

Tata Nexon CNG Launching Soon In India All Key Info

NEW DELHI, JUL 26:

Tata Motors is gearing up to announce the prices of the Curvv EV on August 7 while its IC-engined version will follow suit soon. At the Bharat Mobility Global Expo 2024, Tata showcased the near-production Curvv and Harrier EV along with the Nexon iCNG concept. While the electrified Harrier will be launched in early 2025, the CNG-spec Nexon is arriving soon as well. The homegrown manufacturer boasts the widest portfolio of twin-cylinder CNG technology-equipped cars in India and recently, Hyundai introduced the same tech in the Exter micro SUV. Currently, the Punch serves as the highest-selling model within the brand's portfolio and is already sold with CNG. The Nexon, on the contrary, has witnessed a sales slowdown in recent times amidst



finishing within the top ten and is the next in line to get such treatment. The CNG-spec Tata Nexon is expected to go on sale around September and it will help expand the com-

compact SUV's portfolio further while appealing to customers looking for a fuel economical option. Tata intends to adopt a similar strategy seen in the Punch and Altroz twin-cylinder

CNG vehicles as the Nexon CNG will have a usable boot space of 230 litres.

This is achieved by positioning dual cylinders side by side, each with a 60L (water equip-

ment) capacity. The cylinders are seamlessly integrated and concealed, with the tool kits stored in the storage area and provision for an underbody spare wheel. The factory-fitted CNG system comes with various features for enhanced safety and performance. These include a micro switch, a six-point cylinder mounting system, a single ECU unit, and the use of high-quality kit materials. The same 1.2L turbo petrol engine, which produces 120 PS and 170 Nm in its regular guise, will be calibrated to develop lesser power and torque, for improved fuel efficiency. The powertrain will be mated to a five-speed MT or an AMT.

As for the prices, the CNG version will be Rs. 70,000-80,000 more expensive compared to the regular variants. It will lock horns with the Maruti Suzuki Brezza CNG.

Kia USA Sales Breakup June 2024 Seltos, Carnival, EV6, EV9, Sportage, Telluride, Soul

NEW DELHI, JUL 26:

Kia's US sales numbers for June and H1, 2024 reveal a rising demand for its electric cars. Recent addition of EV9 has helped double the sales of EVs in the first half of 2024. However, the data also shows that ICE car sales continue to dominate. A total of 29,392 battery powered Kia models were sold in H1, 2024. This marks a massive 112% YoY growth in EV sales. The doubling of numbers comes from the EV9 SUV that was launched last fall in the US. EV9 registered sales of 9,671 units in the first six months of 2024. Along with EV9, sales of EV6 have also improved. A total of 10,941 units of EV6 were sold in the first half of 2024, as compared to 8,328 units sold in the corresponding period last year. That's a gain of 31.4%. Data for June also reveals that EV sales are



gaining momentum. Kia EV6 recorded sales of 2,171 units in June 2024, as compared to 1,458 units sold in the corresponding period last year. That marks an impressive gain of 48.9%. In case of the EV9, June sales are at 1,905 units. That's close to 20% of the 9,671 units of EV9 sold in the first half of 2024. Next year, Kia EV sales in the US

can witness another surge when the EV3 subcompact SUV is introduced. It will primarily rival the Volvo EX30. Kia EV3 has a wheelbase of 2,680 mm. Certified range as per WLTP standards is up to 373 miles (600 km). Although Kia EV sales have registered strong growth, ICE cars have much higher numbers to show.

Mahindra XUV700 EV Coupe Interiors Spied Dashboard, Sunroof, Seats, Steering

MUMBAI, JUL 26:

Testing for Mahindra's INGLO platform based vehicles is going in full swing. We have managed to get our hands on spy shots of XUV.e8, XUV.e9 and BE.05 electric SUV engineering test mules across the country. The latest spy shots show the interiors of Mahindra XUV700 EV Coupe (XUV.e9) in full detail. With electric vehicles taking more prominence than they ever did, more OEMs are taking the electric route. Mahindra is no exception and sells XUV400 in India. However, the company is on the verge of launching its INGLO platform-based born electric vehicles that will play a major role in Mahindra's global expansion strategies. In the recent past, we posted XUV.e9's interiors while it was loading on a plane, ready to be shipped abroad. For testing or for shooting TVCs, we presumed. But those test mules had a lot of testing equipment and were not very clear, showing fewer details about Mahindra's



upcoming electric coupe SUV. The new spy shots, however, show XUV.e9's interiors in full clarity, revealing a lot more details we couldn't grasp with previous spy shots. For starters, we can see that Mahindra XUV700 EV Coupe (XUV.e9) shares a lot of its switchgear and almost all of its components with XUV700. This is not a bad thing as XUV700 is quite a feature-loaded offering. Dashboard is the same as Mahindra

