

(c) SAIL is continually investing in VISL, Bhadravati for overall growth and modernisation of the Plant. SAIL has installed a new Blast Furnace, a bloom caster with 1,25,000 tonnes annual capacity and one 30 tonnes New Reheating Furnace for Primary Mill. SAIL has already invested around ₹ 400 crore in the Plant.

**Objectives of Automotive Mission Plan, 2026**

\*9. PROF. M. V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

- (a) the objectives of the Automotive Mission Plan, 2026;
- (b) the Ministry's analysis of the challenges that the automotive sector is presently facing;
- (c) whether Government aims to provide incentives for Research and Development investment by automotive industries; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI ANANT GEETE): (a) The objectives of the Automotive Mission Plan, 2026 include:

- (i) To propel the Indian Automotive Industry to become the engine of the "Make in India" programme.
  - (ii) To make the Indian Automotive Industry a significant contributor to the "Skill India" programme.
  - (iii) Promote safe, efficient and comfortable mobility for every person in the country, with an eye on environmental protection and affordability through both public and personal transport options.
  - (iv) To seek increase net exports of the Indian Automotive Industry several fold.
  - (v) Promote comprehensive and stable policy dispensation for all regulations impacting the industry.
- (b) The challenges faced by the Indian Automotive Industry include, *inter-alia*, sustaining the growth rate; increasing net export of Indian Automotive Industry; improving inspection and certification regime along with well planned urban development and parking infrastructure especially to address the congestion and environmental concerns; improving infrastructure of ports, road transport; keeping the Indian Automotive Industry cost competitive and providing suitable tax and non tax incentives for the same.

(c) and (d) Government is providing fiscal incentive of weighted tax deduction for R&D expenditure for in House R&D facility.

Government is implementing The National Automotive Testing and R&D Infrastructure Project (NATRiP). This project aims at putting in place state-of-the-art automotive testing infrastructure that will meet safety and emission regulation requirements and also deepen India's automotive R&D capabilities.

The Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of Hybrid and Electric Vehicles (FAME) India Scheme being implemented by the Government also addresses technology development and commercialization aimed at making the electric/hybrid vehicles (xEV) market self-sustaining.

#### **Use of sim cards of Nepal in border area of Uttarakhand**

†\*10. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs had visited the border area Dharchula of Uttarakhand State;

(b) if so, when and whether the Minister had advised the local people to use Sim Cards of Nepal and also advised to provide foreign Sim Cards to the tourists visiting Mansarovar in view of the deplorable condition of the communication facilities available there; and

(c) if so, the details of the action taken so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI KIREN RIJJU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) On 18-19 October, 2015 and 12 October, 2016. No such advice was given.

(c) In view of the above, question does not arise.

#### **World heritage status for hill forts of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj**

\*11. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Central Government for preparation of dossier to include hill forts of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj first in the Tentative List and later in the World Heritage List of UNESCO for their universal historical and architectural importance;

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.