

Tata Motors rolls out first JLR car from Ranipet plant

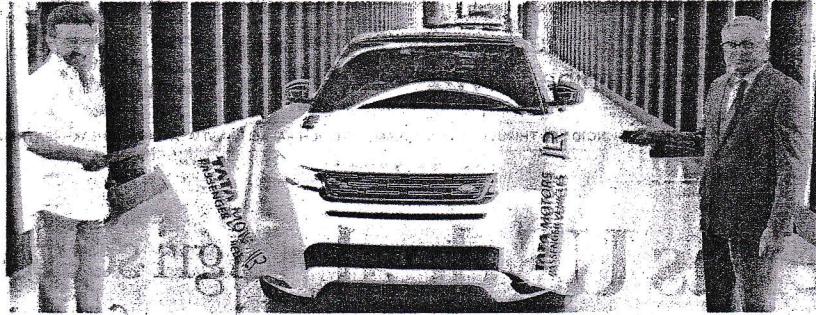
EXPANDING SCOPE. ₹9,000 cr facility to scale to 2.5 lakh vehicles/year with 5,000 jobs

T E Raja Simhan
Ranipet

Tata Motors Passenger Vehicles on Monday rolled out the first Jaguar Land Rover (JLR) car — the Range Rover Evoque (SUV) — from its newly commissioned Tata Motors-JLR manufacturing facility in Ranipet, about 90 km west of Chennai.

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin inaugurated the completely knocked down (CKD) vehicle plant located within the SIPCOT Industrial Estate at Panapakkam. Stalin, along with Tata Motors Chairman N Chandrasekaran, jointly flagged off the first Range Rover Evoque produced at the facility. The Chief Minister also drove the vehicle for a short distance inside the plant with Chandrasekaran accompanying him.

With the commencement of operations at Ranipet, Tata-JLR becomes the seventh automobile manufacturer to have car manufacturing operations in Tamil



HOME-MADE. TN CM MK Stalin and Tata Sons' Chairman N Chandrasekaran flagging off the first Land Rover Evoque manufactured at Tata Motors-JLR plant in Ranipet on Monday. BUJOY GHOSH

Nadu, after Hyundai, Renault, Nissan, Stellantis, BMW and VinFast.

CKD OPERATIONS

Tata Motors has committed an investment of ₹9,000 crore for the Panapakkam project, which will be implemented in three phases.

Currently, all CKD operations of Tata Motors are based in Pune. The company plans to gradually migrate these operations to the Tamil Nadu facility, a senior company official had said last year.

Vehicle production at the Ranipet plant will scale up in a phased manner eventually reaching its full designed annual capacity of 2.5 lakh vehicles over the next five to seven years. The facility is expected to cater to both domestic and international markets. According to the company, the project has the potential to generate over 5,000 direct and indirect employment opportunities.

In September 2024, Tata Motors had broken ground for the new manufacturing facility. "In a record 16

months, the plant is up and running," Chief Minister Stalin said at the inaugural event, drawing a parallel with VinFast's vehicle manufacturing facility at Thoothukudi, which also came up within a similar time-frame.

Chandrasekaran said the Ranipet facility joins JLR's global manufacturing footprint, which includes plants in the UK, Austria, China and Brazil. "Tamil Nadu will now be included in JLR's global manufacturing map," he said.