GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1970 TO BE ANSWERED ON 02.08.2017

Launch of country's first multi-modal electric vehicle project

1970. SHRI SANJAY SETH:

Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether electric vehicles used for commercial purposes such as taxis, autorickshaws and buses do not require permits;
- (b) if so, details thereof and reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government has launched country's first multi-modal electric vehicle project to push electric vehicles for ferrying passengers;
- (d) if so, details thereof;
- (e) whether Government is exploring options to get loan at cheaper interest rate including from agencies like Japan's Soft Bank Group for introducing two lakh electric buses, if so, details thereof; and
- (f) other steps taken by Government to give thrust to vehicles plying on electricity and other alternate fuels?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO)

- (a) & (b): Ministry of Road Transport & Highways have informed that they have granted exemption from permit to e-rickshaw vide notification S.O. 2812(E) dated 30.08.2016. Other electric vehicles used for commercial purposes such as taxis, autorickshaws and buses require permit under section 66 of the Motor Vehicle Act, 1988.
- (c) & (d): No Sir, the Department of Heavy Industry, Ministry of Heavy Industries & Public Enterprises has not launched any multi-modal electric vehicle project to push electric vehicles for ferrying passengers.
- (e): No Sir, at present there is no such proposal under consideration of Department of Heavy Industry, Ministry of Heavy Industries & Public Enterprises.
- (f): To promote electric mobility, the Department of Heavy Industry, Ministry of Heavy Industries & Public Enterprises has launched a scheme namely FAME-India [Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of (Hybrid &) Electric Vehicles in India] commencing from 1st April 2015, which aims to support the hybrid / electric vehicles market development and its manufacturing eco-system to achieve self-sustenance.

Under this scheme, market creation through demand incentive is aimed at incentivizing all vehicle segments i.e. 2-Wheeler, 3-Wheeler Auto, 4-Wheeler Vehicles, Light Commercial Vehicles and Buses. The demand incentive is available for buyers (end users/consumers) in the form of an upfront reduced purchase price to enable wider adoption.

The detailed demand incentives allowed under the scheme for purchase of electric/hybrid vehicles is given at ANNEXURE 13 of the Gazette Notification of FAME India Scheme, which is available in the website of Department of Heavy Industry (www.dhi.nic.in).

Further, Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has issued several notifications for different standards to give thrust to vehicles plying on electricity and other alternate fuels, as per following details:-

- (i) G.S.R. 682(E) dated 12/07/2016 regarding mass emission standards for flex-fuels (E 85) or (E 100) and ethanol (ED 95) vehicles.
- (ii) G.S.R. 412(E) dated 11/04/2016 regarding Biodiesel.
- (iii) G.S.R. 498(E) dated 16/06/2015 regarding Smoke test and Bio CNG.
- (iv) G.S.R. 629(E) dated 24/06/2016 regarding Retrofitment of hybrid electric vehicles.
- (v) G.S.R. 643(E) dated 27/06/2017 regarding mass emission standards for LNG.
