Energetica India

Tata Power partners with Tata Motors to make Maharashtra EV ready

"There is a critical need for investment in reliable and well-spread charging infrastructure in the country that will address existing concerns around range anxiety and charging speed which can be expedited through public-private collaborations"

Tata Power, India's largest integrated power company,has partnered with Tata Motors to make Maharashtra EV ready and to establish Electric Vehicle Charging Stations in the State for public use. Tata Motors Limited has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Government of Maharashtra to support the Maharashtra Electric Vehicle Policy (2018) in accelerating the adoption of Electric Vehicles in Maharashtra.

Shri Devendra Fadnavis, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Maharashtra, inaugurated the new EV charging stations. The nine new locations where the EV charging stations have come up include Matunga, BKC, Bhandup (near LBS Marg), Chembur, Malad (near Link Road) and Carnac Bundar (near Fort & Freeway).

Mr Praveer Sinha, CEO & Managing Director, Tata Power, said, "We are committed to making Maharashtra EV ready and Government's vision of providing green technology solutions. We are happy to partner with Tata Motors to deliver on the Government and Group's vision of improving India's carbon footprint and enabling the customers with a sustainable future. We are happy to present Maharashtra with various electric vehicle charging stations that cover the wide expanse of the city. With these installations, Tata Power continues to pursue sustainable practices by using technology to provide Maharashtra customers access to energy-efficient options with ease."

Speaking on the MoU signing initiative, Guenter Butschek, CEO & MD, Tata Motors said, "Tata Motors is committed to the Government's vision of e-mobility in India. We are excited to join forces with the Government of Maharashtra towards this endeavor. We are uniquely positioned to leverage the strength of our group companies to create an EV ecosystem. With our ready portfolio of EV offerings across our passenger and commercial vehicles, we are geared up to meet future requirements beyond the current tender commitments."

With the launch of nine EV charging stations, it is Tata Power's endeavour to provide the best of solutions for the country to achieve a greener tomorrow. By using innovative technology, Tata Power is providing customers easy access to energy-efficient processes and facilitating that by setting up charging infrastructure around the city.

L to R- Mr. Praveer Sinha, CEO & MD, TPCL along with Mr. Manasvi Sharma, H.

With the installation of these Electric Vehicle chargers, the company is working towards removing the range anxiety from people's minds and encouraging them to shift from fossil fuel vehicles to electric vehicles. Tata Power plans to device a mix of fast and regular chargers at these charging stations that will facilitate to charge vehicles from both private and public realms of life. The chargers can also monitor the car battery charging status and units consumed while charging a car.

Tata Power has been a forerunner in technology adoption and innovation while also setting industry benchmarks in operational and sustainability aspects. Being true to the pioneering spirit of the parent group, Tata Power has established the first public Electric Vehicle charging station at Vikhroli in Mumbai.

Being the first to propagate the change towards sustainable energy, Tata Power aims to supplement the government's plan to replace fossil fuel vehicles with electric vehicles by 2030, by installing charging stations at strategic locations.

Since the inauguration of the first station in August 2017, two more were started in January 2018 for public usage at Palladium mall in the Lower Parel area and Phoenix Market City in the Kurla area of the city.

Energetica India catches up with Mr. Rahul Shah, Chief - Strategy & New Business Services, Tata Power to learn more about Tata Power's plans in the electrical vehicle niche.

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SPEAKING TO...

Mr. Rahul Shah, Chief - Strategy & New Business Services, Tata Power

ENERGETICA INDIA: **What is Tata Power's plan in the EV niche?**

RAHUL SHAH: Tata Power is focused on providing an easy access to energy-efficient charging infrastructures at strategic locations across India. We plan to deploy a mix of fast and regular chargers at the charging stations in order to facilitate both private and public use. We have established 12 Electric Vehicle charging stations so far in Mumbai (details of the locations mentioned below).

Additionally, Tata Power Delhi Distribution Limited (Tata Power-DDL) has installed Electric Vehicle Charging Centers at five locations spread across in its area of distribution. These charging centers will provide access to free of cost charging to owners of Mahindra Reva Electric Cars.

Recently, the company also installed two fast charging stations at the Hyderabad campus of Cognizant and we aim to continue expanding our charging station infrastructure in India through technological collaborations with partners like Mass-Tech Controls.

New EV Charging Stations:

1. Matunga
2. Bhandup (near LBS Marg)
3. Chembur
4. Malad (near Link Road)
5. Carnac Bundar (near Freeway and Fort)
6. BandraKurla Complex
7. Borivali (near Western Express Highway)
8. Mankhurd (on Vashi Highway)
9. ITC Grand Central, Parel

Existing EV Charging Stations:

10. Vikhroli (Mumbai's 1st first EV charging station)
11. Palladium Mall, Lower Parel
12. Phoenix Marketcity, Kulra

ENERGETICA INDIA: **How do you see EV charging stations as a business model?**

RAHUL SHAH: EV business has the potential to be the most competitive one against other fuel-run vehicles from a purely operational cost perspective however, running an EV from a TCO 'Total Cost of Ownership' (capital and running cost) point of view, EVs are to-some-extent more expensive than the gasoline-powered vehicles. We will safely presume that the Government policy and support will provide the initial thrust along with initial demand from institutional buyers and shared-mobility providers. There is a critical need for investment in reliable and well-spread charging infrastructure in the country that will address existing concerns around range anxiety and charging speed which can be expedited through public-private collaborations.