

(c) whether the renewable energy generation only through solar system is being relied upon or other sources like "Wind", "Biomass" "Biogas", etc. are also being adopted?

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (c) Two Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) under the Department of Heavy Industries namely, Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL) and Rajasthan Electronics and Instruments Limited (REIL) have set up renewable energy projects for sustainable development. While BHEL is presently undertaking renewable energy generating projects only through solar system, REIL has also set up a wind power generating unit at Jaisalmer. Besides, Hindustan Paper Corporation Limited (HPC) is also using renewable energy in a modest way to take care of township and Guest House power requirement through solar energy and for food preparation in the canteen through Biogas.

Excise duty on SUVs

3217. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has urged the Ministry of Finance to limit the 3 per cent excise duty hike on Sports Utility Vehicles (SUVs) to a year and keep the models priced below Rs. 10 lakh out of its ambit, as the domestic car makers are in the midst of the worst sales dip in a decade;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the move is being seen as a welcome relief for the auto industry as sub Rs. 10 lakh SUVs account for 85 per cent of sales in this segment and which has a growing demand in both urban and rural markets; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (d) Yes Sir. The auto industry is going through difficult times. Latest industry trend indicates a slowdown. The sales figures of 2012-13 recorded a growth of 2.61% only as compared to 12.24% in 2011-12. There is a negative growth of 1.34% in exports during the same period. The passenger car segment has recorded a negative growth of 6.69%. The sales of commercial vehicles segment has also been adversely impacted which is evident from the fact

that there is a dip of 2.02% in the sales as compared with 2011-12. This is likely to cause a setback to the achievement of targets set under Automotive Mission Plan 2006-16. The present notification issued by the Finance Ministry for the levy of additional 3% excise duty will further impact the industry and will also discourage the consumers as the commonly used vehicles in rural and semi-urban area have come under this additional 3% excise duty. Therefore, Ministry of Heavy Industries & Public Enterprises has requested Ministry of Finance either to withdraw the additional 3% Excise Duty imposed on SUVs in the current Union Budget or to exempt all such vehicles classified as SUV that have an assessable value upto Rupees Ten lakh.

Proposals of the State Governments regarding heavy industries

†3218. SHRI DARSHAN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether various State Governments including State Government of Uttar Pradesh have sent proposals for certain projects for approval of Ministry;

(b) if so, the details thereof, project-wise as on date; and

(c) by when those proposals are likely to be considered upon and approved by the Ministry?

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) No formal proposal from any State Government for setting up projects has been received in Department of Heavy Industry in the recent past.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Performance of Miniratna CPSEs

3219. SHRI AAYANUR MANJUNATHA: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether certain Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) which have been granted Miniratna status have not been making profits continuously for the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.