

## KTM CUP Season 2 Ignites with North Zone Qualifiers in Delhi

JAMMU, APR 24:

Following an exhilarating debut in Coimbatore with 240+ participants in KTM CUP S2, KTM India celebrated another success in Delhi on Sunday, April 14, 2024. Renowned as the world's leading sports motorcycle brand, KTM concluded the KTM CUP S2 selection round, India's largest racing championship, in the heart of India's motorsport scene. The North Zone qualifiers were held at Kartomania, Gurgaon over a period of two days. A high-adrenaline event, the North Zone qualifier of KTM CUP Season 2 witnessed outstanding riders engaging in intense competitive high-speed battles across the Pro, Amateur, and Women's divisions embodying the 'Ready to Race' philosophy of the KTM. Speaking on occasion, Mr. Sumeet Narang, President (ProBiking) at Bajaj Auto Ltd., said, "Following the roaring success in Coimbatore, we add another feather to our caps. Season 2 of the KTM CUP witnesses participants demonstrating competitive spirit and adrenaline-fueled sportsmanship. The races showcased today were of top-notch quality, and



I extend my congratulations to all qualifying riders across every category for their remarkable performances on the track. The enthusiastic engagement witnessed today reaffirms KTM's standing in motorsport in India, setting a benchmark for premier racing. It marks an exhilarating beginning to another thrilling season of motorsports in India. We eagerly look forward to the next round of races in Mumbai and Kolkata, where participating racers will edge closer to glory and participate in the opportunity to embrace

the essence of KTM in Austria." Around 120 racers, including more than 50 women racers from 50+ different cities across the North Zone, participated in the action at Gurgaon. The KTM CUP Season 2 will host its next selection round in Mumbai from 26th to 28th April and Kolkata from 11th to 12th May for the West and East Zone Qualifiers, respectively.   
 ▶▶26th – 28th April – Mumbai Round - Raymond Racetrack, Thane   
 ▶▶11th – 12th May – Kolkata

round - Eco Park – Gate 1, Kolkata   
 ▶▶The racing stages of KTM CUP Season-2 include:

▶▶Selections: Race Academy and Selections for the Four Zones will be conducted in Coimbatore, Delhi, Mumbai, and Kolkata.

▶▶Qualifiers: The top 20 riders from each of the four cities will contest the Qualifiers held in Coimbatore

▶▶Finale: The top racers from the Qualifiers will race at the Finale of KTM CUP Season 2 in Coimbatore.

▶▶The winners from each category of the KTM CUP Season 2 will win an exclusive chance to train with KTM instructors and former Grand Prix winners at the Red Bull Ring in Salzburg, Austria. One lucky winner will also get a chance to intern with PowerDrift.

Race director for the KTM CUP Season 2 is former MotoGP racer Jeremy McWilliams, who has two podiums in the 500cc class and a win in the 250cc class. Emmanuel Jebaraj, the creator of Gusto Racing, India, and a seven-time National INMRC Champion, serves as the competition's race expert.

## Airtel enhances network coverage across Leh and Ladakh, ahead of summer vacation rush



JAMMU, APR 24:

Bharti Airtel ("Airtel"), one of India's leading telecommunications service providers, today announced the expansion of its network across the picturesque regions of Leh and Ladakh. This development comes just in time for the upcoming travel season, encouraging travelers to enjoy unlimited 5G service across the region.

Airtel's network footprint now encompasses 40+ zones within Ladakh, ensuring that residents and travelers alike to enjoy reliable connectivity throughout their journeys. This is in line with Airtel's commitment to provide seam-

less connectivity in India's picturesque regions of Leh and Ladakh that is enjoyed by thousands of travelers.

Commenting on the expansion, Adarsh Verma, COO-Jammu & Kashmir, Bharti Airtel, said "We are thrilled to enhance our network experience for the customers in the Leh and Ladakh region. We are certain that this travel season, our customers will enjoy the power of ubiquitous access to high-speed data that will open up a wide range of new opportunities and experiences in these iconic locations."

After ramping up the telecom infrastructure in the

Zaskar Valley, Airtel introduced its ultra-fast Airtel 5G service in select areas of Leh, setting a new benchmark for connectivity standards in the region.

