Toyota Kirloskar Motor Launches the Urban Cruiser Hyryder Aero Edition with Exclusive Styling Package

Toyota Kirloskar Motor (TKM) today unveiled the Urban Cruiser Hyryder Aero Edition, a Limited-Edition styling package that brings an added dimension of prestige and premium appeal to Toyota's popular SUV. Designed to elevate Hyryder's on road presence, the Aero Edition blends bold aesthetics with refined detailing to meet the aspirations of customers who seek sophistication, individuality, and modern comfort. Exclusive Styling Features that are - Available across all Hyryder grades:

• Front Spoiler – The addition of the new front spoiler elevates the SUV's bold character, giving it a sharper and more aggressive stance.

• Rear Spoiler – Sculpted for both style and function, the new rear spoiler enhances the sporty appeal while contributing to aerodynamic efficiency.

• Side Skirts – The newly designed side skirts add flowing lines that create a dynamic, low-slung profile, further amplifying the SUV's premium and performance-inspired look. Exclusive Styling Package accessories are available at an additional cost of Rs.31,999/- and will be offered across all Toyota dealerships nationwide. Since its launch in 2022, the Urban Cruiser Hyryder has rapidly gained popularity among Indian SUV buyers, recently surpassing the 168,000-unit sales milestone. Building on Toyota's renowned global SUV legacy, the Hyryder combines bold and sophisticated styling with advanced technology, making it a preferred choice for discerning customers. With the addition of the new thoughtfully crafted accessories, the exclusive edition further enhances the SUV's signature elegance, making it truly distinctive on the road.

• Elevating the Hyryder's premium SUV persona, the new edition comes with an exclusive styling kit including Front Spoiler, Rear Spoiler, and Side Skirts.

• Available across all Hyryder grades, giving customers flexibility in choosing their preferred variant.

• The Exclusive Styling Package accessories are available at an additional cost of Rs.31,999/- • The Aero Edition is available in the four colour options – White, Silver, Black, and Red

The Aero Edition comes in four colour options – White, Silver, Black, and Red. The Urban Cruiser Hyryder is attractively priced from Rs.10.94 lakh onwards (ex-showroom). Redefining Excellence in the B-SUV Category As one of Toyota's sustainable mobility offerings, The Urban Cruiser Hyryder has set a new standard in the B-SUV segment with its pioneering self-charging strong hybrid electric powertrain. This intelligent system seamlessly integrates petrol and electric power, delivering outstanding fuel efficiency alongside smooth and silent performance. Available in two powertrains- Self-charging Strong Hybrid Electric powertrain & Neo Drive, the Self-Charging Strong Hybrid Electric Vehicle is powered by an e-drive transmission and runs 40% of the distance and 60% of the time on electric power, with engine shut-off, offering a fuel efficiency of 27.97km/l. Additionally, the Neo Drive comes with a 1.5-liter K-series engine, a five-speed manual transmission, and a six-speed automatic transmission with 2WD and 4WD options. The Hyryder's exterior showcases a striking Crystal Acrylic Grille, signature twin LED DRLs, sculpted lines, and stylish 17-inch alloy wheels. Inside the cabin, comfort and convenience take center stage with ventilated leather seats, a panoramic sunroof, a 9-inch touchscreen supporting wireless Apple CarPlay and Android Auto, wireless charging, ambient lighting, and a 360-degree camera. Practical amenities such as rear recline seats, rear AC vents, USB charging, and a flexible 60:40 split rear seat ensure that the Hyryder is perfectly suited to the needs of modern Indian families. Toyota further elevates the ownership experience by offering 66 exclusive accessories, a comprehensive 3-year/100,000 km warranty (extendable to 5 years/220,000 km), and an industry-leading 8-year/160,000 km hybrid battery warranty.

IIT-Delhi, global auto majors explore solutions to China's rare-earth curbs: Report

China's restrictions on rare earths are driving a global transition to rare-earth-free electric vehicle motors, a recent report said, adding that the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Delhi, is also developing such alternative solutions.

"With China out to hold the world at ransom by restricting the supply of rare earths, major automakers in the US, Germany, Japan, and India are developing EVs that do not use rare earths for their batteries," the report from European Times said.

In India, the IIT, Delhi, is putting efforts into developing motors that require fewer or no rare earth elements, it added.

Globally, auto majors from the US, Europe, and Japan, including Tesla, BMW, General Motors, Borowarner, Jaguar, Land Rover, ZF, Vitesco, Renault, Nissan, Mercedes-Benz, Toyota, and Bentley, are working on rare-earth-free EV models.

Tesla has cut heavy rare earths by 25 per cent per vehicle, while BMW and others are progressing with magnet-free or low-rare-earth designs. Mercedes-Benz has reduced the heavy rare earth content in its next-generation electric vehicles "close to 0 per cent," the report said.

