



For immediate release

Pune Mountaineers Summit Everest, Felicitated

Pune, June 23, 2018

Samir Patham and Sauraj Jhingan, the Pune based mountaineers who led the Force Motors Everest Expedition 2018, were felicitated today at the company's Akurdi factory in Pune. The duo had reached the world's tallest peak on May 18, 2018 and shared their experience aided by videos of the expedition. They handed over the Force Motors flag taken to the summit to MD Mr. Prasan Firodia, and autographed a photograph that commemorated their climb to the summit.

The expedition was flagged off on March 22, 2018 from the company's headquarters at Akurdi. After acclimatising for a few weeks and testing their technical skills by climbing neighboring mountains, they proceeded to Everest base camp from where they made several trips to the higher camps. This was to stock up essentials like tents, food and oxygen for the final summit attempt.

Assured by favourable weather conditions, the team left Camp 4 (above 8000m) on the evening of 17th May. After a 10 hour grueling climb in the death zone, they reached the summit at 6.20 am the next day. They spent about 40 minutes on the top before descending.

Mr. Firodia, complimenting Sauraj and Samir on their outstanding feat, stated that their perseverance and determination would certainly inspire others to strive towards their personal and professional goals.

Samir and Sauraj said they were grateful for the company's support. The duo's first attempt in 2015 was abandoned because of the earthquake in Nepal that almost wiped out base camp. The second attempt in 2017 was called off 800m from the summit because of strong jet stream winds higher than 160km/hr. Force Motors gave their dream a new lease of life. "We thank everyone who believed in us," they said.



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ABOUT FORCE MOTORS

Force Motors, was established in 1958 by Shri N. K. Firodia, with the vision to provide affordable commercial transport for the masses by harnessing the best available technology and offering economical, reliable and efficient products.

Force Motors (then known as Bajaj Tempo) started production of HANSEAT 3-wheelers in collaboration with Vidal & Sohn Tempo Werke Germany. The company continued to pioneer the auto industry in India with the iconic brands like the Tempo, the Matador and the Traveller.

Today, Force Motors is a fully vertically integrated automobile company, with expertise in design, development and manufacture of the full spectrum of automotive components, aggregates and vehicles.

Its range includes **Traveller** light commercial vehicles, **Trax multi-utility** vehicles, **Gurkha cross country** vehicles, and the **Balwan range of Agricultural Tractors**. The company continues in the founder's vision of providing efficient, utilitarian vehicles that empower the individual entrepreneur to meet his and country's ever changing needs, and to serve the rural economy.

In 1997, fully aware of the strength of Force Motors, in terms of engineering infrastructure and capabilities, Daimler asked it to set up a dedicated facility for producing and testing engines for Mercedes passenger cars and SUVs to be made in India. Till date Force Motors has supplied over 91,000 engines. This portfolio has grown to include the front and rear axles of the C, E, S class passenger cars and GL Class SUVs.

In 2015, **BMW** assigned Force Motors to produce and test the engines for all cars and SUVs to be made in India. A state of the art factory has been built to the exacting standards of BMW by Force Motors in Chennai close to their factory. Till date Force Motors has supplied over 25,000 engines to BMW.

In 2016 a new state-of-the-art plant has been commissioned at Chakan near the **Mercedes Benz** car manufacturing facility that is dedicated solely to the production of engines and Axles for all Cars and SUVs made in India. This facility has a capacity of manufacturing and testing 20,000 engines per annum.

In 2018 Force Motors entered into an **agreement with Rolls-Royce** Power Systems AG to set up a joint venture to make in India and supply worldwide their renowned Series 1600 MTU engines (545 to 950hp) for power generation and under floor rail applications. A dedicated facility shall be built to the exacting standards of Rolls-Royce at Chakan near Pune.

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