

(e) A proposal for setting up a Japanese Language Training Centre has been received from M/s KEONICS which is under consideration.

Expansion Plan of Maruti Udyog Limited

569. SHRI KUSUMA KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have approved the capacity expansion plan of the Maruti Udyog Ltd., to produce specially built 1000 cc cars against dollar payment; and

(b) if so, the details of vehicles to be produced, foreign exchange outgo for purchase of machinery, equipment and consultancy charge etc. and the benefits expected to accrue to the country from this venture?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI KAMAL MORARKA): (a) and (b). Government approved in July, 1988, a proposal from Maruti Udyog Ltd. (MUL) to manufacture 1000 cc cars with a total capacity of 30,000 cars per annum at an estimated cost of Rs. 97.90 crores including foreign exchange component of Rs. 45.30 crores. No allocation of foreign exchange by the Government was, however, visualised because MUL were to raise the required amount through additional equity subscription from Suzuki Motor Company and external borrowings. The benefits include satisfaction of domestic demand and earnings of foreign exchange through exports.

Increase in Rates for Advertisement on Doordarshan

570. SHRI KUSUMA KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have increased advertisement rates for telecast on Doordarshan; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) and (b). Revision of the rate card for commercial advertisement and sponsorship of programmes on Doordarshan is a periodic exercise taking into consideration various factors such as the growth of Doordarshan's network, operational cost, overall conditions in the market, viewership of programmes at various time categories etc. The latest revision in the rate card was made with effect from 1st July '90.

Production of L.C.A. by H.A.L.

572. SHRI KUSUMA KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Hindustan Aeronautics Limited has kept pace with technological advances in the Western World to meet new challenges;

(b) whether HAL is now fully geared to produce light combat aircraft for the defence services; and

(c) if so, by when the prototype of the aircraft is expected?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI LALIT VIJOY SINGH): (a) In the areas of production established in HAL, the facilities and technology are comparable to those in the aerospace industries in the Western countries.