

Mitsubishi Pajero Review, Carwale, March 12

Mitsubishi's SUV...the Pajero was named after *Leopardus pajeros*, the Pampas Cat which inhabits the Patagonia plateau region in southern Argentina. The first Pajero prototype was unveiled at the Tokyo Motor Show in November 1973. The Pajero II prototype followed in 1978, five years later. Mitsubishi's aim was to create more of a recreational vehicle, not just an SUV.

In January 1983, the first Pajero made its debut at the Paris Dakar Rally, taking first place in 1985 at only the third attempt. To date, the Pajero is the most successful vehicle in the Dakar Rally. This not only gave the Pajero an offroad reputation, but also helped in the sales department.

Hindustan Motors introduced Mitsubishi Pajero in the Indian car market in 2002. The locally-built Sports Utility Vehicle (SUV) is a perfect fit for uneven Indian roads as well as the slow-moving urban traffic. With a powerful engine, the diesel-driven vehicle offers good mileage and high top-speed. The off-roader is suitable for long journeys and can easily accommodate a family of six people. The latest models of Mitsubishi Pajero are the re-vamped versions of the introductory model. They are designed to suit the requirements of the present day Indian consumers.

Exterior

The exteriors of the SUV look very simple, yet are very elegant. The body-on-ladder design of Mitsubishi Pajero gives it a sturdy appearance. Its tall stance and good ground clearance provide easy ingress and egress. Adding to the overall appeal are the bulky silvered colored bumpers, chrome front grille and six-spoke alloy wheels.

Engine

Mitsubishi Pajero is equipped with 2.8L Turbocharged Inter-cooled diesel engine, which generates a power of 118 PS @ 4000 rpm and a peak torque of 292 Nm @ 2000 rpm. The car gets 5-speed manual transmission, delivering seamless gear shifts. It promises to deliver a top speed of 150 km/h and a mileage of 7.8 kmpl within the city and 11.1 kmpl on highways.

Interiors

The dual-toned interiors of Mitsubishi Pajero look great and make the cabin appear voluminous, with a touch of elegance. The SUV is equipped with a standard music system, with tuner and MP3 CD player. The seats of Pajero are very comfortable, especially for the front and second-row seat occupants, who get hand-rests with cup-holders. The height-adjustable driver's seat comes with lumbar support, to ensure a relaxing ride especially during long drives. Adding to the comfort to the rear seats occupants are the hand-rests with cup holders. The third-row seats are fully-foldable, which provide extra boot space.

Ride and Handling

Mitsubishi Pajero comes with an efficient suspension system, which absorbs all the bumps and potholes on uneven Indian roads. Riding in the SUV is very comfortable, both on slow moving city traffic and on highways. The off-roader maintains stability on tough road conditions. It is extremely tough on rugged terrain and smooth on highways.

Safety

Mitsubishi Pajero is fully packed with the latest safety features, ensuring all-round protection to the people riding in it. The standard safety features found in the SUV include Anti-lock Braking System (ABS), traction control, immobilizer, driver and passenger air bags and child safety locks.

Variants, Price and Color

In India, Mitsubishi Pajero comes in three variants - GL, GLX CRZ and SFX. The SUV is priced at Rs 21 lakh (approx) and is available in seven exterior colors, comprising of Navy, Carbon, Graphite, Deep Purple, Granite, Blaze and Limestone.

Verdict

One can really go on and on about the wonder called 'Pajero' - The Mitsubishi Pajero is a well built vehicle and it has set the standard for other SUVs. Besides being a masterpiece of engineering, the Mitsubishi Pajero is also a delight to own. Mitsubishi Pajero is undoubtedly a great Sports Utility Vehicle to discover what amazing riding experiences are really all about. The cutting edge engine, transmission and suspension technology makes Pajero a responsive and amazing SUV competent to tackle any kind of road terrain. A perfect balance of performance, comfort and safety make the Mitsubishi Pajero a much sought-after vehicle.

<http://www.carwale.com/research/mitsubishi-cars/pajero/>