Key tourist destinations in Leh, including Durbook, Tangstae, Pengong Lake, Hall of Fame, Magnetic Hill, Sangam (Indus and Zaskar River), Diskit, and Turtok are now equipped with Airtel's state-of-the-art infrastructure, providing visitors an unparalleled access to high-speed internet amidst breathtaking landscapes. Also, a strong network presence of Airtel at Chang-La-Pass, Gurdwara Pathar Sahib, Lamayuru Monastery, Moon Land, Alchi & Likir Monastery, Khardung-La-Pass, Hunder etc., where travelers can enjoy with social buzz. With the rollout of 5G, travelers can now experience unlimited 5G data whether while embarking on the renowned Chadar Trek or simply immersing themselves in the region's natural beauty.

## Suzuki Access Electric To Likely Be Launched This Year

MUMBAI, APR 24:

Suzuki India is now planning to venture into the e-scooter market and will debut the electric version of its highest-selling scooter – the Access. According to sources, the Japanese brand has readied its first EV, which has been co-developed with engineers in Japan. Previously, we had seen several spy shots of the company testing the Burgman Street electric over the last two years, but as per the new change in their strategy, it will be the Access that will be launched in India first.

This new e-scooter will be likely called the 'e-Access' – which sort of seems to be the nomenclature that Suzuki follows as the naming convention is also seen on the e-Burgman. Concerning aspects like design and shape, Suzuki will be resorting to the same approach as with the e-Burgman.

This means that the overall styling and body components will largely be similar to the outgoing ICE model but will have a distinct 'blue' paint scheme to showcase its eco-friendly nature. Apart from the above, there are no details mentioned on the motor capacity, battery pack being used, and the real-world riding range, but it is expected to have a performance that is equal to a 125cc class scooter. For features on this e-scooter, Suzuki is planning not to give a whole lot of gadgets to keep the costs in check. This is because Suzuki has been monitoring the EV market and especially after the end of the FAME subsidy, it is very vital to price the product correctly depending on which it will become a hit or a miss.

We hoped that we would get a closer date range with this change in their plan but unfortunately, Suzuki India is planning to keep a close watch on other Japanese brands like Honda and Yamaha, and based on their products they will take an exact call on the launch date.

## 2024 Bajaj Pulsar N160 Launch Price Rs 1.39 L USD Forks, New Features

NEW DELHI, APR 24:

As part of its ongoing program to update the Pulsar range, Bajaj has introduced USD forks for Pulsar N160. This is the second update for the streetfighter, after having received a new instrument console and redesigned switchgear earlier this year in February. These updates are in line with Bajaj's focus on delivering max value to its customers.

As compared to Pulsar NS160 and NS200 that have USD forks in grey shade, Pulsar N160 gets the inverted forks in a light golden colour. It presents an exciting contrast with the bike's all-black skin. With USD forks, Pulsar N160 will allow users to accelerate and manoeuvre curves with more confidence. Improvements are also expected for overall braking experience.

Addition of USD forks places Pulsar N160 at an advantageous position in relation to its rivals. Other bikes in this segment include TVS Apache RTR 4V, Hero Xtreme 160R, Suzuki Gixxer and Yamaha FZ-FI. As of now, none of these bikes have USD forks. In other changes, the graphics on the fuel tank has been updated with new 'N160' lettering. The font used has a chequered flag pattern, which highlights the bike's racing spirit. The earlier detailing such as the dual-tone decals on the side fairing and headlamp cowl has been retained. Another key update is LED lights replacing the halogen units on the turn indicators. It can help improve visibility for other road users in dark conditions. Most other features are the same as that of the current model. Earlier this year in February, Bajaj Pulsar N160 was updated with a fully digital instrument console. It has Bluetooth connectivity, allowing users to pair their smartphones via Bajaj Ride Connect app. Take a look at the detailed walkaround by Dev MTR below.

## Bajaj Pulsar 400 Spy Shots Leak New Details Out Before Launch

NEW DELHI, APR 24:

There have been a few teasers for Bajaj's "Biggest Ever Pulsar" launch released by the company. The launch is slated for May 3rd, 2024 and is one of the most anticipated motorcycles in India. Ahead of launch, new details of Pulsar 400 have surfaced on the internet (thanks to The Fat Biker channel), which show interesting design choices from Bajaj.

If there is a motorcycle brand in India that is hell-bent on completely overhauling one of its sub-brands, it has to be Bajaj Auto. The company is launching new Pulsars like launching missiles in a war zone. The next proper launch from Bajaj will be their flagship Pulsar. This time around, it will be launched under the Pulsar umbrella.



