LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 328 TO BE ANSWERED ON 05.02.2019

Innovative Technology in Automobile Industry

328. SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that as the Indian automobile remanufacturing market becomes more competitive, the need for innovative technology is assuming greater importance and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Indian auto manufacturers require the latest technology and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government is considering to help the auto industry to acquire the latest technology and equipment to make India a truly global auto manufacturer/producer; and (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR HEAVY INDUSTRIES & PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO)

(a): India is the 5th largest car manufacturer, 7th largest commercial vehicle manufacturer and largest manufacturer of two wheelers in the world. Indian auto industry has embraced global automotive technologies in vehicle as well as auto component industry and consequently, uses innovative manufacturing processes which are more people oriented as compared to a high degree of automation which is prevalent elsewhere in the world.

(b): Yes Madam, in view of the rapidly changing product technologies in the automotive industry and depleting fossil fuel resources, its high import cost, related issues like environmental degradation and climate change, switching over from conventional IC engine based vehicles to new drive train technologies like electric, hybrid, fuel cells is need of the hour. Thus, industry would need to develop technologies like Lithium ion Batteries, electric motors for automotive applications and battery management systems.

(c) & (d): Yes Madam, Government has rolled out National Mission on Electric Mobility, 2013 with the objective of developing electric mobility in Mission mode. As a follow up, FAME Scheme was launched in 2015 for providing incentives to promote demand creation, establishment of EV ecosystem/infrastructure and development of technology through R&D. Second phase of this Scheme (FAME), envisages to give a boost to EV industry with several interventions on the demand and supply side, including R&D efforts.

Apart from this, the Department of Heavy Industry supports technological interventions for the automobile industry from time to time through grants given for product and testing infrastructure development through the Development Council for Automobile and allied Industries (DCAAI) funds.