



**Mercedes-Benz Research and Development India (MBRDI) announces support to employees and the community through inclusive Covid-19 relief initiatives**

Press Information

May 17, 2021

- Helps procure 110 oxygen concentrators for Karnataka in partnership with regional NGOs and German Consulate, Bengaluru
- Reinstates support to employees with holistic wellbeing initiatives

**Bengaluru – May 17, 2021** - Mercedes-Benz Research and Development India (MBRDI) announced a slew of initiatives to ensure the health, safety, and holistic wellbeing of its employees and the larger community, amidst the second wave of the pandemic.

Contributing towards Covid-19 relief efforts, the company has collaborated with C-CAMP (Centre for Cellular and Molecular Platforms), the German Consulate, Bengaluru, Rhenus Logistics, and Nayonika Eyecare Charitable Trust to procure 110 oxygen concentrators for the hospitals in Karnataka.

“The health and safety of our employees is a foremost priority and we are committed to it, more so during these difficult times. We’ve taken extensive measures right from virtual medical consultation, Covid-19 care leaves, insurance coverage to vaccination programmes to support our employees and their families,” said Manu Saale, Managing Director and CEO, MBRDI. “Empathy is the need of the hour and at MBRDI, we are mindful that the communities around us need to be supported in all possible ways. It is both our honour and duty to strengthen the larger relief efforts with the procurement of oxygen concentrators for the hospitals in Karnataka.”

Some of the initiatives to support MBRDI employees in staying safe and healthy during the ongoing global pandemic include:

- Covering the cost of Covid-19 vaccination for all its 6000 employees in India, as well as their dependents.
- As part of the Covid-19 home isolation care programme, the company has tied up with Apollo Clinic to provide all-paid medical care and advisory services for two weeks. This programme constitutes daily monitoring, consultation with physicians, diet counselling, physiotherapy sessions including breathing techniques, daily critical vitals checks, and more.

- Covid Kawach, an additional insurance cover exclusively for Covid-19 treatment, focusses on a health plan with comprehensive coverage for the employees as well as their dependents.
- As part of its **#TogetherWeCan** initiative, the company has launched an in-house, virtual response taskforce called the **Covid-19 Warriors**. The programme has seen an uproar of support from MBRDI employees volunteering to go above and beyond in assisting colleagues in distress.
- A command center with a 24x7 helpline is set up to provide virtual medical teleconsultation, end-to-end guidance on the doorstep RT-PCR swab collection, and information on hospitals and emergency services providing medical assistance to Covid-19 patients.
- To support and ensure mental and emotional wellbeing, the company's Employee Assistance Programme (EAP) has stepped up its focus on prevalent topics employees reach out for free counselling on.
- MBRDI also plans to offer free 3 healthy meals delivery to the employees and their families affected by Covid-19 or in quarantine.

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**About Mercedes-Benz Research and Development India (MBRDI)**

Mercedes-Benz Research and Development India (MBRDI) headquartered in Bengaluru was founded in 1996 as a captive unit to support Daimler's research, IT, and product development activities. We focus on topics ranging from computer-aided design and simulations (CAD, CAE) for powertrain, chassis, and exteriors to embedded systems, telematics and developing various IT applications and tools. The satellite office in Pune specializes in interior component designs and IT engineering. The establishment of MBRDI is in line with the Daimler group's ambition to attract the world's best engineering talent and form a global footprint for its R&D and IT competencies. MBRDI also aims to partner closely with suppliers in India for its activities in product development and IT services. It is now one of the largest global development centres outside Germany, employing more than 5000 skilled engineers; and has established itself as a valuable partner to all business units and brands of Daimler worldwide.

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