

Need true self-reliance in auto sector: PM

Modi says govt, industry should work together

DEEPAK PATEL

New Delhi, 11 September

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday urged the automobile industry to work with the government to achieve “true self-reliance”, adding that the sector must align its growth strategies with national goals of sustainable mobility and global leadership in green transportation.

In April, China, which processes and exports more than 90 per cent of the world’s rare-earth magnets, sent shockwaves through India’s automobile sector by imposing export restrictions.

Rare-earth magnets are essential in electric vehicles’ traction motors. They are also used in many parts of internal-combustion engine cars.

In his message to the 65th annual convention of the Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers (Siam) in New Delhi, Modi said the auto industry had “significantly improved mobility and quality of life” and had been a “torchbearer of the Make in India initiative, boosting global confidence in Indian manufacturing and positioning India as a hub of automotive excellence”.

“As we move towards the vision of Viksit Bharat, it is essential for the government and industry to work together to achieve true self-reliance across the entire automobile manufacturing value chain,” the Prime Minister said.

He noted that strong policy frameworks and reforms had accelerated India’s jour-



Prime Minister Narendra Modi said the automobile sector’s focus on green technology and EVs was strengthening India’s clean mobility goals

ney toward a “future-ready transportation ecosystem,” integrating modern technology with world-class infrastructure to fuel growth. Modi added the sector’s increasing focus on green technology, electric vehicles, and sustainable alternatives was “strengthening India’s clean mobility goals while creating new opportunities in design, production and deployment”.

He expressed confidence that Siam’s annual convention would generate fresh ideas and “build new pathways for the nation’s growth”, especially in emerging areas such as energy storage and scaling up sustainable mobility solutions.

Companies a using E20-fu

SOHINI DAS

New Delhi, 11 September

A day after Union Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari said that a social media campaign against E20 fuel was “paid for” and “politically motivated” targeting him, vehicle manufacturers assured that all cars made since 2023 can safely run on E20 fuel.

In fact, some companies are issuing advisories to their customers in this regard.

Nalinikanth Gollagunta, chief executive officer of Mahindra & Mahindra’s automotive division, said they are drafting an advisory to all their customers and dealers saying that all M&M vehicles are safe to drive with E20 or E10 blended fuel. The company on Thursday issued an advisory saying that they will honour all warranty commitments to its customers on account of E20 fuel usage.

“Mahindra engines are fully compliant with existing gasoline standards and all our vehicles can be operated safely with E20 fuel. Vehicles produced post April 1, 2025 are specially calibrated for E20 fuel to ensure acceleration and fuel efficiency. Earlier produced vehicles whilst being completely safe to drive could see a minor variation in either

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E20 assurance

- **Mahindra & Mahindra:** A vehicles safe on E20; models from April 2025 calibrated specifically for
- **Tata Motors:** Every vehicle made since 2023 is fully E20 compliant; warranty remains intact
- **Hyundai Motor India:** Supreme Court has settled the issue, nothing more to add

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