

(c) and (d)

Year	Quantity	Value	Countries
1967-68	81610 tonnes	Rs. 9 44 crores	Canada, U.S.A., Norway, Sweden, USSR, Czechoslovakia, Poland.

(e) Yes, Sir.

PRICES OF AUTOMOBILES

1291. SHRI SITARAM JAIPURIA :
SHRI R. P. KHAITAN:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the high prices of automobiles are due to heavy taxation at all levels of production in the country;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that 40 per cent to 48 per cent of the car price goes to the Government as taxes;

(c) whether it is a fact that foreign collaboration in private sector for the manufacture of cars is not permitted, and if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) the names of the foreign collaborators, if any in private sector at present; and

(e) what steps are being taken to check the prices of cars?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED): (a) and (b) Taxes and duties account for a significant portion of the selling price of automobiles manufactured in the country. In the case of the three makes of passenger cars, the incidence of such levies ranges from 28.6% to 36% of the ex-show-room price in Delhi.

(c) It is not a fact that foreign collaboration is not permitted for the manufacture of cars in the private sector.

(d) The names of the foreign collaborators in the private sector at present are as under :—

Name of the Indian party	Name of the foreign collaborators
1. M/s. Hindustan Motors Ltd.	1. M/s. Morris Motors, U. K.
2. M/s. Premier Automobiles Ltd.	2. M/s. Fiat of Italy.
3. M/s. Standard Motor Products of India Limited.	3. M/s. Standard Motors, U. K.

(e) Government, at present, exercise an informal price control on the passenger cars manufactured in the country and the manufacturers have to seek prior approval of Government before effecting any price increase. Government have impressed on the manufacturers the need to ensure economy in production and bring down costs and prices of automobiles. The Tariff Commission has also been requested to determine reasonable selling prices of passenger cars manufactured in the country and further action in this regard will be taken after receipt of the report of the Tariff Commission.

APPOINTMENT OF EX-CHIEF ENGINEER OF KHETRI COPPER PROJECT AS GENERAL MANAGER OF BAILADILA IRON PROJECT

1292. SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND METALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an ex-Chief Engineer of Khetri Copper Pro-

ject has been appointed General Manager of Bailadila Iron ore project;

(b) whether it is a fact that the said Ex-Chief Engineer was involved in many cases at Khetri which were investigated by the Special Police Establishment; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that when this Chief Engineer was due to retire he was given extension of service by the Chairman of the National Mineral Development Corporation?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL, MINES AND METALS (SHRI CHOWDHARY RAM SEWAK): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The Officer attained the age of 55 years on 2nd July, 1968 and his services were extended by the National Mineral Development Corporation by one year on public grounds.