

Indian GP fever catches on

11616



THEY ALSO UNVEILED THE LOGO OF THE BUDDH INTERNATIONAL CIRCUIT, WHICH WILL HOST THE RACE ON

OCTOBER 30 THIS YEAR. THE LOGO CONSISTS OF A STYLISED 'B', RESEMBLING A HEART IN SAFFRON AND GREEN COLOUR

PTI □ GREATER NOIDA

The organisers of the Indian Grand Prix on Monday promised to deliver a successful race, saying that the track was already in place and tickets for the much-awaited event will be launched in June.

The organisers - Jaypee Sports International - asserted that the track was almost ready and only the finishing touches are being given. Jaypee is one of India's leading players in the field of real estate.

They also unveiled the logo of the Buddh International circuit, which will host the race on October 30 this year. The logo consists of a stylised 'B', resembling a heart in saffron and green

colour.

Asked how prepared they are with the race just six months away, Manoj Gaur, executive chairman of the Jaiprakash Associates, came up with a confident reply.

"Be assured my friends. Our and country's reputation is there. We are responsible people. The track is ready and the homologation of the facility will be done in July as per the time-table of the FIA," Manoj said when reminded of the troubled run-up to last year's Commonwealth Games.

When Manoj said that "400 million dollars or 1700 crore rupees are being invested in the project" he was asked about the revenue plans.

He replied, "Somebody had to

come up with that size of investment. And it's a privilege to do something for India. Before the champions are born, we have to give them the infrastructure.

"We are not owners of a team but we have passion. Maybe in five

years we will see an Indian team winning and that will be the biggest satisfaction."

They also said that races like Moto GP and other motorsport events will be held at the circuit for better utilisation.

Samir Gaur, managing director of the JPSI, said the tickets for the Indian GP would be launched in June.

"We can't disclose the pricing but it would be moderate. It is in the final stages and it will start from ₹2500 onwards. We have tied up with the bookmyshow.com for the ticketing," Samir said.

"We are looking at the model of Abu Dhabi and Bahrain and not Singapore since it's street circuit," Samir said hinting that the Grand Stand tickets would cost not less than ₹35,000.

The organisers did not talk about the title sponsors for the race, saying Bernie Ecclestone, the F1 boss, has the final say on the matter.