



URAL takes aim at 8x4 space

Ural India made the right noises at the IMME, unveiling a 31 tonne 8x4 tipper. Powered by the 400 HP 6-cylinder CA6DL2-35 engine with a maximum torque of 1450 Nm @1250 rpm,

is supported by a 12-speed gearbox fitted with 12 forward and two reverse meant for deployment in mining, infrastructure and construction segments. Kolkata-based Ural India is part of the Motijug Group

The 8x4 tipper, manufactured from the company's Haldia facility, has a maximum speed of 74 kmph and fuel capacity of 400 litres. It is equipped with semi-elliptic multi-leaf spring front suspension and 6-rod tandem axle suspension at the rear.

The vehicle features both box and rock bodies. Construction equipment ranging from cranes and concrete mixers can be mounted on it.

Ural India has been working on the truck for over a year now, says Ural India Director Anirudh Kanoi. The new vehicle is priced at Rs 49 lakh.

In fact, this is Ural India's second truck. In the 2006 edition of the IMME, the company had rolled out the 6x6 tipper (with a rock body) which was also showcased at that year's edition of the IMME.

The company is looking at producing 500 units in the first year, before it ramps up production based on market demand.

Ural India draws technical expertise from Russia's Uralaz. 'It is their technology which we upgrade to suit our Indian conditions,' he states.

Ural India is also riding high over the launch of its buses this year. The company has rolled out the 40-seater rear engine Metro bus (CBU) with AC/Non-AC variants, 40 seater rear engine A/C coach (CBU & Chassis) and the 59 seater front engine standard bus (CBU & Chassis). 'Thus far, we have sold about 150 buses. The Haldia facility has an installed capacity to manufacture 5,000 buses but we are making 100-150 buses every month for now,' Kanoi states.

The company clocked a turnover of Rs 250 crore last fiscal and is hoping to cross Rs 300 crore this fiscal.

He feels that the commercial vehicle industry offers growth to everyone. 'Every month is clocking a growth of 15 to 20 percent and with the kind of infrastructure and mining activity going on, this kind of momentum may not cease soon,' he signed off.

Ural India is a joint venture between Motijug Group, West Bengal Government and Uralaz of Russia.