



**ŠKODA**  
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## Donation worth 1,000,000 euros to fight COVID-19 on its way to India

- › As the Volkswagen Group brand responsible for the region, ŠKODA AUTO donates one million euros to help fight the COVID-19 pandemic in India
- › First part of in-kind and monetary donations is already on their way to the destination
- › Czech car manufacturer operates two production facilities in the Maharashtra region

**Mladá Boleslav, 31 May 2021 – ŠKODA AUTO is sending financial resources and relief supplies worth a total of one million euros to India. The donation, organised in partnership with the Volkswagen Group, is supporting the local fight against the COVID-19 pandemic. In this way, the Czech car manufacturer is taking responsibility as an employer in the region to support the country in response to the serious humanitarian situation. The company is cooperating intensively with the KOVO trade union in this context.**

Thomas Schäfer, ŠKODA AUTO CEO says: “Our donation is now on its way to India. I would like to thank all those involved who have actively helped with the planning, organisation and implementation of this initiative. We are delivering medical equipment, liquid oxygen tanks and an oxygen generator to help effectively the people in need. We remain concerned about the humanitarian situation in India. Every day we exchange information with our Indian friends there and hope that the circumstances will improve soon.”

The first part of the donations in-kind have already been shipped and are on their way to their destination, where the Indian Red Cross will distribute them quickly to clinics and aid organisations. The carmaker is in total sending items including medical equipment, an oxygen generator and liquid oxygen tanks. ŠKODA AUTO’s purchasing and logistics departments worked under high pressure to procure the relief supplies and send them to the crisis region as quickly as possible, despite the difficult conditions caused by the pandemic.

Gurpratap Boparai, Managing Director of ŠKODA AUTO Volkswagen India Private Limited (ŠAVWIPL) emphasises: “The current development of the coronavirus pandemic poses immense challenges for the people in our country. The situation in the medical facilities, in particular, is critical and they need all the help available. The generous in-kind and cash donations from our friends at ŠKODA AUTO will bring relief to the sick and relief workers.”

The rapid increase in the number of infections has led to a shortage in the availability of hospital beds, medical oxygen as well as medicines and has pushed the healthcare system to its limits. As a local employer in the region, ŠKODA AUTO bears a social responsibility in India. In cooperation with the Volkswagen Group, the Czech car manufacturer has therefore made around one million euros available to improve medical care in the region affected by the pandemic in the form of relief supplies and a cash donation to the German Red Cross.

ŠKODA AUTO is responsible for the Volkswagen Group’s activities on the Indian market and has a long-standing relationship of trust with local partners.



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## Media images:



### Donation worth 1,000,000 euros to fight COVID-19 on its way to India

Due to the serious humanitarian situation in India caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, ŠKODA AUTO has deployed an aid package consisting of donations in kind and cash totalling one million euros. In this way, the Czech car manufacturer is taking responsibility as an employer in the Maharashtra region and for its employees there.

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Source: ŠKODA AUTO

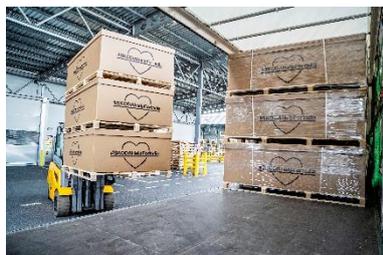


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In addition to monetary donations, ŠKODA AUTO is also sending relief supplies such as medical equipment, oxygen generators and liquid oxygen tanks. These are expected to arrive in the crisis region shortly.

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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<sup>®</sup> 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.