

Lorenzo Santolino leads Leg 1 (Group A) at India Baja 2018

Imran Pasha leads Group B category

Jaisalmer, August 19, 2018: TVS Racing - the factory racing team of TVS Motor Company opened their India Baja 2018 outing on a high note by securing leads across both Group A and Group B categories.

Sherco TVS Factory Rally Team's Lorenzo Santolino posted the fastest time in Leg 1, Moto category and secured a lead in the Group A upto 450cc category. Team-mate Abdul Wahid Tanveer, finished third in the Leg followed by Harith Noah at fourth position. Imran Pasha led in the Group B upto 250cc category.

The first day of the Rally saw the riders traverse through three tough stages and cover a distance of 200 kilometers in the Dunes of Thar. They battled a mix of fast tracks and technical terrains across this Leg.

Commenting on the performance of the TVS Racing Team, **Mr. B. Selvaraj, Team Manager, TVS Racing** said *"We had a steady start to the Rally on Day 1 as Lorenzo Santolino's brilliant performance ended with him securing the top spot. Our racers, Harith, Abdul Wahid Tanveer and Imran Pasha also showcased strong performance through the combination of terrains. We hope to continue the same momentum for the final stage and I wish the team all the best."*

"It was great to open the Leg with a lead," said **Lorenzo Santolino, Racer, Sherco TVS Factory Rally Team**, *"This is my second outing in the Thar post Desert Storm and I am really enjoying myself. The bike is in great shape and our technical crew is providing good support to all racers.."*

The last and final Leg of the cross-country race will happen on August 19, 2018 and see the riders ride through Majid ki Basti, Asutar and Mangaliawas regions of Thar Desert, covering a distance of almost 250 kilometers.

RE Rajendra and R Nataraj had to retire from the Rally due to an unfortunate crash.

Provisional Rankings (At the end of Day 1)

Group A (Upto 450cc)

1. Lorenzo Santolino – 02:06:09
3. Abdul Wahid Tanveer – 02:36:39
4. Hartih Noah – 02:52:29

Group B (Upto 250cc)

1. Imran Pasha – 03:28:23