



PRESS RELEASE

MOTORSPORT

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IndianOil Grand Prix of India **A successful first visit to India for the MICHELIN Power Slick MotoGP™ tyres**

- Marco Bezzecchi (Mooney VR46 Racing Team) wins the first MotoGP Grand Prix to take place at the Buddh International Circuit (India). The day before, Jorge Martin (Prima Pramac Racing) won the Sprint race.
- Special track conditions quickly understood: the analytical capacity of the Michelin Motorsport team allowed the riders to quickly choose their tyres at a circuit they had never visited before.
- Heat and humidity were critical factors, but the tyres played their role as they were very well adapted to the conditions.

The Buddh International Circuit, located approximately 50 km south of New Delhi (India), hosted the MotoGP World Championship for the first time. In India, where 75% of registered vehicles are two-wheelers, the motorcycle is not only a means of transport but also a passion for many. It is therefore an important event, of which Michelin was one of the main players, which has just taken place on Indian soil. It also represented the kick-off of the Asia-Oceania part of the series, preceding races in Japan, Indonesia, Australia, Thailand and Malaysia.

This race weekend also had a special flavour because it took place without any prior testing, and therefore without data available to prepare for the race. Despite this, the Michelin Motorsport team demonstrated constant adaptation to allow the partners of the French manufacturer to experience their first Indian Grand Prix with peace of mind.

During the first two test sessions on Friday, on a 'green' track (without rubber deposited by the passage of other competition vehicles), the MotoGP riders were able to highlight their talents while counting on the performance of their tyres. For this, they had at their disposal four different compounds of front slick tyres, and three rears.

*"We immediately understood that the track conditions were better than expected", said **Piero Taramasso**, Michelin two-wheel competition manager. "On a green track, with a surface temperature of 42°C and 70% humidity in the air, we quickly identified that the Medium compound MICHELIN Power Slick was a very good choice for the front, and that the Soft and Medium options would be preferred for the rear. During the Sprint race, the Medium/Soft combination worked perfectly for 100% of the field."*



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"In the Grand Prix, only Jorge Martin made a different choice at the rear, and he finished in second position which shows that both possibilities worked perfectly. Two riders also opted for the Hard compound at the front (Francesco Bagnaia and Franco Morbidelli), but whatever the compounds selected, the lap times, consistency of performance and race pace were impressive."

The Sprint race on Saturday afternoon was postponed by around 90 minutes following heavy rain which fell on the circuit at the start of the afternoon. As a result, it took place in mostly dry conditions, but still with some damp patches. It was won by Jorge Martin (Prima Pramac Racing), ahead of Francesco Bagnaia (Ducati Lenovo Team) and Marc Marquez (Repsol Honda Team).

On Sunday afternoon, Marco Bezzecchi (Mooney VR46 Racing Team) crossed the finish line of the Grand Prix in first place, ahead of Jorge Martin (Prima Pramac Racing). The third step of the podium was occupied by Fabio Quartararo (Monster Energy Yamaha MotoGP).

*"The challenge of this type of weekend, quite exceptional in the history of the championship, was to discover and understand the circuit by anticipating all the different situations as much as possible", concluded **Piero Taramasso**. "It was then a matter of establishing reference times in the light of each new piece of information. We of course had testing plans with our partners, but it was the ability of our teams to analyze and adapt, that allowed us to quickly converge on the right tyres for the bikes. The hot and humid conditions were very trying for everyone, and in this context the versatility of the tyres was essential. We are leaving India on a positive note, with very high-performance levels, and data which will be valuable to us for future editions."*

The MotoGP World Championship continues its Asia-Oceania tour with the 14th round, which will take place from Friday 29 September to Sunday 1 October at the Motegi circuit, Japan.

About Michelin

Michelin's ambition is to sustainably improve its customers' mobility. The leader in the mobility sector, Michelin designs, manufactures, and distributes the tires best suited to their requirements and uses as well as services and solutions to improve transport efficacy. Michelin also puts forward offers that allow its customers to enjoy unique moments when traveling. Michelin also develops high-technology equipment intended for multiple fields. Based in Clermont-Ferrand, Michelin is present in 175 countries, employs 132,200 people and operates 67 tire factories that, together, produced approximately 167 million tires in 2022. (www.michelin.com).




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