

the **EDGE** of Reason

Many have tried and a lot of them had failed. Still, it does not stop carmakers from producing cars that they think consumers want to buy. Then again, exactly what goes through the minds of such designers, engineers and marketers often remains a cloud of mystery. It has also often been said that buying a car is sometimes done with the heart rather than a logically sound mind.

The all-new Mercedes-Benz C-Class is without a hint of any doubt a superb car. Comfortable, stylish and aptly luxurious, what else can or should anyone ask for? There are also enough variants in the range and although we had not test-driven the rest, we suspect that the C 200 Kompressor you see on the cover is going to be a big seller.

In the motoring world, convertibles have always had a permanent place in our hearts. The Volkswagen Eos and Peugeot 207 CC are just two new ones to join that special sanctuary. Both have foldable hardtops and are equally fun to drive, with the slightly bigger and faster Eos tempting us more each time the road is clear...

Driving cars with manual gearboxes is something we revel in occasionally. The Mitsubishi Lancer and Honda Civic provided us with just that this month. These two cars are proof that practicality,

performance and style do not need to come with hefty price tags and I am confident that both will do well in the market.

Taking our luck and sanity to the edge this month has to be none other than the amazing Mitsuoka Orochi. This Japanese 'fashion super sports car' defies most conventions and sent spine-tingling sensations up and down my body the first time I laid eyes on it in the flesh.

The Orochi looks, feels and even smells every bit like an exotic supercar. The only difference is this – it is as easy to drive as any car after the first few minutes you get in. My emotions were bitten and the Orochi has not let go...

