later, in the summer of 1936, the Czech globetrotters Břetislav Jan Procházka and Jindřich Kubias embarked on a 97-day world tour, driving their slightly modified ŠKODA RAPID from Quetta to Mumbai via New Delhi in just three days.

Not least thanks to the great amount of attention these expeditions drew, ŠKODA began to export up to 90 vehicles a year to India in the second half of the 1930s, making the country the seventh



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Page 5 of 13

largest of the Czech carmaker's then 39 export markets in 1938. In 2001, the car manufacturer established its own subsidiary on the Indian market, ŠKODA AUTO India Private Limited.



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Page 6 of 13

## VISION IN – a powerful design and crystalline elements

- › Exterior characterised by a rugged appearance and elongated lines
- › LED headlights and illuminated crystal on the grille and rear provide visual highlights
- › Aluminium front spoiler and rear diffuser, and a bright orange metallic exterior colour

Mladá Boleslav / New Delhi, 3 February 2020 – Powerful, rugged and with a bright orange metallic finish: featuring an exuberant exterior design, the ŠKODA VISION IN is specifically tailored to suit the preferences of Indian customers. Crystalline elements in the LED headlights and tail lights, as well as the ŠKODA grille and the prominent light strip at the rear are a clear give-away that the car is a member of the ŠKODA SUV family. A wide bonnet, aluminium front spoiler and rear diffuser as well as matt anthracite side trims underline the rugged character of this mid-size SUV and make it appear larger.

For Indian customers, an exuberant, powerful and self-confident design is a hallmark of premium vehicles. Thanks to its rugged and stunning appearance, the use of partially illuminated crystalline elements and the bright orange metallic exterior colour, the ŠKODA VISION IN gives a striking first impression. What's more, its elongated lines and large wheelbase make the 4,256-mm-long concept study appear bigger.

### ŠKODA grille boasts illuminated crystal frame and slats

Featuring a distinctive front and large bonnet, the VISION IN's ŠKODA SUV family resemblance is clear at first glance. The wide ŠKODA grille features striking double slats; both the frame and the slats are made of lead crystal, and their elegance is additionally enhanced by eye-catching LED illumination. The two-part LED headlights also exhibit crystalline structures. In the upper part, which reaches as far as the ŠKODA grille, stunning glass elements create the LED dipped beam, LED high beam and an L-shaped LED module for the daytime running lights and indicators. The LED fog lights are arranged below this. The upper section of the sculpted bumper has been given added depth, is body-coloured and incorporates a wide, crystalline, mesh-effect air inlet. The lower section consists of a rugged, aluminium front spoiler.

### Straight roof line and powerful rear

The straight roof line with panoramic glass roof and buffed aluminium roof rails conveys a sporty appearance at first glance. A three-dimensional tornado line makes the vehicle look longer, while the powerful wheel arches make it appear brawny and self-assured on the road. This impression is reinforced by the car's bold, sculptured plastic side trims in matt anthracite; 19-inch alloy wheels with polished surfaces create a manifold of light and shade effects. The side profile of the chrome-framed windows extends all the way to the D-pillar and, exhibiting a slanted rear window and 'ŠKODA' in block lettering, the rear is powerful and uncluttered. Razor-sharp, L-shaped LED tail lights together with horizontal reflectors form the ŠKODA-typical 'C' of the light cluster. A crystalline strip of light between the reflectors provides yet another visual touch, further splitting the rear into individual sections and lending it a more structured overall appearance; a rugged aluminium diffuser completes the lower section.



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Page 7 of 13

## ŠKODA VISION IN – based on market-specific platform for India

- › **Concept study of a mid-size family SUV tailor-made to suit the requirements of Indian customers**
- › **MQB-A0-IN: variant of Volkswagen Group's modular MQB platform specially adapted for India**
- › **VISION IN provides a concrete preview of a mid-size SUV developed and manufactured in India for India**

**Mladá Boleslav / New Delhi, 3 February 2020 – By showcasing its VISION IN, ŠKODA is celebrating two premieres at the Delhi Auto Expo 2020: the concept study is the first vehicle developed as part of the INDIA 2.0 project and it is also the first model to be based on the new MQB-A0-IN. Having been tasked to develop a platform adapted specifically for the Indian market, the MQB-A0-IN – a variant of Volkswagen Group's MQB system – is ŠKODA AUTO's answer. The VISION IN provides a concrete look ahead at a production model of a mid-size family SUV that will specifically cater to the requirements of Indian customers and will also be produced in India.**

Following the success of the KODIAQ and KAROQ, ŠKODA will continue its SUV campaign on the promising Indian market by introducing a mid-size family model (expected to take place in 2021). The unveiling of the ŠKODA VISION IN provides a concrete preview of this vehicle, which will be the first production model to be based on the new MQB-A0-IN platform and will also be produced locally. The new localised platform is a variant of Volkswagen Group's MQB system, developed by ŠKODA AUTO for use in India and specifically tailored to suit the tastes of Indian customers. It allows ŠKODA-typical advantages such as an optimum amount of space to be perfectly combined with the highest degree of versatility and state-of-the-art technologies, as can now be seen in the VISION IN.