XUV700's, but we get a new free-standing triple-screen setup that takes centre stage. Dual-zone climate control panel and AC vents, headlight control stalk, wiper control stalk, interior door trims, centre console, seats, armrests and other attributes are the same as those of XUV700. Apart from the new triple-screen layout that we mentioned above, there are a lot of new elements that these new spy shots show. For starters, there is a new

twin-spoke steering wheel with an illuminated logo (Tata Motors vibes here). It is leather-wrapped and has horn pads at the ends for easy reach with thumbs (love it). Centre console still retains the lovely physical infotainment dial from XUV700, but there is a new and fancier gear selector with Blue accents.

There seem to be extra speakers with XUV.e9 as suggested by the grill at the top of door trims, but this might just be a non-functional pattern too. What will be functional, though, is a hollow space on the dashboard which will be populated by a large HUD in the future.

The illuminated logo we mentioned on XUV.e9 is likely to be specific to XUV.e9 line-up. This is a brand new logo, which looks an infinity. It is different than Mahindra's Twin Peaks logo. So, we get old oval Mahindra logo for CVs, Twin Peaks for PVs, a new "Infinity" logo for XUV.e range and BE logo for, well, BE range of vehicles.

Royal Enfield Guerrilla 450 Or Himalayan 450 ADV? The One-Bike Garage Theory

NEW DELHI, JUL 26:

Ever since the Royal Enfield Guerrilla 450 was launched in India, this motorcycle has attracted a lot of interest. Many buyers may be confused about choosing this or its bigger and more expensive brother, Himalayan 450. Off-roading or everyday rideability? Which will be a better fit in the on-bike garage theory? Let's take a look. For many, motorcycles are much more than just a means of transport. They find a soul in these machines. One that reflects their character and personality. Generally, motorcyclists dream of a one-bike garage. One bike for all purposes. One bike that fills all needs and gaps. The one bike that does it all. Royal Enfield's Guerrilla 450 is a good candidate for this approach. Base model costs Rs 2.39 lakh (EX-sh) and goes till Rs 2.54 lakh (EX-sh) for top-spec model. Owing to its Roadster genre, it has a minimal design and weighs 185 kg. While Himalayan 450 weighs 196 kg, making it 11



kg heavier. Guerrilla 450 has a smaller 11L fuel tank as opposed to Himalayan's 17L, which saves around 5kg in weight (1L Petrol = 775g). But we get all the added extras with Himalayan 450 that makes it a mighty tourer and a versatile off-roader. Guerrilla 450 base variant is Rs 46,000 cheaper than Himalayan 450's base variant. It has to be noted that Himalayan 450 offers RE's Tripper Dash as standard, something which is only available with top-spec variants of Guerrilla 450. Guerrilla 450 is

a lot easier to handle and manoeuvre in the city owing to its compact dimensions. For context, Himalayan 450 measures 2,245 mm long, 852 mm wide, 1,316 mm tall and has a 1,510 mm long wheelbase. Guerrilla 450 measures 2,090 mm long, 833 mm wide, 1,125 mm tall and has a 1,440 mm long wheelbase. Himalayan 450's seat height is 825 mm and can be adjusted to 845 mm, while Guerrilla 450's seat height is a lot more accessible at 780 mm. Himalayan 450 has a higher ground clearance of 230 mm and Guerrilla's is

at 169 mm. While Guerrilla 450 will emerge as the easier and sportier motorcycle to ride, Himalayan 450 positions itself as a better tourer and off-roader. For the one-bike garage theory, neither Guerrilla 450 nor Himalayan are optimum recipients. Guerrilla 450 simply lacks Himalayan's touring and off-roading capabilities. Whereas Himalayan 450 is too cumbersome to be an easy-going daily rider with its weight and stance. We wish there was a decent middle ground between Guerrilla 450 and Himalayan 450 that can bridge the gap. A custom motorcycle approach could be a solution for that. Instead of buying a Himalayan 450 and then modifying it, customising a Guerrilla 450 into a Scrambler comes out to be a lot more logical. Longer travel suspension, dual-purpose off-road tyres, RE's official windscreen and underbelly protection and a rear luggage rack might be enough to transform Guerrilla 450 into a Scrambler.

