

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4559
ANSWERED ON 28.03.2023

INCIDENTS OF FIRE IN ELECTRIC VEHICLES

4559. SHRI THIRUMAAVALAVAN THOL:

Will the Minister of **HEAVY INDUSTRIES** भारी उद्योग मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the incidences of fire in vehicles due to the defective battery in battery operated electric vehicles;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has the details of the number of incidents of fire in vehicles due to the defective battery in hybrid electric vehicles, plug-in hybrid electric vehicles, other battery operated electric vehicles manufactured in the country; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof including the number of deaths and the reasons therefor?

ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR HEAVY INDUSTRIES
(SHRI KRISHAN PAL GURJAR)

(a) to (d): Yes Sir, as per information available received from the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, incidents of fire accidents have been reported in Electric two-wheeler, manufactured by Okinawa Autotech, Pure EV, Jitendra Electric Vehicles, Ola Electric and Boom Motors.

Further, the prototypes / components of electric vehicles are tested by the test agencies notified under Rule 126 of Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989, for compliance to standards notified by MoRTH.

MoRTH had constituted an investigating team of independent experts from DRDO, Indian Institute of Science (IISc) Bengaluru, and Naval Science & Technological Laboratory (NSTL) Visakhapatnam to investigate into the root cause of fire and recommend remedial measures.

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Ministry of Road and Transport and Highways had also constituted a committee of experts to suggest formulation of safety standards for the battery and its components, BMS and related systems in electric vehicles. Based on the recommendation of the committee, Ministry of Road Transport and Highways vide S.O. 4567(E) dated 28th September, 2022 has brought amendment to the Automotive Industry Standards, AIS:156 [Specific requirements for L (a motor vehicle less than four wheels and quadricycle) category electric power train vehicles] and AIS:038 (Rev 2) [Specific Requirements for M Category, (a motor vehicle with at least four wheels used for carrying passenger) N Category (a motor vehicle with at least four wheels used for carrying goods) Electric Power Train Vehicles] to prescribe Technical Requirements for Traction Battery of L, M and N Category of Electric Power Train Vehicles. The said Amendments are applicable from 1st December, 2022 and some clauses of these AIS standards will be effective from 31st March, 2023.

Further, MoRTH had issued the draft notification, vide G.S.R 659 (E) dated 25th August 2022, for the requirements of Conformity of Production (COP), in respect of all categories of Electric vehicles including Quadricycles, E- rickshaws, two wheelers, and four wheelers.
