



**ŠKODA**  
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## **ŠKODA AUTO donates in cooperation with the Volkswagen Group one million euros to fight COVID-19 in India**

- › **ŠKODA AUTO, as the brand responsible for the region within the Volkswagen Group, donates one million euros to aid the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic in India**
- › **Both in-kind and monetary donations planned**
- › **The Czech car manufacturer operates two production facilities in the region**

**Mladá Boleslav, 12 May 2021 – Due to the serious humanitarian situation in India caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, ŠKODA AUTO is planning an aid package in cooperation with the Volkswagen Group consisting of in-kind and financial donations totalling one million euros. In doing so, the Czech car manufacturer is taking responsibility as a regional employer and for the members of the ŠKODA family at this difficult time.**

Thomas Schäfer, CEO of ŠKODA AUTO, says, "We are in contact with our colleagues in India every day. They know best what is most urgently needed at the moment. We are working hard to secure the appropriate relief supplies, including oxygen tanks, and transport them to India as quickly as possible. We are grateful that we can help our Indian friends on the ground this way. In these challenging circumstances, the ŠKODA family stands together."

The second wave of coronavirus has India firmly in its grip. The sudden spike in infections is effecting a shortage of hospital beds, medical oxygen and antiviral medication straining the overall healthcare system. As a local employer in Pune, Aurangabad and Mumbai, ŠKODA AUTO has a responsibility in the country. The Czech car manufacturer is therefore donating around one million euros at short notice to help improve the situation.

The support will consist of medical supplies and a monetary donation to the German Red Cross. This is intended to meet as many different aid needs as possible in the crisis region. Among other things, ŠKODA AUTO is procuring medical equipment and materials such as oxygen generators and liquid oxygen tanks, which are necessary for inland transport. The brand's purchasing and logistics departments are working tirelessly to acquire the relief supplies at short notice and deliver them to the crisis region as quickly as possible, despite the difficult conditions caused by the pandemic. The Indian Red Cross is expected to handle the distribution locally.

Gurpratap Boparai, Managing Director ŠKODA AUTO Volkswagen India Private Limited (ŠAVWIPL), says "The country is going through an unprecedented situation with the unexpected rise in COVID-19 cases, leading to extreme stress on the healthcare facilities in India. ŠKODA AUTO's generous donation, both material and financial support will provide some relief to those affected."

ŠKODA AUTO leads the Volkswagen Group's activities in the Indian market and has a long-standing relationship of trust with local partners.



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## Media images:



### ŠKODA AUTO donates one million euros to fight COVID-19 in India

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Source: ŠKODA AUTO



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## ŠKODA AUTO

- › is focusing on three priorities with its 'NEXT LEVEL ŠKODA' program for the future: expanding the model portfolio towards entry-level segments, exploring new markets for further growth in the volume segment and making tangible progress in sustainability and diversity.
- › currently offers its customers ten passenger-car series: the CITIGO® iV, FABIA, RAPID, SCALA, OCTAVIA and SUPERB as well as the KAMIQ, KAROQ, KODIAQ and ENYAQ iV.
- › delivered over one million vehicles to customers around the world in 2020.
- › has belonged to the Volkswagen Group for 30 years. 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, 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 with a local partner.
- › employs approximately 42,000 people globally and is active in more than 100 markets.