

Next Gen Hyundai Creta Rendered In Detail Futuristic Design, Hybrid Power

NEW DELHI, AUG 7:

Hyundai is working on the new-gen Creta (codenamed SX3), which is expected to be introduced later this year or early 2027. The same platform will also be shared by the new Kona in applicable markets. Images of the test mules, as well as digital renderings of the new Creta, have been circulating widely. A new set of renderings based on test mule sightings has been posted recently, providing a 360 degree view of the 3rd-gen Creta.

3rd-gen Creta has undergone a massive design refresh, with vibes straight out of a sci-fi movie. The inspiration comes from the Crater Concept that was showcased at AutoMobility LA (Los Angeles Auto Show) in November 2025. Curvy panelling seen on the current model has been replaced with sharper, more angular surfaces.

Front fascia is now more upright and possibly slightly taller as well, ensuring a more powerful presence. New Creta gets pixel style LED



DRLs, which can be seen in a different format in these renderings. Headlamps appear to be embedded deep, reducing clutter and ensuring a seamless blend with the partially closed off grille. In the lower section, four parking sensors are noticeable. New Creta has a prominent blacked-

out bumper with horizontal and vertical trim inserts. Side profile features distinctive character lines on the wheel arches. More squarish ORVMs have been used, as compared to the oval styled units seen with the current model.

Other highlights include new alloy

wheels, conventional body coloured door handles, blacked out B pillars, a sloping roofline, roof rails and body cladding. At the rear, new Creta has distinctive pixel style tail lamps in stripes format, placed horizontally. An LED light strip and a glossy black trim ensure a connected profile for the taillamps. Reflectors are positioned horizontally, just below the boot door. Other highlights include a shark fin antenna, roof mounted spoiler, a raked windshield and a flat bumper for a clean look. New Creta is expected to get some new colour options that complement its sportier presence.

Inside, new Creta is expected to be equipped with the Pleos Connect infotainment system. This has been confirmed via test mule sightings. Pleos integrates various infotainment and instrument functions, making them accessible via a single screen. For frequently accessed info such as speed, turn by turn navigation, etc., a separate compact screen is available on the dashboard.

MG Majestor Price Hike August 2026 Up To Rs 1.5 Lakh

MUMBAI, AUG 7:

JSW MG Motor India has been one of the most notable large SUV manufacturers as it challenged the Toyota Fortuner's supremacy with Gloster SUV. Now, the company has replaced the Gloster with Majestor and has intensified the rivalry against the Fortuner. After showcasing it at Bharat Mobility Expo in 2025, it was unveiled in India in February 2026.

After the unveiling, launch happened in May 2026 and in August 2026, MG Majestor received its first price hike which takes the Ex-sh price up by up to Rs 1.5 lakh. MG Motor has not confirmed whether this price hike is accompanied by a bump in features and equipment.

Currently, MG Majestor has been launched in just one



fully-loaded trim level. Called Savvy, it spawns multiple variants across different drivetrain options and seating layouts. Variants include Savvy 4X2 6S, Savvy 4X2 7S and Savvy 4X4 7S. At launch, Savvy 4X2 was priced at Rs 40.99 lakh and Savvy 4X4 at Rs 44.99 lakh (both prices Ex-sh). It has to be noted that MG Motor had

also announced the Sharp 4X2 variant when it was first unveiled in February 2026. But the same was not part of the launch, which happened in May 2026. The price hike in the month of August 2026 is up to Rs 1.5 lakh on the Ex-sh prices and is only applicable to Savvy 4X2 variants (6s and 7S).

Vi brings Spotify Premium to its prepaid users through an exclusive partnership

Designed for India's digital-first Gen Z, Vi brings premium music, entertainment and unlimited connectivity together in one recharge

JAMMU, AUG 7:

Leading telecom operator Vi today announced the launch of three new prepaid recharge plans that enable the addition of Spotify Premium at no extra cost, bringing together premium music, entertainment and enhanced data benefits through a single recharge, making them the most economical prepaid plans with a music benefit.

Music has become one of the strongest drivers of digital engagement, especially among young consumers. With Spotify Premium now integrated into its prepaid portfolio, Vi is making premium music streaming more accessible through its flagship recharge plans, enabling uninterrupted ad-free music, offline downloads and high audio quality.

