

protect the interest of Maruti and the second that the collaborations are given based on the connections that those collaborators have with the higher ups in the Government. Therefore, I would like to know while evolving the new automobile policy under consideration by the Government, what are the basic guidelines that the Government is following for the new policy that is supposed to come in the course of time.

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO) : The question pertains to allowing new foreign collaborators for the manufacture of passenger cars. The answer is that we have not yet finalised the new automobile policy for the manufacture of these cars... *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : No *(Interruptions)*

SHRI J. VENGAL RAO : The main guideline for the manufacture of previous cars by Maruti, New Premier and Standard was fuel efficiency. They must undergo a test and they must get a certificate. Then only we will allow these cars.

SHRI A. CHARLES : It is an accepted fact that there has been a considerable imbalance in the location of industry both in the public, private and joint sector. Kerala is the most backward industrial State in the country. I understand that there are applications from Kerala with foreign collaboration for the manufacture of Diesel Economy Passengers Car. May I know from the Hon. Minister whether when the new automobile policy is evolved, the priority will be given to the industrially backward State in case the applications are otherwise valid for the manufacture of Diesel Economy Passengers Car ?

SHRI J. VENGAL RAO : For the present, we are not considering any proposal to manufacture new cars with the foreign collaboration. You know, Standard Car is there in Madras which is very near to Kerala. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI A. CHARLES : I have a strong objection, Sir. Kerala is Kerala, Tamil Nadu is Tamil Nadu and Andhra is Andhra. We are discriminated, Sir.

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI : Is it a fact that the application of Maruti Udyog

Limited for manufacturing new model of car is pending with the Government for a long time ? Is it because of the fact that the new automobile policy has not been finalised and hence the application is being pending ?

SHRI J. VENGAL RAO : That is not a new Automobile policy. It is the existing policy. Now, the Maruti Udyog Ltd. are manufacturing 800 CC only. Their proposal is to manufacture 1000 CC. It is not a new policy. They want to manufacture 1000 CC only. That is under the consideration of the Government.

[Translation]

Autonomy to public sector enterprises

*663. **PROF. CHANDRA BHANU DEVI :** Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to give financial and administrative autonomy to the public sector enterprises; and

(b) if so, the time by which it will materialise and the broad outlines thereof ?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO) : (a) and (b) Government are committed to bring before Parliament a White Paper on Public Sector. The White Paper will also discuss relevant aspects regarding financial and administrative autonomy to the public sector enterprises. The White Paper is under finalisation and will be placed before the Parliament as and when it is finalised.

[Translation]

PROF. CHANDRA BHANU DEVI : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to whether 70 per cent of the public sector enterprises are running at loss despite Government efforts ?

[English]

SHRI J. VENGAL RAO : Sir, some are running at loss and some are running at profit.

[*Translation*]

PROF. CHANDRA BHANU DEVI : Mr. Deputy Speaker, I would like to know as to what steps the Government is taking to increase the efficiency of the public sector enterprises.

[*English*]

SHRI J. VENGAL RAO : Recently Government has taken several measures to give greater autonomy to the public enterprises which are briefly mentioned below :

1. It has been decided to give a five year term to Chief Executives and Functional Directors to ensure stability of senior management.
2. Holding companies have been constituted wherever needed to give greater managerial autonomy and flexibility to enterprises functioning in broadly similar areas.
3. A system of Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)/Annual Performance Plan (APP) has been introduced.
4. Based on the recommendations of Dr. Arjun Sengupta Committee it has been decided that investment proposals will go to the Public Investment Board only in cases of excess of Rs. 20 crores. The delegation of powers with the enterprises has been revised as given below :

Gross Block	Power to sanction expenditure without prior approval of Government.
Less than Rs. 100 crores	Rs. 5 crores
Rs. 100 crores to Rs. 200 crores	Rs. 10 crores
Above Rs. 200 crores	Rs. 20 crores

We have delegated all these powers, Sir.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : One year back an assurance was given by the Prime Minister himself that a White Paper on Public Sector will be prepared and placed before the Parliament. May I know from the Minister when this White Paper will be placed before the Parliament and whether the Members of Parliament will get an opportunity to discuss and have a debate on this White Paper ?

SHRI J. VENGAL RAO : The White Paper is ready. And now it is going to be finalised within two days. I am very eager to place it on the Table of the House and I want the opinion of the Hon. Members on this White Paper.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[*English*]

Expenditure on post cards

*654. **SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER :** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of post cards sold annually in the entire country;

(b) the total annual expenditure incurred in continuing post cards;

(c) whether there is a proposal before Government to restrict the use of post cards within each State only; and

(d) if so, whether it is aimed at economising the use of post cards and also to enable the local people to use their regional languages for writing addresses ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) The estimated annual Postcard traffic for the year 1987-1988 is 99.69 crores.

(b) The total annual expenditure incurred in continuing the Postcard service