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FAX MESSAGE

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| Priority | MOST IMMEDIATE |
| Message No. | Tok/Com/123/1/2008 |
| Dated | January 23, 2008 |
| Addressed to: | Shri Ajay Shankar, Secretary Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion New Delhi |
| Repeated to: | Shri Gopal Krishna, Joint Secretary, Deptt. of Industrial Policy and Promotion, New Delhi Shri Vijay Gokhale, Joint Secretary(EA), Ministry of External Affairs, New Delhi |
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Dear Sir,

Please find enclosed a free translation of following newsitems reported in the Japanese daily Nikkei on February 22, 2008 :

1. Toyota's Indian Unit Eyes at least 10% Sales Growth in Q8
2. Suzuki to Secure new Port to Lift Small-Car Exports from India

Sr. 00 (SC)
ydw
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With regards,

Pl uplink on news in the
Japan cell

[R. Ramasujam]

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217

Nikkei

February 22, 2008

Toyota's Indian Unit Eyes At Least 10% Sales Growth In '08

NEW DELHI (Nikkei)--A Toyota Motor Corp. joint venture in India aims to boost sales to 60,000 units at a minimum this year, up 10% from 2007. To this end, customer service at dealerships will be improved, says Hiroshi Nakagawa, president of Toyota Kirloskar Motor Private Ltd.

Referring to Toyota Kirloskar's less than 3% market share, Nakagawa said, "Our presence in the market is small and there's substantial room for growth." He then expressed a strong resolve to step up marketing, adding that "everything must be done aggressively," including more dealership openings and efforts to enhance customer satisfaction.

The company's cash cow is the Innova minivan, which sold 47,000 units last year, compared with the firm's total sales of 54,200 vehicles. While arguing that "having one model account for a majority of sales is not an automaker's weakness," Nakagawa admitted that the firm needs to roll out more top sellers.

February 22, 2008

Suzuki to Secure New Port to Lift Small-Car Exports from India

NEW DELHI (Nikkei)--Suzuki Motor Corp. has secured an export terminal at the western Indian port of Mundra as the automaker strives to boost its finished-vehicle shipment from that country. Under a deal signed by subsidiary Maruti Suzuki India Ltd. and local firm Adani Group, Suzuki also secured a port lot that can accommodate up to 9,500 automobiles. Its operation at the site is expected to start this year.

Investing 600 million rupees, or about 1.6 billion yen, Adani Group will create an exclusive terminal for Suzuki. Maruti Suzuki will spend 400 million rupees, or about 1.1 billion yen, to build a vehicle inspection facility there.

Maruti Suzuki currently uses the port of Mumbai to ship about 50,000 vehicles a year. But as the automaker hopes to raise exports from India to 200,000 vehicles a year by 2010, it will need space at other ports. The vehicles to be shipped will include a 1-liter small car. Maruti Suzuki plans to start mass producing this fall.