Owing to Bajaj's naming strategies in domestic and export markets, initial speculations on "Biggest Pulsar Ever" revolved around a re-branded Dominar 400 as Pulsar 400. However, recent spy images from The Fat Biker reveal first look at the upcoming Bajaj Pulsar 400. From the looks of it, these

images seem to be captured at Bajaj's storage within their manufacturing facility. We can see bubble wrap on the motorcycle's fuel tank indicating that it might be on the verge of being transported. Probably to dealerships. We can see a new face Bajaj is going for and some bits of handlebar and engine compartment.

## Mahindra XUV3XO Mileage Revealed Gets Faster From 0 to 60 Kmph



MUMBAI, APR 24:

Set to be launched on 29th April 2024, the new Mahindra XUV300 facelift comes in with a host of changes among which are a refreshed look, revised interiors, updated technology and most of all, a brand new name, now called XUV3XO. In the latest teaser shared by Mahindra today, we get a closer look at the interiors, and some performance numbers. As anticipation builds around the launch of

Mahindra's latest offering, the XUV 3XO SUV, enthusiasts and automotive aficionados have been treated to an official teaser today, shedding light on some of the vehicle's most intriguing features. Promising an amalgamation of enhanced performance and superior fuel efficiency, Mahindra aims to elevate the driving experience with its upcoming release.

Mahindra claims that the XUV3XO is faster than before with 0-60 kmph achieved in

4.5 seconds while the fuel efficiency claim is of 20.1 kmpl. This means it is faster than before, and more fuel efficient than before.

Externally, the XUV 3XO boasts a refreshed aesthetic, featuring a revamped front grille adorned with chrome accents, updated headlamp clusters complemented by LED daytime running lights (DRLs), and revised front and rear bumpers for a more dynamic appearance. Noteworthy additions include a shark fin antenna, an integrated roof spoiler, and distinctive C-shaped LED tail lamps with a connected LED light bar. Furthermore, the repositioning of the number plate housing to the bumper distinguishes the XUV 3XO from its predecessors.

One of the standout features of the XUV 3XO is its first-in-segment panoramic sky-roof, now upgraded to a dual-pane configuration, setting a new standard for sub-compact SUVs in India.

## Ampere NXG E-Scooter Confirmed For Launch On April 30: Details

MUMBAI, APR 24:

Ampere Electric is ready to launch an all-new electric scooter in the Indian market on April 30. Internally codenamed Ampere NXG, the new e-scooter will reportedly be the premium offering from the company and it could be the new flagship product. The testing of the NXG was in full flow for the past few months and it seems like the electric scooter is now ready for a launch. For the record, the Ampere NXG Concept was showcased last year at the 2023 Auto Expo. There are high chances that the final production version will likely be called Nexus, as suggested by the trademark filing a few months ago. The e-scooter has already been spied testing multiple times in the country and we already have some interest-



ing details in hand. In addition to this, Ampere has already teased the e-scooter and it also completed the Kashmir to Kanyakumari ride along with registering itself in the Indian Book of Records. The bookings for the Ampere NXG have

also commenced for a token amount of Rs. 499.

Talking about the details, the upcoming Ampere electric scooter is targeted at family-oriented buyers who are looking for a two-wheeler for their daily runabouts.

## Honda Elevate Registers 13k Bookings In Japan Beats Expectations



NEW DELHI, APR 24:

Honda introduced the Elevate SUV in Japan in March 2024. Just like in India, Elevate has emerged as a best-seller in Japan as well. Elevate is Honda's first made-in-India car that is being exported to its home market. Within a month of launch in Japan, cumulative bookings of Honda Elevate have reached 13,000 units. This is four times more than the modest 3,000 units that Honda was expecting. In India,

Elevate had registered 20k bookings within 100 days of launch. Market sentiments indicate that Elevate will continue to remain a popular choice in Japan. Honda is likely to introduce the Elevate SUV in other international markets as well. An analysis conducted by Honda has revealed interesting details about Elevate's target audience in Japan. Primary buyers are folks who are upgrading from light cars, compact cars, mini-

vans and other SUVs. Honda has also noted that Elevate is being preferred across a wide range of age groups.

There are multiple reasons for Elevate's soaring popularity. Elevate users are appreciative of the good view from the driver's seat. It makes it easier to see things at the front and get a good estimate of the distance in front of the SUV. Elevate is also offering best in class boot space.

The SUV has a dynamic exterior profile that's neither too outlandish nor too dull. There are a wide range of colour options to choose from. Elevate offers a comprehensive range of features and is available at an affordable price point. A wide safety net is available including ADAS.