Engineered for high-data and entertainment-first users, the flagship Rs. 435 Vi Non-Stop Hero prepaid plan now enables the addition of Spotify Premium at no extra cost,



along with Unlimited 4G/5G Data, Unlimited Calls, 100 SMS per day and JioHotstar (Mobile), all with a validity of 28 days. The plan brings together premium music, entertainment and uninterrupted connectivity in a single recharge, delivering exceptional value for customers who consume the most content.

Making premium music

streaming more accessible, the Rs. 250 prepaid plan offers 2GB data, unlimited calls, 300 SMS and Spotify Premium at no extra cost with a validity of 28 days.

In addition, for customers looking for an add-on top-up, the Rs. 230 pack offers easy access to Spotify Premium, 20+ OTT platforms, including JioHotstar, ZEE5,

SonyLIV, Fan Code, Lionsgate Play and more at no extra cost. The pack also includes 30GB of high-speed data with 28 days validity, enabling customers to seamlessly stream and enjoy their favourite content.

To activate the benefit, users simply need to recharge with an eligible pack, navigate to the 'Claim Benefits' page under active services in the Vi App, click 'Claim' next to Spotify Premium, and sign in or create a Spotify account to instantly unlock their premium subscription.

The Spotify Premium benefit is linked to the Vi recharge cycle and users can seamlessly continue ad-free streaming experience by purchasing another eligible recharge pack on expiry. Vi users can easily activate this benefit through the Vi App using either their existing Spotify credentials or by creating a brand-new Spotify account.

Meta ordered to pay \$567 million in US over 'public nuisance' child harm

SAN FRANCISCO, AUG 7:

A US state court has ordered Meta to pay \$567 million and limit some features for children on its Facebook and Instagram platforms, saying the social media giant had created a "public nuisance" that endangered young users.

The ruling in New Mexico on Thursday adds to a previous fine of \$375 million in the same case in March, when a jury found the social media giant liable for making youths vulnerable to predators on its platforms.

While Meta said it would appeal, the decision sets a precedent at a time when dozens of other US states are pursuing lawsuits alleging harms to children and their mental health, including a major trial against Meta set to open in California next week.

"Today's decision is a victory for every parent who has worried about what social media is doing to their child



and every child who deserves to grow up safer online," New Mexico Attorney General Raul Torrez said.

"This case has always been about protecting children, standing up for families, and making sure that one of the world's largest technology companies cannot profit from practices that endanger young

fund, to be paid over five years.

The remainder will be allocated to programs for "awareness and prevention" of potential dangers to youths and ensuring Meta implements the ordered changes.

Judge Bryan Biedscheid said in his ruling that teenagers were particularly susceptible to features designed to capture and boost engagement such as autoplay, infinite scrolling, "like" counts, push notifications and algorithmic recommendations.

He ordered Meta to limit push notifications and usage to 90 hours a month for users under 18, or around three hours daily on average, and to block certain notifications altogether during school hours. It must also hide "like counts" and pursue efforts to ensure children in New Mexico who are under 13 are not allowed to join Facebook or Instagram.

2W Retail Sales July 2026 – Honda, Hero, TVS, Bajaj, Suzuki, RE, Yamaha, Ather, Ola

NEW DELHI, AUG 7:

Honda is back at the No.1 position in July 2026 as two-wheeler retail sales crossed the 18 lakh mark for the first time in a July India's two-wheeler retail market recorded its best-ever July performance in 2026, with registrations touching 18,18,289 units. As per FADA data, sales grew 28.25% YoY from 14,17,767 units sold in July 2025, making it the first time July volumes have crossed the 18 lakh mark. On a month-on-month basis, however, sales dipped marginally by 0.56% from 18,28,458 units retailed in June 2026.

Growth continued to be driven by healthy rural demand, which expanded 28.59% YoY compared to 27.86% in urban markets despite heavy rainfall and flooding in several regions. Another key highlight was the continued rise of electric two-wheelers, with EV penetration reaching a record 11.24% in



July 2026, up from 10.59% in June and 7.65% in July last year. For the April-July FY27 period, two-wheeler retail sales stood at 75,11,630 units, registering a healthy 17.51% growth over 63,92,063 units sold during the corresponding period last year.