Christian Strube, ŠKODA AUTO Board Member for Technical Development, said, "When developing the MQB-A0-IN platform, we were very much guided by the local requirements of the Indian market. And the result will allow us to offer vehicles that boast the high level of quality that is typical of Volkswagen Group as well as modern technology, and – thanks to radical localisation – to do so at competitive prices. Together with our local suppliers, manufacturing in India also enables us to react quickly and flexibly to changes in the market."

### **1.5 TSI with a power output of 110 kW (150 PS)**

The ŠKODA VISION IN concept study is 4,256 mm long and has a wheelbase of 2,671 mm; its height is 1,589 mm. The VISION IN is powered by a modern and efficient petrol engine. The 1.5 TSI delivering 110 kW (150 PS) transfers its maximum torque of 250 Nm to the front wheels via a 7-speed DSG. It takes the concept study 8.7 seconds to accelerate from 0 to 100 km/h. Its top speed is 195 km/h. The VISION IN features 7.5J×19 alloy wheels fitted with 235/45 R19 tyres.



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Page 8 of 13

## VISION IN – interior features both modern technology and traditional craftsmanship

- › 12.3-inch (31.24-cm) central display, Virtual Cockpit and shift-by-wire technology
- › Bohemian crystal glass meets Kalamkari traditional Indian craftsmanship
- › Sustainable materials: seat covers made of rhubarb leather and orange oak leather

Mladá Boleslav / New Delhi, 3 February 2020 – In the interior of the VISION IN concept study, state-of-the-art technologies and innovative materials meet traditional Indian craftsmanship and Bohemian crystal glass art. The wide, symmetrically arranged dashboard echoes the lines of the ŠKODA grille and has been inspired by the Indian textile printing technique Kalamkari, in which fabric printed with traditional patterns is produced in 23 steps. Bohemian crystal glass also catches the eye in the interior and, used for a crystalline 'assistant' in the middle of the dashboard, provides a bridge to the digital world. For the first time, the interior also showcases the use of rhubarb leather, an innovative organic leather, as well as oak leather and Piñatex, a leather alternative made from waste pineapple leaves. Seat covers and numerous storage compartments embody ŠKODA's typical Simply Clever features.

Oliver Stefani, Head of Design at ŠKODA, explained, "For the ŠKODA VISION IN, we have combined Indian and Czech traditions with state-of-the-art technologies. In addition, we have also used classic materials such as sustainable genuine leather produced without the use of any chromium, alongside vegan leather alternatives – allowing us to refine the new ŠKODA interior concept and enhance it with attractive details."

The interior of the VISION IN concept study is characterised by the new ŠKODA design language. The elongated dashboard picks up the symmetrical contours of the ŠKODA radiator grille and incorporates air vents featuring the brand-typical SUV design. The ŠKODA designers have also broken new ground when devising the decorative trim that adorns the dashboard and have drawn inspiration from Indian culture. The decor pays homage to the traditional Indian textile printing technique, in which classic motifs are printed onto fabric using handmade East-Indian-rosewood stamps. At the same time, the characteristic ŠKODA crystal seam on the dashboard and door panels as well as decorative armrest trims made of genuine crystal make reference to the traditional Czech art of glass cutting. An all-new crystal button on the dashboard acts as a bridge to the modern world: using this button, the driver can communicate with the infotainment system's digital assistant in the same way they would if they were using the free-standing 12.3-inch (31.24-cm) central screen.

### Virtual Cockpit and shift-by-wire technology

The VISION IN's modern technological comforts also include the individually configurable Virtual Cockpit and shift-by-wire technology. The gear selector is no longer connected to the 7-speed DSG mechanically. Instead, it relays which gear has been chosen electronically. The classic selector lever has been replaced with a small rocker switch for operation. The convenient electromechanical parking brake means the familiar handbrake lever is also no longer required. This creates a new sense of spaciousness and makes it possible to keep the centre console much smaller and tidier. The gained space resulting from this has – in typical, Simply Clever ŠKODA fashion – been used



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Page 9 of 13

for several new storage compartments. The three-spoke steering wheel is another important component of the new interior concept.

## **Plenty of space and a variable back seat**

Thanks to its large wheelbase and the MQB-A0-IN platform, the VISION IN provides an extraordinarily generous amount of space. Furthermore, it is also possible to effortlessly transform the variable back seat from a three-seat configuration into two comfortable single seats with a centre console between them. Catering to the premium look coveted on the Indian market, genuine chrome-free leather is used for the seat upholstery as well as real wood for the decorative trims.

## **Vegan floor, and roof-lining materials made from recycled polyester fibres**

Alongside wood and natural leather, the VISION IN also makes use of vegan as well as recycled materials. The floor mats are made of Piñatex, for example. Pineapple leather, as it is also known, is a leather-like fabric made from waste pineapple leaves. The concept study's roof lining is made from recycled plastic fibres and – owing to the transition from black to orange that is drawn across the entire roof – provides another distinctive visual highlight.



