

Government propose to permit expansion of the present manufacturing units or encourage the establishment of new manufacturing units exclusively for these tyres;

(c) the number of tyres and value of scooter and motor cycle tyres required during the last 3 years and the demand likely in the next 3 years; and

(d) whether Government have any policy in regard to these tyres and if so, the salient features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI F. A. AHMED): (a) Government are aware of the short-

age of scooter and motor cycle tyres in the country. Steps are being taken to augment the production of these tyres with a view to making them available to consumers at reasonable prices.

(b) The Automobile Tyre and Tube Industry has been removed recently from the banned list for the purpose of establishing further capacity for the manufacture of these tyres.

(c) The production of scooter and motor cycle tyres and their ex-factory value during the last three years is as under:

Year	Production of tyres for		Combined ex-factory value
	Scooters	Motor cycles	
1965	146,114	81,006	1,06,85,068
1966	150,858	72,747	1,20,98,653
1967	144,609	68,801	1,13,40,350

The demand for scooter and motor cycle tyres during 1968 is estimated to be 250,000 nos., and 85,000 nos., respectively. The demand is estimated to go up to 450,000 nos. and 150,000 nos., for the scooter and motor cycle tyres respectively.

(d) Automobile Tyre Industry is a priority industry and all encouragement is given to step up the production of these tyres.

Small Car

68. SHRI YASHPAL SINGH:
 SHRI B. K. DASCHOW-DHURY:
 SHRI TULSIDAS JADHAV:
 SHRI KAMESHWAR SINGH:
 SHRI A. SREEDHARAN:
 SHRI MOHSIN:
 SHRI YAJNA DATT SHARMA:
 SHRI M. N. REDDY:
 SHRI GADILINGANA GOWD:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have finalised the proposal to manufacture small car in the public sector in the country;

(b) if so, the estimated value fixed for the same;

(c) the site proposed for the same; and

(d) the funds allotted for the same?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI F. A. AHMED): (a) The matter is still under consideration.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

Passenger Amenities

69. SHRI SHRI CHAND GOEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by Government to provide editorial amenities to the third class passengers during the current years;

(b) whether any steps have been taken to avoid over-crowding on

the Northern Railway during the current year and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps, if any, taken to improve sanitation in railway trains and platform during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. M. POONACHA): (a) A statement containing the information is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT--22/67.]

(b) Yes, 34 trains have been introduced/extended and the loads of 45 trains augmented during the period from 1st April to 31st December, 1967.

(c) Arrangements are provided at all train starting stations for all passenger trains rakes to be thoroughly cleaned and properly disinfected. The cleanliness of coaches in trains is also attended to at all important stations through which trains pass.

Safaiwalas are posted at all stations to ensure cleanliness of station premises including platforms. Their work is supervised by Station Masters. At important stations Sanitary Inspectors have been posted for this purpose. Necessary instructions have been issued to Inspectors and Station Masters to ensure that proper sanitation is maintained in the railway trains as well as in station premises.

Inspections on the sanitation aspect were intensified during the current year.

Railway Stores Purchased from U.S.A.

70. SHRI SHRI CHAND GOEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total value of railway stores purchased from U.S.A. and other countries during the current year;

(b) whether it is a fact that some of these stores could be produced in the country; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by Government to make the country self-sufficient in the matter of railway stores?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. M. POONACHA): (a) Rs. 16.95 crores' worth of orders have been placed during the period from 1.4.1967 to 31.12.1967.

(b) No. All proposals for import from any country are examined from indigenous angle and import is permitted only when no suitable indigenous substitutes are available except in special cases e.g., where import may be part of an overall package scheme etc.

(c) The steps taken are outlined in the statement laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-23/68.]

India's Trade Agreement

71. SHRI SHRI CHAND GOEL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the major trade agreements concluded between India and other foreign countries during the current year; and

(b) their likely effects on the Indian economy and trade?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) Major trade agreements/arrangements were concluded between India and the following countries during the current year:—

(i) Iran

(ii) Afghanistan

(iii) Republic of Brazil (This is still to be ratified).

(b) The agreements are likely to increase. India's trade with these countries but it is too early to assess the exact effects on India's economy.