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COMING BACK TO LIFE. The foundational work of recovery programme is firmly underway, JLR said in a statement REUTERS

In a major relief to the automaker and its suppliers, British luxury carmaker Jaguar Land Rover (JLR) said in an update that a section of its digital estate was now operational after a cyberattack crippled the company's operations. JLR's India operations, meantime, have largely remain unaffected.

"As part of the controlled, phased restart of our operations, today, we have informed colleagues, suppliers and retail partners that sections of our digital estate are now up and running. The foundational work of our recovery programme is firmly underway," JLR mentioned in a statement.

The car maker said it has significantly increased IT processing capacity for invoicing and is working to clear the backlog of payments to suppliers.

It added its Global Parts Logistics Centre, which supplies the parts to distribution centres for retail partners in the UK and around the world, is now returning to full operations: "This will enable our retail partners to continue to service our clients' vehicles and keep our customers mobile."

The financial systems used to process the wholesales of vehicles has been brought back online. "We are able to sell and register vehicles for our clients faster, delivering important cash flow," it said.

These are important initial steps as our dedicated teams work round the clock alongside cybersecurity specialists, the UK Government's NCSC and law enforcement to ensure we restart in a safe and secure manner, it added.

"Our focus remains on supporting our customers, suppliers, colleagues and our retailers," it noted

The cyberattack on Jaguar Land Rover (JLR) and the subsequent near-one month halt in vehicle production by the company could lead to dealers going bankrupt and result in job losses.

According to experts, a two-day plant shutdown could impact thousands of vehicles, but JLR's multi-week pause could have a severe impact. The British luxury carmaker earlier announced halting of production up to September 24 but later extended the halt to October 1.

JLR faced a cyberattack on August 30 which impacted it entire IT system including vehicle productions.

FURLOUGH SCHEME

"Unions and officials have warned thousands of jobs in JLR's supply chain could be lost, and some smaller companies could go bankrupt. UK ministers have resisted union calls to provide financial assistance, such as a furlough scheme for temporarily laid-off workers. However, they are engaging with affected businesses to assess and mitigate the broader supply chain impact. (A furlough is a temporary cessation of paid employment intended to address special needs of a company or employer)," Arun Moral, Managing Director, Primus Partners, told *businessline*.