

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2035
ANSWERED ON 17.03.2023

REDUCING FIRE HAZARDS IN ELECTRIC VEHICLES

2035. SHRI MANAS RANJAN MANGARAJ:

Will the Minister of **Heavy Industries** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is cognizant of the high instances of fire accidents caused by Electric Vehicles (EVs);
- (b) if so, whether upskilling and technical training workshops will be conducted for the EV manufacturers by the Government under the FAME I Scheme; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR HEAVY INDUSTRIES
(SHRI KRISHAN PAL GURJAR)

(a): Yes Sir.

(b) & (c): Sir, no such upskilling and technical training workshops has been conducted for the EV manufacturers by the Government under the FAME I Scheme. However, as per the information received from Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH), the prototypes / components of electric vehicles are tested by the test agencies notified under Rule 126 of Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989, for compliance to standards notified by MoRTH.

Further, MoRTH had constituted an investigating team of independent experts from DRDO, Indian Institute of Science (IISc) Bengaluru, and Naval Science & Technological Laboratory (NSTL) Visakhapatnam to investigate into the root cause of fire and recommend remedial measures.

Ministry of Road and Transport and Highways had also constituted a committee of experts to suggest formulation of safety standards for the battery and its components, BMS and related systems in electric vehicles. Based on the recommendation of the committee, Ministry of Road Transport and Highways vide S.O. 4567(E) dated 28th September, 2022 has brought amendment to the Automotive Industry Standards, AIS:156 [Specific requirements for L (a motor vehicle less than four wheels and quadricycle) category electric power train vehicles] and AIS:038 (Rev 2) [Specific Requirements for M Category, (a motor vehicle with at least four wheels used for carrying passenger) N Category (a motor vehicle with at least four wheels used for carrying goods) Electric Power Train Vehicles] to prescribe Technical Requirements for Traction Battery of L, M and N Category of Electric Power Train Vehicles. The said Amendments are applicable from 1st December, 2022 and some clauses of these AIS standards will be effective from 31st March, 2023.

Further, MoRTH had issued the draft notification, vide G.S.R 659(E) dated 25th August 2022, for the requirements of Conformity of Production (COP), in respect of all categories of Electric vehicles including Quadricycles, E- rickshaws, two wheelers, and four wheelers.