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Page 10 of 13

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## ŠKODA AUTO

- › is this year celebrating 125 years since the company was founded during the pioneering era of the automobile in 1895, making it one of the longest-established car manufacturers in the world.
- › currently offers its customers nine passenger-car series: the CITIGO, FABIA, RAPID, SCALA, OCTAVIA and SUPERB as well as the KAMIQ, KAROQ and KODIAQ.
- › delivered 1.24 million vehicles to customers around the world in 2019.
- › 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 and India mainly through Group partnerships, as well as in Ukraine and Kazakhstan with local partners.
- › employs approximately 42,000 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.



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Page 11 of 13

## Newly established ŠKODA AUTO DigiLab India and Software Development Centre support ŠKODA-led INDIA 2.0 project

- › ŠKODA AUTO DigiLab India is the fourth innovation hub, joining those based in Prague, Tel Aviv and Beijing
- › Dedicated Software Development Centre in Gurugram and Pune established to support ŠKODA IT globally and develop digital solutions
- › Services, digital and mobility solutions developed by the two new units to support all Volkswagen Group brands present on the Indian market
- › Digital developments are cornerstones of ŠKODA's growth strategy in India

Mladá Boleslav /Gurugram/Pune, 30 January 2020 – ŠKODA AUTO has founded its fourth ŠKODA AUTO DigiLab unit, in the Indian city of Pune. ŠKODA AUTO DigiLab India ([www.skodaautodigilab.co.in](http://www.skodaautodigilab.co.in)) will support the core business of ŠKODA AUTO Volkswagen India Private Limited by developing digital and mobility solutions. In addition, a dedicated software development centre has been established by Volkswagen IT Services India Private Limited with offices in Gurugram and Pune to support ŠKODA AUTO's IT requirements globally and develop digital solutions. The services, content and mobility solutions developed by the two new organisations will benefit all Volkswagen Group brands in India. Both activities constitute the INDIA 2.0 project - A ŠKODA AUTO led market strategy for the entire Volkswagen Group in the Indian market.

ŠKODA AUTO CEO, Bernhard Maier, explains, "With ŠKODA AUTO DigiLab India, we are consistently expanding our global network. India is among the innovation drivers when it comes to digitalisation. The average age of the population will be just 29 years in 2025. The majority of our customers in India have grown up with smartphones and expect tailor-made mobility services and seamless connectivity in the car. This is exactly what we are undertaking at our new ŠKODA AUTO DigiLab India in partnership with local high-tech companies. "

Gurpratap Boparai, Managing Director of ŠKODA AUTO Volkswagen India Private Limited, added, "With the new digital services and mobility solutions provided by ŠKODA AUTO DigiLab India and our dedicated Software Development Centre in Gurugram and Pune, we want to create a diverse digital ecosystem for our customers. Just like the other members of ŠKODA AUTO's growing global innovation network, ŠKODA AUTO DigiLab India will also develop mobility solutions and services – always striving to offer real added value for the customer. ŠKODA AUTO DigiLab India may also support ŠKODA AUTO's core business globally with new technologies and digital solutions."

### **New IT units make use of the subcontinent's leading digital competence**

The ŠKODA AUTO DigiLab India team will join forces with technology companies and promising start-ups in the country, in turn promote the country's intellectual capital, strengthen the local talent pool, and connect the industry with local start-ups to expand India's position within the global IT industry.

ŠKODA AUTO DigiLab India aims to make use of the immense potential the subcontinent has to offer as a global market leader in software and technology. By working on digital development projects and delivering solutions tailored to the Indian market, ŠKODA AUTO DigiLab India



**ŠKODA**  
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Page 12 of 13

supports the Group's core business in India. Wherever possible, other ŠKODA markets will also benefit from these developments. To this end, ŠKODA AUTO DigiLab India will be working closely with the car manufacturer's innovation hubs in the Czech Republic, Israel and China.

The dedicated Software Development Centre with offices in Gurugram and Pune, has been set up as a part of Volkswagen IT Services India Private Limited, is also taking advantage of the country's huge IT potential, supporting the IT departments of both ŠKODA AUTO and Volkswagen Group. The centre develops program applications and digital solutions that create an even more diverse customer experience for car buyers in India and is working for all of the Volkswagen Group brands present on the Indian market.

## **Digitalisation is an integral part of the INDIA 2.0 project led by ŠKODA AUTO**

The ŠKODA AUTO DigiLab in Pune is an integral part of the India 2.0 project led by ŠKODA AUTO, whereas the Volkswagen Group confirmed investments of around one billion euros. ŠKODA has consistently established its innovation hubs in important markets and high-tech regions. ŠKODA AUTO DigiLab in Prague was the first of the now four centres, which opened at the beginning of 2017. The first spin-off followed in January 2018, commencing operations in the Israeli IT hotspot of Tel Aviv as a joint venture between the Prague-based ŠKODA AUTO DigiLab and the local importer Champion Motors. The third hub in China joined the team in April 2019 and has since been testing digital prototypes and mobility services for Chinese market. These agile business organisations, which function as start-ups in the IT industry, allow ŠKODA to sustainably strengthen its expertise in both innovation and digital development.



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Page 13 of 13

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