

Mercedes-Benz R&D India to hire over 1,000 engineers

Isha Rautela
Bengaluru

Mercedes-Benz Research and Development India (MBRDI) will recruit more than 1,000 engineers equipped with new-age digital skills in the country over the next year, said a top executive of the company.

The company is expanding its engineers' base in the country, keeping in line with its plans to accelerate its business in the region, said Mahesh Medhekar, Vice President-Human Resource, MBRDI. Currently, it has a team of around 7,000 people in its R&D centre in the country.

In fact, 2022 was Mercedes-Benz India's best year, as it achieved the highest sales with 15,822 units. Moreover, the



Manu Saale, MD & CEO, MBRDI

company has an aggressive EV roadmap for India and forecasts that one out of every four cars sold by 2027, will be an EV.

Speaking about the company's ambition of going completely electric by 2030, Manu Saale, MD & CEO, MBRDI, told *businessline* that there is still a way to go when it comes to developing charging infra-

structure along with the public charging infrastructure, and every OEM just cannot keep on introducing its own.

"We are working towards our foray into the space... We want to bring in the right kind of charging hardware," he said. According to Saale, fast charging has become a regular possibility for ensuring a higher adoption of EVs.

In terms of the ongoing work in the space of automated vehicles, Santosh Iyer, MD & CEO, Mercedes-Benz India, said while the acceptance of autonomous driving and its practical implementation still have some time, its endeavour will be to continue equipping cars with 'autonomous features' in the most feasible manner to assist customers.

... launches G-Class starting at ₹2.55 cr

Our Bureau
New Delhi

India's largest luxury carmaker Mercedes-Benz India on Thursday launched its iconic SUV — the G-Class 400d — starting at ₹2.55 crore.

LUXURY VEHICLES

It will come in two variants — G 400d Adventure Edition and the sporty G 400d AMG Line. The company has commenced the booking of the SUV at ₹1.5 lakh and deliveries will begin from fourth quarter this year, based on exclusive allocations for the Indian market owing to the high demand, Mercedes-Benz India said.

"Top-end vehicles (TEVs) remain our constant focus, as the segment continues to draw outstanding response from discerning customers... The G-Class has been a highly anticipated luxury lifestyle vehicle for Indian customers and its launch reiterates our aim of offering them, the 'most desirable' vehicles, from our global portfolio," Santosh Iyer, MD & CEO, Mercedes-Benz India, said.

The segment remained the company's highest-growing segment in 2022, with a 69 per cent year-on-year growth, he said. More than half of its upcoming launches in 2023 are planned from this segment.