Beijing imposed the latest curbs on rare earth elements and related technologies on October 9, following similar measures in 2018 and 2023. These actions have disrupted supplies of neodymium and dysprosium, essential for permanent magnet motors, and increased political and supply-chain risks.

In April 2025, when US President Donald Trump imposed additional tariffs on Chinese products, Beijing imposed export controls on various heavy rare earth materials, directed against the US and other countries, including India, putting the automobile sector in India in difficulty.

China holds half of the world's rare earth deposits, which it uses to "blackmail" other nations, the report said.

Though in August, Beijing withdrew its export restrictions on rare earth magnets to India, till September 9, Indian companies were yet to have a single import application approved, the report said.

India's forex reserves rise by $4.69 bn to $702.9 bn, near all-time high

India's foreign exchange reserves rose by $4.69 billion to touch $702.9 billion for the week ended September 12, according to data released by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on Friday.

With this increase, the reserves are now less than only $2 billion away from their all-time high of $704.9 billion recorded in late September 2024.

The latest RBI data showed that foreign currency assets, which form the biggest part of the reserves, climbed by $2.5 billion to $587.04 billion.

These assets include major global currencies such as the euro, pound and yen, and their dollar value also reflects changes in exchange rates.

Gold reserves gave a strong push this week, rising by $2.1 billion to reach $92.42 billion.

The special drawing rights (SDRs) increased slightly by $32 million to $18.73 billion, while India's reserve position with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) moved up by $9 million to $4.76 billion.

Forex reserves act as a financial safety net for the country, helping the RBI intervene in the currency market when needed to control volatility in the rupee.

The central bank maintains that such interventions are not meant to fix the exchange rate at a certain level but to ensure stability in times of global uncertainty.

Reserves have been rising steadily in recent weeks. They had already crossed the $698 billion mark in the week ended September 5, following a $4.03 billion jump, after increasing by $3.51 billion in the previous week.

In the previous week also, the Central Bank's data showed that foreign currency assets (FCAs), the largest part of the reserves, went up by $540 million to $584.47 billion.

Stock market snaps three-day rally; IT stocks fall, Adani Group's shares rise

Indian equity indices snapped the three-day winning streak to end the session on a negative note on Friday.

Profit booking in IT and banking heavyweights dragged the market. However, a rally in Adani group stocks post the SEBI's clean chit on US short-seller Hindenburg's allegations restricted a sharp decline in the market.

Sensex ended the session at 82,626.23, down 387.73 points or 0.47 per cent. The index started the trade a bit lower at 82,946.04 against last session's closing of 83,013.96. The index extended the downward trend further amid selling in IT and banking heavyweights. It touched an intraday low at 82,485.92.

Nifty settled at 25,327.05, down 96.55 or 0.38 per cent.

Adani Total Gas Limited's stock rose 7.55 per cent to close at Rs 652.80, Adani Power shares surged 13.42 per cent, Adani Enterprises rose 5.25 per cent to Rs 2,528, and Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone Limited's stock rose 1.15 per cent to Rs 1,429.

HCL Tech, ICICI Bank, Trent, Titan, Mahindra and Mahindra, HDFC Bank, Kotak Bank, PowerGrid, Ultratech Cement, Hindustan Unilever, Tata Motors, and ITC were the top losers from the Sensex basket. Adani Ports, SBI, NTPC, Bharti Airtel, Asian Paints, Axis Bank and Maruti Suzuki settled in green.

The majority of sectoral indices ended the session lower amid subdued interest from investors. Nifty Fin Services fell 171 points or 0.64 per cent, Nifty Bank slipped 268.60 points or 0.48 per cent, Nifty Auto dragged 109 points or 0.40 per cent, Nifty FMCG dipped 249 points or 0.44 per cent, and Nifty IT ended the session 172 points or 0.47 per cent.

The broader market remained relatively firm amid some uptick in small-cap stocks. Nifty Small Cap 100 rose 27.60 or 0.15 per cent, Nifty Midcap 100 jumped 21 points, while Nifty 100 fell 56 points or 0.21 per cent.

Indian rupee ended marginally higher at 88.10 per dollar on Friday, compared to the last day's closing of 88.13.

Hindustan Copper Ltd, Oil India join hands to explore critical and strategic minerals

In a significant development, Oil India Limited and Hindustan Copper Limited (HCL) on Friday signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to co-operate and collaborate for exploration and development of critical and strategic minerals including Copper and associated minerals.

The move is aimed at strengthening India's self-reliance in critical and strategic mineral sourcing.

Hindustan Copper Limited, a Miniratna PSU under the Ministry of Mines, is engaged in mining, production, processing, and marketing of copper and related products. The company is currently focused on mining and beneficiation of copper ore and the sale of copper concentrate. Oil India, a Maharatna PSU under the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, is a premier integrated oil and gas company with proven expertise in exploration, development, production, and transportation of crude oil and natural gas. Recognizing the growing importance of critical minerals, OIL has diversified into this sector to complement its core energy portfolio.

