

Debt wish

Calling him 'a decent boy overall', tennis legend Boris Becker's mom, Elvira, hopes he will not be sent to prison for hiding millions to avoid paying his bankruptcy debts



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A new factory and upskilling campus to fuel future growth

Daikin India is investing in a new manufacturing facility and training institute in India to help it become the largest AC equipment maker in the country

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Daikin India has laid the foundation stone at Sri City, Andhra Pradesh, for its third manufacturing facility. The factory will be ready for commercial production by 2023 and is expected to help Daikin India become the largest manufacturer of air conditioning equipment in India.

The upcoming factory will serve the company's domestic and international demands by producing cutting-edge air-conditioning equipment. In line with Daikin's aspiration to achieve net-zero CO2 emissions by 2050, the company will work on developing climate-friendly ACs for markets like West Africa, Sri Lanka, Bhutan, Nepal, Bangladesh, the Middle East, South America and East Africa.

KJ Jawa, chairman and managing director, Daikin India, called it a manufacturing marvel. "This investment is an essential part of our long-term growth strategy. We're aiming to expand and balance our global manufacturing footprint to best serve customers worldwide. One important pillar of this strategy is to operate with an agile and flexible set-up that enables us to react quickly to market



(Left to right) N Nishioka, MD, Fujita; Satoshi Suzuki, Ambassador of Japan to India; KJ Jawa, CMD, Daikin India; S Bhattacharya, SVP, Daikin India, and R Sannareddy, MD, Sri City



(Left to right) S Miyamoto, Minister of Economics & Development, Japan Embassy; KJ Jawa, CMD, Daikin India, and S Chinoy, ex-ambassador of India to Japan

requirements and establish further high-tech production capacities in India, which makes Sri City a strategically important factory, following all Industry 4.0 digitisation standards," he said.

Given India's status as a reliable manufacturing destination, with favourable policies and ease of doing business affirmed by the government's PLI scheme, Daikin India is perfectly poised to take advantage of the demand explosion predicted over the next five to 10 years. Consumers are looking for energy-efficient, IA-enabled products with low cost of ownership. And the rapid adoption of ACs across the globe justifies this bold investment by Daikin in India.

Learning centre

Daikin India also inaugurated the Daikin Japanese Institute of Manufacturing Excellence (DJIME) at Neemrana, Rajasthan, as part of its CSR vision. DJIME aims to offer a training programme for "students" that combines on-the-job training, HVAC technical know-how and training in the Japanese manufacturing process as well as soft skills. All trainees will receive a DJIME certification upon completion.

With this centre, 1.5 lakh Indian youth are expected to be certified in Japanese manufacturing methodology and principles that can help

the HVAC industry win over a skill shortage.

Daikin India - JIM marks the start of a collaboration between the governments of Japan and India to create a pool of skilled manpower for manufacturing in India. This follows a memorandum of cooperation (MoC) signed in Tokyo on November 11, 2016, between the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, Government of Japan (METI) and the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, Government of India (MSDE).

"DJIME is aimed at upgrading the training (in India) to match

international standards," said Jawa. "This initiative will provide a platform for students to enhance their skills and gain access to world-class training in the air-conditioning

space. Having identified skill development as a challenge in India, Daikin is at the forefront with government and educational institutions to boost societal development through skilling and will also encourage women's inclusion in the workforce."

The new campus is spread over five acres and can accommodate 250 students per session while operating at full strength. Daikin is committed to support the government's 'Make in India' and 'Skill India' initiatives and DJIME is a positive step in that direction.

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