

INDIAN AUTOMOBILE INDUSTRY – COMMERCIAL VEHICLES

Domestic CV industry continues on growth trajectory

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What's Inside...











Highlights



Demand sentiment remains healthy aided by improved fleet utilisation on the back of healthy infrastructure, mining and macroeconomic activities.

Viability of fleet operators is expected to continue to remain healthy, despite some moderation in freight rates post the festive period.



The Indian commercial vehicle (CV) industry registered a healthy growth of 16% on a YoY basis in wholesale dispatches in Q3 FY2023, supported by replacement demand, pick-up in infrastructure, mining and construction activities, improvement in the overall macroeconomic environment and overall healthy fleet utilisation levels.



The growth trends were broad-based, wherein the M&HCV (Trucks) segment reported a 28% YoY growth, LCV (Trucks) grew at 5%, and the passenger carrier/buses segment also reported a healthy growth of 131% during the quarter, albeit on a low base. The growth in the truck segment was supported primarily by the improvement in macroeconomic activity, and healthy replacement demand.



In Q3 FY2023, the passenger carrier (bus) segment reported volumes of 16,480 units. Resumption of offices, colleges and schools, as well as replacement demand supported growth in this segment.



Retail CV sales of 220,757 units in Q3 FY2023 were marginally lower than wholesale dispatches of 226,808 units. However, the overall demand sentiment remains positive, driven by the Government's push towards infrastructure creation, coupled with replacement demand.



In FY2023, ICRA expects the CV industry volumes to grow at a healthy rate supported by steady freight demand, economic recovery, the Government's focus on infra spending and boom in e-commerce. However, inflation concerns driven by hike in interest rates and continued high fuel prices and its impact on the viability of fleet operators would continue to remain monitorable.



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