Tata Safari Storme launch around the corner by Sahil Wadhwa

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Rumours has it that Tata Motors is soon going to launch the new avatar of Safari, Tata Safari Storme in India. Speculations suggest that Safari Storme could be launched in India within few weeks. Tata could launch Safari Storme either by the end of June or in the beginning of July. At the Auto Expo 2012, Tata Safari Storme was showcased, the upgraded version of Safari is larger and lighter than the current version which is on sale right now.

Along with the new Safari Storme, the current version will also be on sale, it will be the cheaper version of Safari offered to the customers. Few of the high end versions of Safari Storme could be priced close to the lower trim levels of Tata Aria, offering utility vehicles in all price bracket, ranging between Rs 7 to Rs 7.50 lakh and also priced between Rs 16 to Rs 17 lakh.

The production of new Tata Safari Storme has commenced, the sports utility vehicle is conceived on the same platform as Tata Aria. Tata Aria crossover is also based on the hydroformed body on ladder chassis. Safari Storme measures equal to the current version of Safari and also has the same wheelbase. The turning radius of the new Safari is 5.4 meters while the current Safari has a turning radius of 6 meters, therefore the new Safari can be more useful in driving in congested places and also during off-roading.

Safari Storme is expected to come in both two wheel drive and four wheel drive options just like the current version. The four wheel drive option will come fitted with a Borg Warner, shift-on-the-fly system. Handling of Safari Storme should be better than the current version due to the presence of broader track at the front and double wishbones in place of torsion beam. Quality of the interiors have been enhanced to some extent, better plastic, better fittings and panel gaps with petite tolerances. Safari Strome will also be a seven seater SUV offering ample space to the passengers, however a small change that is noticeable is the spare wheel which is placed under the rear tail gate in place of being placed on it.

Under the hood will be residing a mighty 2.2 litre DiCOR mill that is the same engine which is currently powering Tata Aria crossover. The 2.2 litre DiCOR powertrain is more polished and generates more torque that the current 2.2, it also has emphasis in the form of G-76 gearbox which is slicker shifting. This 2.2 litre mill powering Safari Strome generates a peak power of 140 Bhp at 4000 Rpm and 32.6 kgm at 1700-2700 Rpm. Tata Safari Strome price could be placed between Rs 9 lakh to Rs 12 lakh, while the current Safari will be up for grabs ranging between Rs 7 lakh to Rs 9 lakh. The new Safari Storme does not fragments ground as far as the design is concerned. We hope that it is better than the current version, the SUv will gun straight against the likes of Renault Duster SUV which is slated to launch in the month of July.

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