

Support for automotive market has been extended

29.04.2016 / Vedomosti

The Russian government has extended the stimulation programme for automotive market in 2016 - fleet renewal (22.5 billion rubles allocated), induced car loans (11.3 billion rubles, including the obligations from 2015) and induced car leasing (5 billion rubles). The relevant regulations have been published on www.government.ru site on Thursday.

Some of the conditions of the programme have changed as compared to 2015. Thus, the maximum value of automobiles to be eligible for the induced car loan programme has been increased by 150,000 rubles to 1.15 million rubles (the credit costs go down on account of the budget), as warned by the sources of Vedomosti in January.

The main measure of the support programme is the renewal of the automobile fleet (the discounts made on cars by manufacturers will be compensated from the budget) (the manufacturers will be compensated with discounts on cars from the budget). This year, the conditions for receiving government subsidies will be relaxed for major truck and bus manufacturers, in relation to the production quantity of the previous year. The decision has been taken due to falling production numbers, as told by an employee from one of the manufacturers. For example, KAMAZ has manufactured 30,000 trucks and buses in 2015, in comparison with over 35,000 the year before, according to figures given by the company representative.

Changes have taken place in induced car leasing programme as well. From now on, not only the vehicles manufactured during the current year, but also the year before will be eligible for the programme.

Participation conditions for leasing companies have also been subject to changes. In 2015, it was compulsory for all candidates to have signed a minimum number of 100 transport vehicle leasing agreements in 2014. The period in question for the previously signed contracts has been extended under this year's terms (2014-2015). Furthermore, the leasing companies now have the opportunity to participate in the programme, as long as their equity capital exceeds 500 million rubles.

Russia has imported 11,000 automobiles in January

14.03.2016 / Autostat

Car imports to Russia fell by 58.8% year-on-year in January 2016, to 11,000 vehicles. According to Russian Federal Customs Service (FTS) data, Russia has spent \$185.6 million on car imports during the aforementioned period. Truck imports have fallen by 68.7% in January, to approximately 500 vehicles with a monetary value of \$30.7 million. Russian car exports went down by 28.6% during the first month of 2016, to 1500 vehicles, generating \$33.7 million in monetary terms. Truck exports shrank by 60%, to 200 vehicles, generating \$8.7 million.

A plastic car component factory has been opened in Moscow Region

28.04.2016 / Autostat

Eurostyle Systems Klin has opened the first plastic components factory of the Moscow Region in Klin on 22 April.

According to the press office of Moscow Region Development Corporation; Renault, Nissan and AVTOVAZ are the main customers of the enterprise currently. The factory will start the serial production of interior and exterior plastic details for the new Renault model Kaptur, from April onwards: door panels in three versions, upholstery for the interior and the luggage compartment, outer body linings and bumper components.

More than 600 million rubles have been invested during the implementation of the project in 2015. 250 million rubles have already been invested in equipment since the beginning of 2016. The investment amount will go up to 300 million rubles until the end of the year, according to plans. The investment is planned to continue in 2017. The factory has created employment for approximately 70 people. The employment number may increase to 150-200 positions until the end of the year.

Renault has started the production of Kaptur in Moscow

Vedomosti / 27.04.2016

Renault has started the serial production of the new crossover Kaptur in its Moscow plant (previously Avtoframos) on Wednesday.

Kaptur will be put in the Russian market in Summer, as stated by the company. The standard version of Kaptur will be sold for a little under 900,000 rubles in Russia and the supreme model for around 1.2 million rubles, as told by two Renault dealers to Vedomosti.

Kaptur is similar in design to Renault Captur crossover. The latest model is not available in Russia. The Russian Kaptur is designed on the platform of Renault Logan sedan, on the basis of which the whole family of automobiles is manufactured - in addition to Logan: Renault Duster and Sandero (hatchback), Nissan Almera (sedan) and Terrano (crossover), Lada Largus (universal).

The company has stated that the new model will be exported, as well as domestic sale. The Moscow plant currently assembles Renault Duster crossovers, alongside Kaptur and manufactures Nissan Terrano crossovers, as reported by Interfax.