The MoU was signed and exchanged in the presence of Sanjiv Kumar Singh, Chairman and Managing Director of HCL and Dr Ranjit Rath, Chairman and Managing Director of Oil India and senior officials of both the companies.

"The collaboration between HCL and OIL represents a crucial milestone in India's pursuit of mineral security. Aligned with the objectives of the government of India's National Critical Mineral Mission, this partnership will play a pivotal role in securing strategic mineral resources essential for the nation's energy security, industrial growth, and technological advancement," said Ministry of Mines in a statement.

Earlier this month, the Union Cabinet approved a Rs 1,500 crore incentive scheme under the National Critical Mineral Mission (NCMM) to boost India's recycling capacity for critical minerals from secondary sources such as e-waste, lithium-ion battery scrap, and end-of-life vehicle parts.

By fostering both new and existing recyclers, the initiative aims to build 270 kilo tonnes annual recycling capacity, produce 40 kilo tonnes of critical minerals, attract around Rs 8,000 crore in investments, and generate nearly 70,000 jobs — a strategic step to strengthen supply chain resilience and reduce import dependency, according to the government.

Critical minerals are fast becoming the oil of the 21st century, scarce, strategic, and fiercely contested. They are the building blocks of a modern economy.

Google picks 20 Indian startups for AI accelerator programme

US tech giant Google on Friday announced the latest cohort of its free three-month 'AI accelerator' programme -- a group of 20 start-ups selected from over 1,600 applicants in the country.

The programme, titled 'Google for Startups Accelerator: AI First in India,' began this week and aims to scale AI-driven solutions across healthcare, finance, climate, education and more. The programme is designed for AI First startups between Seed to Series A based in India, that are building core AI products, applications or foundational models, a release from the company said. The support for founders includes Google Cloud infrastructure and access to cutting-edge Gemini models, with technical mentorship and go-to-market strategies.

"At Google, we see startups as our co-creators in building the future of AI with scalable, impactful, and responsible AI solutions that will set new standards for the industry," said Darren Mowry, VP, Global Startups, Google Cloud.

The strategic focus of this cohort is aligned with the IndiaAI Mission, said Abhishek Singh, Additional Secretary, MeitY and CEO, IndiaAI Mission.

Among the cohort are startups which offer a full-stack agentic platform where AI creates AI, a healthtech startup offering a webcam-based autism screening tool.

The program pairs founders with Google engineers and industry mentors to tackle scaling challenges, refine product roadmaps and ensure ethical AI deployment.

The new cohort's strategic focus directly aligns with the IndiaAI Mission's start-up pillar, with 45 per cent of the program dedicated towards leveraging Agentic AI. Multimodal AI solutions account for 30 per cent of the programme curriculum, with the remaining 25 per cent dedicated to foundational models and Responsible AI.

Check It Daily Horoscopes

Your day today

By Dr C.V.B. Subrahmanyam

Aries: New contacts at the professional front would bring lucrative opportunities. A very demanding approach can create tensions in your love life.

Taurus: A favourable time to start new projects and a happy day of wooing and courtship. Guard against being overly dominating when putting across your views at home.

Gemini: Cultivate a harmonious nature to kill your hatred because it is more powerful than love and deadly affects your body. Romantic influence is strong.

Cancer: The romantic life is becoming interesting. You are observing your love life, as it is blowing hot and cold. Act immediately as tomorrow may be very late.

Leo: You desperately need some activity to keep fit. Festive atmosphere all round keeps everyone in high spirits. On your part develop a harmonious relationship with all and win your opponents by love.

Virgo: Visit those who are less fortunate than yourself and help them with their personal problems. Loved ones will be hard to get along with. Group events will be far too expensive for you to organize.

Libra: Romantically a glittering bait awaits you to be trapped. Your affairs seem to go well on the surface. There are people in the background who don't wish you well in lovelife. Stomach issues may rise.

Scorpio: Some of you will need to keep your temper under control, even under grave provocation. Your childish approach can thwart your romantic aspirations.

Sagittarius: You will have to do something different to make your lover enjoy your company. Your efforts at work get recognized, so cash in on this development.

Capricorn: Good earning will make you splurge on the romantic front. Speculative activities should be avoided. Those burdened with work will have to do something about the resulting fatigue.

Aquarius: Think wisely before loaning money to a friend as early return is not foreseen. Help and assistance will be forthcoming from close ones in getting a matrimonial alliance for the eligible.

Pisces: Monetary gains will keep you in a buoyant mood. This is the day when you can find everything topsy-turvy on the professional front. Those in private companies can face a salary cut.

Printer, Publisher & Owner : Vinod Kumar. Printed at : M/s Karan Offset Printing Press, Jammu. Published at Main Road Shiva Enclave Near Police Station Janipur Jammu,

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