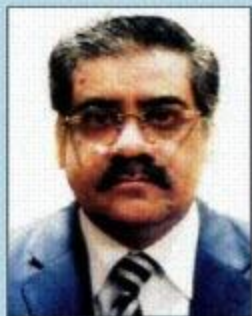


# UZBEKISTAN

A report in The Economic Times on the India visit of His Excellency Islam Karimov, President of the Republic of Uzbekistan

## Driving through excellence

**As the global automotive system solution provider to the automobile industry, UzMinda LLC's presence in Uzbekistan has helped the group tremendously to expand its business in CIS nations. N.K. Taneja, Group President Corporate Marketing, Minda Management Services Limited, discusses about the group's operations in Uzbekistan and the company's future strategy**



**As a caterer to the automobile industry what is your key focus area in Uzbekistan?**

UzMinda is envisaged as a diverse product company providing variety of solutions to automotive industry and General Motors-Uzbekistan in particular. We are supplying products from Driver Information System like instrument cluster, clocks, and sensors; and from Vehicle Access and Security System like locks,

actuator, and immobilizers, etc. In the next phase, UzMinda will be offering products like wiper system, latches and window regulators. The key focus areas are to service the customer from next door and increase efficiency by on-time supplies, provide support system to government to meet the objective of localization and to utilize Ashok Minda Group's expertise and knowledge to develop the local industry and technology enhancement.

**Your mission statement reflects that your company strives to be a 'Global Automotive System Solution provider'. Please elaborate on that.**

Ashok Minda Group has a global presence. Our footprints span India, Germany, Poland, Czech Republic, Japan, Indonesia, and Vietnam. To strengthen the footprint further, our group entered the CIS region through Uzbekistan, to tap the emerging market opportunities and adding value to customer by offering new products as a System Solution Provider.

**You had set up UzMinda LLC in Uzbekistan one year ago. How has been your experience so far?**

The market was already known to our group as we are servicing this market for the last five years. Establishing the Green Field facility was a smooth affair, especially due to strong and proactive support of the JV Partner, Uzavtosanoat JSC. The partner comprised of young and dynamic people with open mind to absorb the technology. We got excellent cooperation and support from our customer and the Government of Uzbekistan.

**Is it the proximity to European markets that encouraged you to establish business in Uzbekistan?**

Our footprint in Uzbekistan is mainly focusing on local OEM's and subsequently CIS region. The CIS region is already projected as fast emerging market for Automotive Industry. To tap the business opportunities and to service the customer, Ashok Minda Group decided to establish this company.