

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:147
ANSWERED ON:07.03.2011
IMPORT OF HYBRID VEHICLES
Chanabasappa Shri Udasi Shivkumar

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether hybrid vehicles not only achieve greater fuel economy but also ensure lower emissions;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has allowed import of hybrid cars;
- (d) if so, the details thereof including the duty levied for import of such cars; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Indian Automobile Industry/Government for popularization of hybrid vehicles including cars in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ANAND SHARMA)

a) to e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 147 FOR ANSWER ON 7TH MARCH 2011 REGARDING "IMPORT OF HYBRID VEHICLES"

(a)& (b): Yes Madam. Hybrid cars have both an internal combustion engine and one or more electric motors, with sufficient battery capacity to store the electricity generated from the engine or by brake energy recuperation and drive the motor to run the vehicle at low speeds or provide auxiliary motive power for the engine. This allows hybrid vehicles to achieve greater fuel efficiency and ensure lower emissions.

(c) & (d): The motor vehicles are freely importable into the country subject to provisions of Motor Vehicle Act, 1988 and Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989. The import duty applicable on hybrid cars is 60 % Basic Customs Duty; 10 % Additional customs Duty(CVD) and 4% Special Additional Duty(SAD).

(e): The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy has been implementing a broad-based research, design, development and demonstration programme of battery operated vehicles / hybrid electric vehicles and plug hybrid electric vehicles. These vehicles are environmentally benign and provide an alternative to oil for transportation sector.

In the recent budget 2010-2011, Government has announced several steps for promotion of hybrid vehicles /cars in the country. These include:

- (i) A National Mission for Hybrid and Electric Vehicles has been launched;
- (ii) Excise Duty has been reduced on kits which are used for conversion of fossil fuel vehicles into Hybrid vehicles;
- (iii) Exemption from basic customs duty and special Countervailing Duty(CVD) has been given to import of critical parts/assemblies needed for hybrid vehicles.