Elevate delivers a robust performance with the 1.5-litre petrol engine. It churns out 121 PS and 145 Nm. While India-spec Elevate has both manual and CVT automatic gearbox, Japan-spec Elevate (WR-V) is available with only the CVT unit.

## Ultraviolette F77 Mach 2 Electric Motorcycle Launch Price Rs 3 L What's New?

MUMBAI, APR 24:

India's fastest electric motorcycle manufacturer, Ultraviolette, launched the second iteration of its F77. Called F77 Mach2, the new motorcycle heralds into a new era of electric mobility and offers more performance and range than F77. Along the way, Ultraviolette has streamlined the motorcycle to incorporate more features than before.

Starting at a price point of Rs. 2.99 lakh (ex-sh), Ultraviolette F77 Recon has a lot going for it this time around. For starters, the pricing is not atrocious anymore. Ex-showroom pricing, that is. If you recall, F77 was priced between Rs. 3.8 lakh to Rs. 5.5 lakh (ex-sh). F77 Mach 2 is offered in two different variants across three different personas and nine different



colours. The newer model is priced between Rs. 2.99 lakh for base model and Rs. 3.99 lakh (ex-sh) for top-spec Recon. Stellar White, Supersonic Silver, and Lightning Blue with Airstrike persona, Plasma Red, Turbo Red and Afterburner Yellow with Laser and lastly Stealth Grey, Asteroid Grey, Cosmic Grey with Shadow personas. The

Stellar White shade kinda reminds me of F77 Space Edition. It has to be noted that prices quoted above for F77 Mach 2 are introductory and are limited to the first 1,000 customers only. Bookings commenced today from 15 cities in India and deliveries start in May. Headline performance figures for F77 Mach 2 Recon are 40.2 bhp, 100 Nm, 155 km/h top speed,

0-60 km/h in 2.8s, 0-100 km/h in 7.7s and 323 km range.

These metrics don't represent a drastic improvement when compared to the top-spec F77 Limited variant launched in Nov 2022. Dimensions and weight and battery size remain identical too. Speaking of, F77 Mach 2 gets a 7.1 kWh battery with a 211 km claimed range and F77 Mach 2 Recon gets a larger 10.3 kWh battery with a 323 km claimed range.

Both variants have a top speed of 155 km/h, which is nice. What's new in F77 Mach 2 are added features like DSC (Dynamic Stability Control), 4 levels are traction control, 10 levels of regenerative braking, anti-collision warning system, fall alerts, towing alerts, Delta Watch and more.

## 2024 Royal Enfield Classic 350 Facelift Incoming LED Headlight, Alloys, New Features

NEW DELHI, APR 24:

Royal Enfield is set to launch a major product offensive in FY25. This is in a bid to expand the already extensive lineup of 350cc, 450cc and 650cc motorcycles. The company intends to navigate the classic motorcycle market and establish utter dominance in this genre with a diverse portfolio. A major update to Royal Enfield's golden goose, Classic 350 will be coming this year. This would be the first time Royal Enfield is updating Classic 350 since the bike ditched the older UCE motor in favour of a newer and (technologically) better J-Series engine. This J-Series update also brought redesigned switchgear and instrument cluster along with it. Considering Classic 350 is an absolute champ where sales



are concerned, there are less likely to be any functional upgrades. However, we can expect a few experience-enhancing additions like LED lighting, alloy wheels and tubeless tyres. USD front forks, almost double the performance at around 40 bhp and much more. Even though the sales prospect of Classic 350 is still unmatched by rivals, it would be nice if

offering dual exhausts, a DOHC 4V head, liquid cooling, a slipper clutch, a 6-speed gearbox, LED lighting, alloy wheels, tubeless tyres, USD front forks, almost double the performance at around 40 bhp and much more. Even though the sales prospect of Classic 350 is still unmatched by rivals, it would be nice if

Royal Enfield ups its game in features and equipment department.

The updates that are en route Classic 350 are also going to make their way on other 350cc bikes like Hunter 350, Meteor 350 and newest of the bunch, Bullet 350, at a later date. As per a recent report, Royal Enfield will expand its 650cc motorcycle portfolio in FY25 with Classic 650. The company hopes to recreate the same magic of Classic 350 in middle-weight classic motorcycle segment. Classic 650 will be positioned above current Interceptor 650 and below Super Meteor 650 and Shotgun 650. We're sure Classic 650 will be the next big thing in the Indian middle-weight segment and surpass sales of other RE 650 bikes currently on sale in the Asian subcontinent.