Honda Motorcycle & Scooter India reclaimed the top position in July 2026 after trailing Hero MotoCorp in June. Honda registered retail sales of

4,69,687 units, up 28.54% over 3,65,395 units sold a year ago.

The company ended the month with a 25.83% market share. Hero MotoCorp slipped to second place with 4,40,662 units, although sales were still up 26.85% YoY from 3,47,398 units. TVS Motor retained third position with 3,74,113 registrations, recording the strongest growth among the top three OEMs at 33.45% YoY.

New Bajaj Pulsar N160 S, N160 SS Launch Price Rs 1.33 L 4V, 5 Speed, 18.5 PS, TFT, Ride Modes

MUMBAI, AUG 7:

New flagship Pulsar N160 SS gets a 4-valve engine, electronic throttle, TFT display with Google Maps, traction control and ride modes Bajaj Auto has expanded its Pulsar N range with the launch of two new motorcycles – Pulsar N160 S and Pulsar N160 SS. Priced at Rs 1,33,511 and Rs 1,42,585 (ex-showroom, Delhi), the new variants are positioned above the existing Pulsar N160, which will continue to remain on sale.

The launch comes as Bajaj celebrates 25 years of the Pulsar brand. While the existing N160 continues with its familiar 2-valve engine, the new N160 S and N160 SS introduce a significantly updated platform featuring a new 4-valve engine, electronic throttle, ride modes and several segment-first technologies.

Powering the new Pulsar N160 S and N160 SS is a new 164.5 cc, single-cylinder, 4-



valve SOHC engine that now features oil cooling and Electronic Throttle Body (ETB). It develops 18.5 PS at 9,500 rpm and 14.4 Nm of torque at 8,000 rpm, making it around 2.5 PS more powerful than the existing 2-valve N160. The outgoing engine continues with 16 PS and 14.65 Nm, while using a simpler air-cooled setup with mechanical throttle. Bajaj claims the new motorcycle accelerates from 0-60 km/h in just 4.5 seconds, making it the

quickest in its segment. Despite the increase in performance, the motorcycle continues with a 5-speed gearbox.

The biggest mechanical upgrade is the adoption of Electronic Throttle (ETB), allowing Bajaj to introduce electronic rider aids that were previously unavailable in this segment. Both N160 S and N160 SS get four riding modes – Road, Rain, Sport and Off-road. These alter throttle response depending on riding conditions.

2027 Kia Seltos Hybrid Spied Testing In The Alps Ahead of Launch



MUMBAI, AUG 7:

Kia is readying a hybrid powertrain for the new Seltos, which is expected to be launched in Europe and United States later this year. Seltos hybrid will also be available in India, most likely in 2027. Ahead of that, the hybrid variant has been spied undergoing high-altitude testing in the European Alps.

As seen in the spy shots, Seltos hybrid is largely the

same as the pure ICE-based variants. New Seltos is currently available in select European markets such as Spain and Germany with a 1.6-litre T-GDI engine. Other markets in Europe such as the UK will be getting only the hybrid version of Seltos, which will be introduced later this year.

Seltos hybrid is expected to have only a few minor variations to its design in comparison to the petrol-powered vari-

ant. The test mule can be seen with minimal camouflage at the front and rear. Only major difference is that the hybrid variant is using a new design for the alloy wheels. Apart from that, most of the features are the same as the standard variants.

Kia has already shared the powertrain details for Euro-spec Seltos hybrid. This variant will be using an advanced 1.6-litre GDI Hybrid (HEV) engine. It will be paired with a 6-speed dual clutch automatic transmission. Kia has designed this hybrid powertrain keeping in mind the requirements for everyday usability. Seltos hybrid is also engineered to enhance fuel efficiency.

Buyers will have the option to choose from 2WD and e-AWD versions of Seltos hybrid. For economical applications, the 2WD variant would be most suitable.

Strong Hybrid Car Sales H1 2026 Innova, Hyryder, Vitara, Victoris, City



NEW DELHI, AUG 7:

After experiencing mild hybrid vehicles for a long time, Indian automotive market finally got a step up with strong hybrid vehicles in the mainstream segment. Leading the frontline are just three brands – Toyota, Honda and Maruti Suzuki. Renault has announced their foray into the

strong hybrid world with Duster Hybrid featuring a larger battery pack.

