

- Prevents double counting of assets.

(f) The Ministry has released ₹ 3.35 crore to NRSC, Hyderabad for strengthening infrastructure for geo-tagging under MGNREGA.

Under PMGSY, an amount of ₹ 22.09 crore has been sanctioned for the project and an amount of ₹ 6.62 crore has been released, so far, by the Ministry.

#### **Exemption from road permits for electric vehicles**

\*264. DR. PRABHAKAR KORE: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government proposes to exempt road permits for Electric Vehicles (EVs) and also for vehicles that run on alternative fuels, such as CNG and Ethanol;

(b) whether the domestic and international Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs) are waiting for a policy roadmap with regard to electric vehicles so that they can plan investments in the electric vehicle sector; and

(c) if so, details of the policy and the time-frame for its implementation?

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI): (a) Yes, Sir. The Government, *vide* S.O. 5333(E) dated 18th October, 2018 has granted exemption to the Battery Operated Transport Vehicles and Transport Vehicles running on Ethanol and Methanol fuels from requirement of permit.

(b) and (c) In order to promote the electric vehicle sector, the Government has notified for retro-fitment of hybrid electric system or electric kit to vehicles and has specified the type approval procedure of electric hybrid vehicles. The Government has notified that the registration mark for Battery Operated Vehicles to be on a green background plate. The Ministry has notified certain specifications for the grant of licence to age group of 16-18 years to drive gearless E-scooters/Bikes upto 4.0 KW.

Further, for the promotion of electric mobility in the country, the Government had launched Phase-I of the FAME India Scheme [Faster Adoption of Electric (& Hybrid) Vehicles in India] with effect from 1st April 2015, which was initially for a period of two years and has subsequently been extended till 31st March, 2019. All electric and hybrid vehicles, including public transport, registered under the scheme are being incentivised under the demand creation focus area of this scheme. The Phase-1 of

FAME scheme is, at present, available upto 31st March, 2019 and is available for all registered electric vehicles with lithium ion batteries.

Ministry of Power has issued a policy on charging infrastructure and has issued a notification clarifying that charging electric vehicles will be a service, not a sale of electricity.

Further, the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has commercialised indigenously developed lithium ion battery technology and have selected 14 companies for transfer of technology.

The National Institute of Transforming India (NITI Aayog) has taken an initiative to provide a Model Concessionaire Agreement (MCA) document for introducing Electric-Bus Fleet in cities for public transportation on Public-Private-Partnership (PPP) mode on Operational Expenditure (per km. basis) Model rather than paying upfront capital cost.

Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs has made amendment in the Urban and Regional Development Plans Formulation and Implementation (URDPFI) guidelines to provide for electric vehicle charging stations in private and commercial buildings.

#### **Amaravati-Anantapur Expressway**

\*265. SHRI T.G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has embarked on execution of Amaravati-Anantapur Expressway, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the progress and present status of the project;
- (c) the quantum of the funds allocated and released so far;
- (d) the reasons for the delay;
- (e) whether any targets have been fixed for completion of the Expressway, if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the measures being taken by Government to expedite the execution of the project, for its early completion?

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI): (a) to (f) The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has held