

Performance of Hindustan Machine Tools

1324. SHRI S. R. DAMANI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) the performance and working results of H.M.T. last year and how they compare with the results of the previous two years;

(b) the prospects for the current year; and

(c) whether there is fear of recession setting in 1975; and if so, the steps taken to ensure the continuity of the work of this unit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) The performance and working results of HMT during the last three years is given below:

| Year | Production | Profits (Rs. in lakhs) |
|---------------|------------|------------------------|
| 1971-72 . . . | 2861 | (.)112 |
| 1972-73 . . . | 3123 | ()78 |
| 1973-74 . . . | 3942 | ()196 |

(b) The company expects to achieve a production level of Rs. 6831 lakhs in the year 1974-75 which is expected to result in a profit of Rs. 582 lakhs.

(c) Apprehensions regarding a possible recession in 1975 appear to be premature at this stage.

Proposal to enlarge the capacity of scooter and moped production

1325. SHRI S. R. DAMANI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of the urgent need to conserve petrol and also the big demand, Government have taken measures to enlarge the capacity of scooter and moped production; and

(b) if so, the main feature thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The three existing manufactures have been permitted to expand their capacity for manufacture of scooters upto 126,000 nos. per annum. In addition, industrial licences|letters of intent have been issued to a number of new entrepreneurs including State Industrial Development Corporations for manufacture of scooters covering a capacity of 4,25,000 nos. per annum.

Government are also setting up a project in the Public Sector for manufacture of scooters with a capacity of 100,000 nos. per annum. State Industrial Development Corporations have been granted industrial licences|letters of intent for manufacture of scooters with a total capacity of 228,000 nos. per annum. Six of them have entered into licensing arrangements with M|s. Scooters India Ltd. for the production of scooters of the same model and design that will be manufactured by M|s Scooters India Ltd.

With a view to increasing existing capacity of 67,500 nos. of Mopeds per annum, Government have granted industrial licences|letters of intent to a number of new entrepreneurs for manufacture of mopeds (including Auto-Cycles) for a total capacity of 216,000 nos. per annum.

Government are confident that the entire demand for scooters and mopeds will be met by indigenous production by the end of the Fifth Five Year Plan.

Registration of Rural Electric Co-operative Societies in States for Distribution of Power

1326. SHRI BISHWANATH JHUNJHUNWALA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether five rural electric-co-operative societies were registered in five different States in the country about four years ago on a pilot basis