As of writing this post, Indian mainstream automotive market has quite a few strong hybrid vehicles to choose from. The most notable among them are Maruti Suzuki Grand Vitara, Toyota Urban Cruiser Hyryder, Maruti Suzuki

Victoris, Honda City and Toyota Innova Hycross and its Maruti counterpart, the Invicto, among others.

The best-selling strong hybrid vehicle in the country continues to be the Toyota Innova Hycross which sold a total of 27,812 units in H1 2026, holding a 48% market share within this list. On a YoY basis, sales have gone down by around 6%, when compared to the corresponding sales from the same period last year. In 2nd place, we again have Toyota with their Urban Cruiser Hyryder, or simply called Hyryder. It is a strong hybrid SUV and it registered 18,577 units in H1 of 2026, accounting for roughly 32% of market share in this list. Hyryder sales grew by 23% YoY, which is a healthy figure considering the volumes.

Rupee falls 6 paise to 95.28 against US dollar in early trade

MUMBAI, AUG 7:

The rupee traded in a narrow range and depreciated 6 paise to 95.28 against the US dollar in early trade on Friday, tracking a firmer dollar and a rise in US treasury yields.

Forex traders said dollar demand from importers and profit-taking after the rupee's recent appreciation appear to have outweighed the favourable global backdrop. At the interbank foreign exchange market, the rupee opened at 95.27, then touched 95.28 against the American currency, registering a fall of 6 paise from its previous close. The rupee depreciated 14 paise to close at 95.22 against the US dollar. "With oil back near USD 83, the dollar firm near 100, and US yields elevated, 95.00-95.10 stands out as a solid support for the rupee, and the currency climbing back towards the 96.00-96.20 zone looks like reality. Global developments, particularly around oil prices and the dollar, are likely to remain the key drivers for the rupee in the near term, keeping the overall bias tilted towards weakness," said CR Forex Advisors MD Amit Pabari.

Meanwhile, the dollar index, which gauges the greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies, was trading 0.02 per cent higher at 99.95. Brent crude, the global oil benchmark, was trading 1.20 per cent higher at USD 83.48 per barrel in futures trade. "The rise in US Treasury yields and renewed geopolitical concerns around the Strait of Hormuz are providing some support to the dollar," said Anil Kumar Bhansali, Head of Treasury and Executive Director, Finrex Treasury Advisors LLP. On the domestic equity market front, Sensex declined 235.36 points to 78,699.80 in early trade, while the Nifty fell 24.30 points to 24,608.25. Foreign institutional investors offloaded equities worth Rs 17.86 crore on a net basis on Thursday, according to exchange data.

Royal Enfield Himalayan 750 To Likely Make Global Debut In November

NEW DELHI, AUG 7:

Royal Enfield Himalayan 750 is expected to arrive at EICMA 2026 before reaching India by late 2026 or early 2027 with a new twin-cylinder engine

Royal Enfield is gearing up to unveil its biggest adventure motorcycle yet. The all-new Himalayan 750 is expected to make its global debut at EICMA 2026 in November while an India launch will more likely happen by late 2026 or early 2027. Multiple near-production test mules have already been spotted indicating the motorcycle is entering the final development stages. As opposed to the Himalayan 450, the new Himalayan 750 has been developed on an entirely different platform. The motorcycle uses a new twin-cylinder architecture featuring a larger steel tubular frame, a new bolt-on rear subframe and chassis geometry created specifically for long touring. It will become RE's flagship adventure motorcycle upon arrival.

Power is expected to be derived from a new 749 cc parallel twin-cylinder engine which is believed to be an enlarged evolution of the company's existing 648cc twin. The air- and oil-cooled unit is expected to feature a 270-degree crankshaft, dual overhead camshafts, electronic fuel injection, ride-by-wire throttle, a six-speed gearbox and a slip-and-assist clutch. Expected output stands at around 50 to 55 bhp and 60 to 65 Nm of torque. While outright acceleration is unlikely to be the primary objective, the motorcycle is expected to cruise comfortably between 120 kmph and 140 kmph while top speed could fall in the 170 to 180 kmph region. The suspension package is expected to receive a major upgrade over previous Royal Enfield adventure motorcycles as well.