

# INDONESIA NEWS

Friday, March 18, 2022

## THE FIRST ELECTRIC CAR MADE IN INDONESIA

President Joko Widodo (third from right) inspects the car assembly process at the Hyundai Motor Manufacturing Indonesia Factory in Bekasi, West Java, Wednesday (16/3). President Joko Widodo inaugurated the Hyundai Motor Manufacturing Indonesia factory in Bekasi, West Java, today, Wednesday (16/3) while inaugurating the launch of the first Ioniq 5 electric car made in Indonesia.

IDN/ANTARA



## Xi, Widodo Discuss G20, Ukraine, High-Speed Train

Chinese President Xi Jinping held a telephonic conversation with Indonesian President Joko Widodo (Jokowi) on Wednesday (16/3) evening to discuss a wide range of issues, including the G20, Ukrainian crisis, and high-speed train project.

“CHINA supports Indonesia to play a crucial role as the President of G20 themed ‘Recover Together, Recover Stronger’ until the Bali Summit is organized well,” President Xi said, as quoted

by local media.

The two countries have been working hand in hand to deal with the COVID-19 pandemic and global challenges and promote new bilateral cooperation, or “four-

wheel drive,” in the political, economic, cultural, and maritime sectors, he said.

He highlighted the significance of the two countries implementing the consensus on enhancing COVID-19 vaccine cooperation soon to combat COVID-19.

The governments of the two countries must also ensure that the Jakarta-Bandung high-speed railway line starts operating on schedule. “China takes a positive stand on projects (in Indonesia) as long as they are conducive for (the implementation of) development (programs) in Indonesia and for

the continuation of cooperation between the two countries,” he said.

He also invited Indonesia to help maintain global market and supply chain stability together. “China is ready to have closer communication with Indonesia to give positive energy together,” he said. The two heads of state also exchanged views on the latest developments related to the Ukrainian crisis.

Both Xi and Widodo agreed that Russia and Ukraine must hold further dialogue to prevent the humanitarian crisis from spreading, according to media reports.\*

## President Jokowi Optimistic of Mandalika MotoGP Motivating Indonesian Racers

**PRESIDENT** Joko Widodo (Jokowi) is upbeat that the Pertamina Grand Prix of Indonesia on March 18-20, 2022, at the Mandalika Circuit, West Nusa Tenggara, would motivate Indonesian motorcycle racers to record global level achievements.

The president’s statement was made after hosting 20 MotoGP racers at an audience in the Merdeka Palace before sending off the racers for a parade to the Hotel Indonesia Roundabout located three kilometers south of the Palace on

Wednesday (16/3). “I told them that Indonesia has a total of 122 million motorcycles, and I also told them that they have a lot of fans from Indonesia,” Jokowi remarked.

Jokowi said that he earlier intended to join the parade convoy with the 20 MotoGP racers, yet due to several reasons, he was suggested not to join the parade. “I could not ride the motorcycle on my own (for the parade) due to security reasons,” the president affirmed.

After hosting MotoGP racers and engaging in a brief conversation with them at the Merdeka Palace, President Jokowi sent off the racers’ convoy for a parade from the Palace to Hotel Indonesia Roundabout. The racers rode bikes produced by manufacturing teams, such as Honda, KTM, Ducati, Aprilia, Yamaha, and Suzuki.

The MotoGP racers’ convoy is guarded by police and military officers, and dozens of motorcycle riders from various

bike communities also joined the parade behind the racers.

While slowly riding their bike, MotoGP racers greeted and waved out to the fans and media crews spectating the parade along the three-kilometer road.

At 10:15 a.m. local time (UTC +7), police officers reopened entry to the southward lane of the Medan Merdeka Barat Road and MH Thamrin Road as well as the Hotel Indonesia Roundabout that was earlier sterilized for the parade.\*