

JK Tyres' TN unit on stream

Special Correspondent

CHENNAI: The Rs.970-crore tyre manufacturing facility of JK Tyres & Industries at Sriperumbudur has gone on-stream on February 5. The facility will have an initial capacity of 25 lakh radial tyres for passenger cars and four lakh radial tyres for trucks and buses annually.

Addressing a press conference here, Raghupati Singhania, Vice-Chairman and Managing Director said the maximum capacity would be achieved in six months. The Chennai plant would be the sixth facility for the company in the country apart from three in Mexico. The company was planning to increase the capacity at its Mysore plant from two lakh radial tyres for trucks and buses to 10 lakh. Both these projects would entail an investment of Rs.1,100 crore, he added.

With the expansion at Mysore plant, the company's total capacity for radial tyres for trucks and buses would go up to 14 lakh.

Similarly, the overall capacity for radial tyres for passenger cars would go up to 75 lakh, with the state of production at Sriperumbudur.

Mr. Singhania said the Chennai plant's focus would be on radial tyres only. The company was contemplating to invest Rs.1,500 crore for the second phase at the Chennai plant. JK Tyres was looking for acquiring rubber plantation in Southeast Asia to meet its requirements.