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## An automotive unit for Tihar inmates

**New Delhi:** For the first time in the history of Indian automotive industry, a manufacturing unit has been set up inside a jail premises where work will be carried out by prison inmates.

The director general of Delhi prisons, Alok Verma, on Saturday inaugurated the small-scale automotive workshop in jail number 2 of Tihar here, under a public-private partnership scheme providing training and employment opportunities for the inmates.

The manufacturing unit has been set up by Minda Furukawa Electric Pvt. Ltd (MFE), a joint venture company between Spark Minda, Ashok Minda Group of India, and Furukawa of Japan.

The company develops and produces the entire range of wiring harness for four wheelers, and components related to wiring harness.

"In this manufacturing unit, wire harness product, a key automotive component, will be manufactured by the Jail convicts," he said. Initially 30 to 35 inmates are working on this joint project

### JAILHOUSE ROCK

- The workshop is an initiative by Ashok Minda's Minda Furukawa
- The workshop seeks to provide training and job opportunities to inmates
- Initially, 30-35 inmates will work on the project
- Prisoners will be supervised by experts

which is likely to be increased in future, Prasad said. "The inmates will profit in both long term and short term working here. They will be paid wages and will gain work experience which will be useful for them to rehabilitate themselves after completing their terms here," Delhi prisons DIG and PRO Mukesh Prasad said.

The inmates will be supervised by professionals and will earn more wages than other inmates.

"We are hopeful of making the inmates capable of earning their living once they are free by gaining technical experience," Prasad said. PTI

highways be opened for national traffic by Saturday night. PTI

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