

(b) No Sir.

(c) No such proposal for encouraging solar power operated vehicles is underway by this Ministry.

#### **Technological advancement of PSUs**

4452. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether rapid changes of technologies and open international trade environment have posed challenges for our manufacturing sector especially Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs);

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of measures taken by Government to make the country's Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) technologically advanced and competitive to face competition in world trade?

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Unleashed by open international trade environment, rapid changes of technologies and domestic liberalization policies exposed our manufacturing sector especially PSUs to challenges in terms of competitive pricing, increasing factor productivity, investing in R&D, capacity building of their human resources and embracing transparency and disclosure norms applicable globally. Government responded by providing an enabling environment so that the manufacturing sector and the public sector could reposition itself to meet the new challenges. A slew of reforms in corporate governance, target setting and evaluation, incentives for improving performance were ushered in. Board for Reconstruction of Public Sector Enterprises (BRPSE) was set up in 2004 to diagnose early signs of sickness among PSUs and suggest measures to prevent sickness, revive and rehabilitate such PSUs so that these can compete better. A new National Manufacturing Policy was announced in 2011 to further bolster the performance of this sector.

#### **Fall in sale of electric vehicles**

4453. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the sale of electric four-wheelers and two-wheelers have

declined by more than half in the previous financial year after the withdrawal of the subsidy in March, 2012 and the Ministry has forwarded a proposal to the Ministry of Finance to compensate the manufacturers of these vehicles;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any proposal to the tune of Rs. 55-60 crores to compensate manufacturers retrospectively for sale of electric vehicles made in the last two financial years is pending with the Ministry of Finance; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) Yes Sir, the electric two-wheelers and four wheeler sale dropped from 85000 in 2011-12 to 42000 in 2012-13.

(c) and (d) At present, there is no proposal pending with the Ministry of Finance to the tune of Rs. 55-60 crores to compensate manufacturers retrospectively for the sale of electric vehicles.

**Poor state of electrical equipment industry in the countries**

4454. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken note of the poor state of electrical equipment industry in the country;

(b) whether the poor performance of the industry is hampering the growth of the power sector and making it import dependent;

(c) whether Government has taken any step to address the issue;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) Electrical Equipment Industry has enough installed capacity to meet the Power Sector demand. However, this built-up capacity currently stands under-utilised across several products due to sluggish domestic demand on account of the slowdown in the country's power sector and a surge in imports of electrical equipment in recent years.