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There are 49 million motor vehicles in Russia

26.04.2016 / Autostat

According to Autostat survey, there are approximately 49 million automobiles in Russia, as of 1 January 2016.

More than 80% of the figure is formed of passenger cars, which amounts to nearly 41 million vehicles in quantitative terms. 8% of Russian automobile park belongs to light commercial vehicles, with almost 4 million units. The number of trucks registered in the country is a little bit less (3.7 million vehicles). Buses account for around 1% of vehicles on Russian roads (approximately 400,000 vehicles).

The oldest fleet in Russia belongs to trucks, with an average age of 19,4 years, according to Autostat data. The average ages for buses and light commercial vehicles are 15.5 and 14 years respectively. The average age of 12.5 years makes the passenger cars the youngest fleet in the country.

KAMAZ has increased its sales by 13% in Russia during the first quarter

25.04.2016 / Autostat

KAMAZ has sold 4180 trucks within the first three months of the year. The sales figure for the same period of the previous year was 3700 units. Thereby, KAMAZ truck sales have grown by 13% year-on-year.

According to KAMAZ Director of Commerce and Finance, the new 4x2 tractor KAMAZ-5490 was the main vehicle in demand in the market. KAMAZ-6520 is the flagship model of the so-called old segment, where KAMAZ-65115 also maintains its position. Around 65% of total KAMAZ sales belongs to these three models. It should be noted that the Russian sales of the company has shrunk by 31% in 2015 (to 22,600 vehicles) and exports by 4% (to 5900 vehicles).

Car production fell by 26% in Russia during the first quarter

15.04.2016 / Interfax

Russian car production has fallen by 25.9% in March and by 26.3% by the end of the first quarter, according to the Federal Statistics Service. A total number of 249,000 passenger cars have been manufactured during the first quarter, as stated by Rosstat.

Truck production, on the other hand, has risen by 2.2% in March, year-on-year. The quarterly increase rate reached 15.2%, to 25,800 vehicles. Bus production shrank by 18.8% in March. The quarterly figure went down by 9%, to 6000 vehicles.

137.7 billion rubles will be allocated on the support of automobile industry in 2016

20.04.2016 / TASS

Government support to industry sectors in difficulty continues, which includes the direct support to automotive industry in the amount of 137.7 billion rubles in 2016. The relevant statement has been made by the president of Russian Federation Vladimir Putin at the Congress of the Union of Car Manufacturers.

“Our support to industries at risk will continue under any circumstances. 137.7 billion rubles will be allocated on the support of automotive industry within the frame of the 2016 Anti-Crisis Plan, including the approximate additional amount of 49 billion.” - told the president, as quoted by TASS. Putin has added that the Russian authorities are aware of the complexity of the current situation, which is related to decreasing investment in car manufacturing industry, falling demand for products etc.

According to Rosstat data, 249,000 automobiles have rolled off Russian assembly lines during the first three months of 2016, which indicates a 26.3% year-on-year decline. Truck production has risen, on the other hand, during the aforementioned period by 15.2%, to 25,800 vehicles. Bus production has shrunk by 9% by the end of the first quarter, to 6000 units.

Car tyre imports to Russia have fallen by more than 30% in 2015

19.04.2016 / Autostat

13.76 million car tyres have been imported to Russia in 2015. This is equivalent to a 31% year-on-year decline. Devaluation of the ruble was the main reason behind the shrinkage in imports. These data were presented during the roundtable discussion: “Tyre Market: The Results and Prospects”, held at JSC Cordiant.

Japanese and Korean brands are the main players in the import structure. The share of Japanese tyres in total imports was 24% in 2015 (20% in 2014), Korean tyres: 14% (21% in 2014) and Chinese: 12% (15% in 2014).

