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## Maruti supplier sets up manufacturing unit inside Tihar Jail

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**NEW DELHI:** A key supplier of India's largest car maker Maruti Suzuki India Limited has set up a small manufacturing facility at Tihar Jail to be run by its inmates. The facility is in line with a similar manufacturing unit already operational at Dresden Jail in Germany.

The facility set up by Minda Furukawa Electric Pvt Ltd — a joint venture company between Spark Minda of India and Furukawa of Japan — with an investment of ₹1 crore was commissioned on September 5.

The investments at the jail unit include machinery, raw material and other quality systems and procedures as laid down per policy. The facility will be run by jail convicts under the supervision of Minda Furukawa Electric Pvt Ltd. The manufacturing unit

spread over 3000 square feet, will make wire harness product, a key automotive component and will be supplied only to Maruti.

“This initiative will certainly produce a sustainable collaborative social business model, which will benefit the convicts of Tihar Jail. We are exploring such avenues at other places as well,” NK Taneja, group chief marketing officer, Spark Minda Group told HT.

Production at the unit started with daily supply for part sets of 200-250 wire harness on Friday. The finished product will go for final inspection and quality check before being supplied to Maruti at its factory in Gurgaon.

The inmates would be paid daily wages as per the norms in the jail while the company would pay electric charges on actual usage and a monthly rent of ₹30,000 for the use of the land to the jail authorities.