

THE MINISTER OF SUPPLY (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) Yes.

(b) The proposal is to enter into a contract on long-term basis

(c) The foreign exchange expenditure will depend on the quantities and the rates settled

Production of Cars and Buses

417 SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA.

SHRIMATI SAVITRI SHYAM

Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRY be pleased to state

(a) the targets for production of cars and buses fixed by Government during the Fourth Five Year Plan,

(b) the extent to which the targets have been achieved,

(c) if the targets have not been achieved, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps being taken or proposed to be taken to achieve the target production?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRY (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD):

(a) The demand for cars by the end of 1973-74 has been assessed as 75,000 Nos. per annum and for commercial vehicles 85,000 Nos. per annum including 18,000 buses.

(b) Production of cars and buses has been as under during the last three years:

	1970-71	1971-72	1972-73 (Upto Dec. 1972)
Cars	35,819	40,561	40,039
Buses	9,732	11,455	6,873

(c) Reasons are inadequate capacities and consumer preferences resulting in sub-optimal use of installed capacity

(d) Government have approved several schemes for the manufacture of cars in the private sector. Expansion schemes of the two units manufacturing commercial vehicles, whose products enjoy consumer preference, have been approved. Steps have also been taken to assist the units whose products are not so popular to improve their quality and performance so that their production can be utilised to fill up the gap between demand and supply. Fresh schemes for creating additional capacity for commercial vehicles have also been approved

Development of Petrol-less and Battery Driven Car at C.M.E., Kirkee

418 SHRI DEVINDER SINGH GARCHIA Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRY be pleased to state

(a) whether a petrol-less and battery-driven car has been developed by the College of Military Engineering, Poona and has been tested and found road-worthy by its staff; and

(b) if so whether its feasibility for mass-scale production has been recommended by the College authorities?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRY (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD):

(a) The College of Military Engineering, Poona has assembled a petrol-less car powered by two units of batteries rated at 16V each with a total amp. of 240. The car has an endurance of approximately 50 Kilometers and its performance for this range of 50 KMS has been tested by the College of Military Engineering and found satisfactory.

(b) The fabrication of the car has been undertaken to infuse confidence in the staff and to impart dynamic