Unstarred Questions

Ministries/Departments take measures, which may include preparation of proposals for revival/restructuring/closure, etc. of CPSEs in consultation with stakeholders and after obtaining the approval of competent authority, implement those plans.

- (b) The concerned CPSE assesses its manpower requirement and prepares plans for utilization of excess employees, if any, in consultation with their administrative Ministries/Departments.
- (c) and (d) The CPSEs are expected to incur the expenditure as per commercial expediency and prudence after approval from the competent authority. Guidelines are issued from time to time for expenditure management and to enforce austerity measures in CPSEs. The CPSEs incurring losses take all possible measures to reduce wasteful or avoidable expenditure in consultation with their administrative Ministry. Further, as a follow-up action of "CPSE Conclave 2018", DPE has written letter on 27.11.2018 to all the administrative Ministries/Departments concerned with CPSEs to take immediate steps to reduce the wasteful expenditure by CPSEs.

Manufacturing of electric vehicles

- 463. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:
- (a) whether all vehicles in the country would be powered by electricity by 2030 and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the number of electric vehicles (EVs) sold in the country during the last three years, State-wise; and
- (c) the steps being taken to encourage the manufacturing of such vehicles in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO): (a) At present, no proposal for all vehicles in the country to be powered by electricity by 2030 is under consideration of Department of Heavy Industry, Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises.

- (b) Since Automobile Sector is a liberalized sector, Department of Heavy Industry is not required to maintain the data related to manufacturing of vehicles. However, 2,65,335 hybrid and electric vehicles (xEVs) have so far been supported through Demand Incentives under FAME-India Scheme.
 - (c) As part of National Electric Mobility Mission Plan 2020 (NEMMP),

Department of Heavy Industry has notified a FAME India Scheme [Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of (Hybrid and) Electric Vehicles in India] for implementation with effect from 1st April, 2015. At present, the Phase-1 of the scheme is under implementation, which was originally for a period of 2 years till 31st March, 2017, but has been extended further till 31st March, 2019. The Scheme has four focus areas namely Demand Creation, Pilot Project, Technology Development/R&D and Charging Infrastructure.

Through this scheme, demand incentives in the form of an upfront reduced purchase price is being extended to buyers of electric/hybrid vehicles (xEVs), to enable wider adoption of xEVs.

Under new GST regime, the Government has kept GST on EVs in the lower bracket of 12% GST rate (with no Cess) as against the 28% GST rate with Cess up to 22% for conventional vehicles.

Investment by iron and steel industry in R&D

- 464. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government has made it mandatory for Maharatna, Navaratna and Miniratna Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) in iron and steel industry to invest in Research and Development (R&D) at 1 per cent of profit after tax (PAT) and at 0.5 per cent of PAT respectively and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the amount of investment in R&D as a per centage of PAT of such Maharatna, Navaratna and Miniratna enterprises during the last three years; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government to ensure that these enterprises have make the required investment in R&D?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO): (a) The Department of Public Enterprises had issued guidelines on Research and Development (R&D) in Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) in September, 2011 which *inter alia*, prescribed that Maharatna/Navratna and Miniratna CPSEs will incur minimum expenditure of 1% and 0.5% respectively of their profit after tax respectively on R&D. These guidelines have since been withdrawn as R&D initiatives of CPSEs are now being included in their Memorandum of Understanding as result-oriented parameter with measurable project-specific outcomes.

(b) and (c) At present, there is 1 Maharatna CPSE, viz. Steel Authority of India