MG Cloud CUV Teased Ahead of Launch Panoramic Sunroof, Interiors, Exteriors



NEW DELHI, JUL 26:

MG Motor India has confirmed its 3rd electric car for the Indian market. Set to be launched by September 2024, the Cloud CUV is currently doing test rounds while the company has also released teasers of this upcoming electric car. The launch of this new electric car will also mark MG's intention to launch one or two new products in Indian

every six months. With just two months to go before the MG Cloud CUV is officially launched in India, these appear to be final test rounds that the electric car is undergoing. MG Motor India calls its upcoming EV a Cloud CUV (Crossover Utility Vehicle). It has been spied with slim LED headlamps, and an LED light bar above its grille connecting the headlamps while its front fas-

cia also shows off an illuminated MG logo. The crossover will come with a sunroof, a large glass house, extended quarter glass sections and raked windshields at the front and rear. The MG Cloud stands 4,295mm in length, 1,850mm in width and 1,652mm in height making it wider and taller than the ZS EV. It rides on a 2,700 mm long wheelbase and is fitted with 18-inch alloy wheels wrapped with 215/55 section tyres.

New spy shots of the interiors of the MG Cloud CUV draw our attention to a large free-standing touchscreen infotainment system and a digital instrument cluster. Steering-mounted controls, a minimalist dashboard, horizontally positioned AC vents and circular door-mounted speakers could also be a part of its interior make-up. The 5-seater cabin sports fully reclining front seats.

2024 Hyundai Creta Crosses 1 Lakh Sales Milestone in 6 Months of Launch

MUMBAI, JUL 26:

Hyundai Motor India Limited celebrates the 1 lakh unit milestone for its new 2024 Hyundai Creta. Launched in January this year, the new SUV has been delivered to 1 lakh buyers in India relating to 500 units sold per day in the past 6 months or sales of more than 15,000 units of the Creta facelift every month. Such a feat was inevitable as the 2024 model got 50,000 bookings within a month of launch.

Commenting on the achievement, Tarun Garg, COO, Hyundai Motor India Limited, said, "We are thrilled with the remarkable achievement of the new Hyundai Creta 2024. Our SUV has achieved another milestone of one lakh sales, reaffirming its strong fan following in its segment. We are confident that the Hyundai Creta will continue to set new benchmarks in the Indian automobile industry and delight customers." The



2024 Hyundai Creta was launched with a brand new design, outstanding exterior features and several interior comforts along with the latest in technology to the extent that it immediately became an obvious choice of many an SUV buyer in the country. Celebrating its 1 lakh unit milestone in just 6 months of launch is a veritable feat indeed. Greatly admired for its

bold design, the Creta is based on Hyundai's Global Design Language of "Sensuous Sportiness". It is presented in 7 variants and priced from Rs 11-20.15 lakh (ex-showroom). The popularity of the Hyundai Creta has been augmented with its feature packed cabin which shows off two 10.25 inch display units one for infotainment and the other an instrument panel.

Yamaha MT-09 Y-AMT Semi-Automatic Gearbox Confirmed

NEW DELHI, JUL 26:

Late last month, Yamaha unveiled their revolutionary semi-automatic gearbox technology. Called Y-AMT, this semi-automatic gearbox is set to change the way motorcycles are ridden. Now, Yamaha has confirmed that Y-AMT will first debut on an MT-09 street fighter style naked motorcycle powered by a 3-cylinder engine.

In Yamaha's multi-cylinder street naked motorcycle portfolio, MT-09 is among the most powerful and menacing-looking. Yamaha calls its MT lineup as 'The Dark Side Of Japan' owing to its animalistic design DNA. With the introduction of Yamaha MT-09 Y-AMT, the company will offer ease of riding to buyers.

In recent years, manufacturers have been exploring automatic and semi-automatic gearboxes on their premium motorcycles. However, these are mostly introducing with large ADVs and Bagger motorcycles owing to the ease of ride and comfort. Yamaha, on the other hand, is switching up the game. Yamaha's Y-AMT is said to be more optimised for performance riding than comfort and practicality. That seems to be the sole reason why Y-AMT will debut on a 120 PS sporty and performance-oriented motorcycle powered by the famous CP3 890cc 3-cylinder liquid-cooled screamer of an engine.

Semi-automatic gearboxes have become more prominent in the recent past with BMW (Automated Shift Assistant on R 1300 GS ADV) and KTM (AMT on upcoming ADV) actively pursuing this tech. Yamaha has also experimented with semi-automatics before with Y-CCS (Yamaha Chip Controlled Shift) and Y-AMT is the latest iteration after 2 decades.

New Nissan X-Trail Bookings Open Today, Price Reveal Soon

NEW DELHI, JUL 26:

Nissan Motor India has today commenced the bookings for the new generation X-Trail for an initial token of Rs. 1 lakh. The price announcement has been scheduled for August 1, 2024, and the customer deliveries will begin shortly. The Japanese manufacturer will introduce the new X-Trail via the CBU route and it could cost well over Rs. 40 lakh (ex-showroom). The new-gen X-Trail has been made available in a total of three paint schemes namely Diamond Black, Pearl White and Champagne Silver. The brand only offers the seven-seater variant of the X-Trail in India while a five-seater is also on sale abroad. As for the performance, a 1.5L three-cylinder turbo petrol engine has been provided, featuring mild-hybrid tech. It is good enough to develop a maximum power output of 163 horsepower and 300 Nm of peak torque and is paired with a CVT automatic transmission with paddle shifters. Depending on the driving condition, the variable compression technology kicks in to optimise fuel economy and performance. The new Nissan X-Trail will compete with Jeep Meridian and Skoda Kodiaq in India. The features list of the SUV boasts an eight-inch touchscreen infotainment system, a 12.3-inch digital instrument console, wireless charger, keyless entry, drive modes, 20-inch alloy wheels as standard, EPB with auto hold, seven airbags, push button start, limited slip differential, auto wipers, traction control, hill start assist, automatic climate control, panoramic sunroof and so on. The third row seats feature 50:50 split fold and recline while the middle row gets 40:20:40 split folding, reclining and sliding functions. It measures 4,680 mm in length, 1,840 mm in width and 1,725 mm in height with a wheelbase length of 2,705 mm and a ground clearance of 210 mm.

Sensex rebounds 1,293 pts, Nifty ends at record high on value buying after 5 days of losses



MUMBAI, JUL 26:

Benchmark Sensex rebounded by 1,293 points while broader Nifty shot up nearly 2 per cent to a record high on Friday, cutting short the five-day losing streak on heavy value buying value-buying at lower levels and a rally in blue-chips like Reliance Industries.

The 30-share BSE Sensex jumped 1,292.92 points or

1.62 per cent to settle at 81,332.72. During the day, it soared 1,387.38 points or 1.73 per cent to 81,427.18. The NSE Nifty surged 428.75 points or 1.76 per cent to settle at an all-time closing high of 24,834.85. All the Sensex shares except for Nestle closed in green. Bharti Airtel was the biggest gainer, rising by over 4.51 per cent.

Adani Ports, Sun Pharma,

Tata Steel, HCL Technologies, Infosys, JSW Steel and Mahindra & Mahindra were the other big gainers.

Nestle was the only loser, closing lower by 0.07 per cent.

In Asian markets, Seoul, Shanghai and Hong Kong settled higher while Tokyo ended lower. European markets were also trading in positive territory. The US markets ended mostly lower on Thursday.

Global oil benchmark Brent crude declined 0.40 per cent to USD 82.04 a barrel.

Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) offloaded equities worth Rs 2,605.49 crore on Thursday, according to exchange data. After a sharp fall in intra-day trade on Thursday, the BSE benchmark managed to recover some of the lost ground to settle 109.08 points or 0.14 per cent lower at 80,039.80.

Google maps adds six new features in India to improve commuter experience

CHENNAI, JUL 26:

Google has unveiled six new features for Google Maps in India, focusing on AI enhancements and local partnerships to improve user experience and support sustainable travel. These updates will roll out this week, targeting common commuter challenges.

To prevent routing through roads unsuitable for four-wheelers, Google Maps now uses AI to identify and avoid narrow roads.

This feature utilizes satellite imagery and Street View data to estimate road widths and refine routing algorithms. It will initially be available in eight cities, including Hyderabad, Bengaluru, and Chennai, with plans for further expansion.

Flyover Navigation

Google Maps will now highlight flyovers on recommended routes in 40 Indian cities,



helping drivers better prepare for elevated roadways.

Metro Ticket Booking

In Kochi and Chennai, users can now book metro tickets directly through Google Maps, integration with ONDC and Namma Yatri.

EV Charging Station Integration

Google has partnered with EV charging providers to integrate details of over 8,000 charging stations into Maps

and Search. This includes real-time availability and filtering by charger type, making India the first country to feature two-wheeler EV charging stations on Google Maps.

Curated Local Recommendations

Local experts are collaborating with Google to curate lists of recommended places in major cities and tourist spots, enhancing the exploration experience.