While the imports of all-steel truck tyres fell by 34% in 2015, the share of imported products accounted for 66% of sales in the domestic market. In the meantime, the Russian manufacturers stepped up their own production, which grew by 40%

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3900 new trucks and 7000 new light commercial vehicles have been sold in Russia in March

13.04.2016 / Autostat

According to Autostat data, 3900 new trucks have been sold in Russia in March 2016, which is equivalent to a 1.3% year-on-year decline. KAMAZ has remained the market leader with over 40% share of the total. In quantitative terms, KAMAZ sales figure is equivalent to 1700 vehicles, 30% up from last year. The second place is occupied by another home brand GAZ, which sold 563 vehicles in March (+16.3%). Yet another Russian manufacturer Ural completes the top-three (275, +30.3%). Belarusian MAZ (203, -20.1%) and German MAN (166, +25.8%) have also managed to squeeze into the top-five.

It should be noted that the Russian new truck market has shrunk by 23.7% year-on-year during the first quarter of 2016, to 10,100 vehicles.

The Russian new LCV market, on the other hand, has risen by 3.7%, compared to the previous year in March 2016, to 7000 units. GAZ has kept the market leadership, with 44% share of the total sales. GAZ has sold 3100 vehicles, up by 2.9% year-on-year. Another domestic manufacturer UAZ occupies the second place, with its March sales figure of 1500 vehicles (+22.7%). German Mercedes-Benz follows the two Russian brands (556, -9.3%). LADA (510, -3.4%) and Volkswagen (400, +68.1%) complete the top-five.

17,500 new light commercial vehicles have been sold during the first quarter of 2016, which indicates a 12.1% year-on-year shrinkage.

According to Autostat data, there are 8 million commercial vehicles in total on Russian roads, as of the beginning of the year. Almost half of the figure (49%) belongs to light commercial vehicles, with approximately 4 million units. The number of trucks registered in Russia is a little bit less: 3.7 million (46%). The remaining 5% of the commercial vehicles park belongs to buses (around 400,000).

Atsumitek Toyota Tsusho Rus factory has been opened in Tolyatti

14.04.2016 / Autostat

Japanese company: Atsumitek Toyota Tsusho Rus has opened a plant in Tolyatti SEZ on 13 April. The company manufactures gear shift drive control mechanisms for the automotive industry.

The components are manufactured for AVTOVAZ-Renault-Nissan, OAG company in Izhevsk and GAZ factory in Nizhny Novgorod. The company plans to reach an annual production capacity of 700,000 units of finished products by 2017.

Second-hand car market has grown by 13.1% in March

13.04.2016 / Vedomosti

The Russian second-hand car market has grown by 13.1% year-on-year to 437,100 vehicles in March 2016, as published by Autostat. The growth rate in comparison with February 2016 is 18%.

February was the first month with an upward trend in Russian second-hand car market, since the end of 2014 (+10.9% year-on-year). Despite the 6.8% decline in January, the number of second-hand vehicles registered in the country has grown by 6.1% by the end of the first quarter of 2016, in comparison with the same period of 2015, as stated by Autostat. Quarterly shrinkage has only been observed in Russian brands.

Autostat predicts a 5% shrinkage in second-hand car market for the year.

Car imports fell by 49% by the end of the first two months of 2016

12.04.2016 / Autostat

Car imports to Russia have fallen by 48.7% by the end of the first two months of the year, to 28,700 vehicles. According to the Russian Federal Customs House (FTS) data, Russian automobile imports amounted to \$515.8 million in monetary terms, during the aforementioned period. The truck imports have shrunk by 57.1% in January-February period, to 1500 vehicles, with a total monetary value of \$81.6 million.

Russian car exports were down by 10.4% by the end of the first two months of 2016, with 10,300 vehicles, generating a total value of \$116.6 million. The truck exports were equivalent to \$34.3 million, down by 25%, to 1200 vehicles.

Russian car market has shrunk by 10% in March

08.04.2016 / AEB Russia

New car and LCV sales have shrunk by 13,968 vehicles to 125,917 in Russia in March, which is equivalent to a 10% year-on-year decline, according to AEB Automobile Manufacturers Committee (AEB AMC). 319,092 automobiles have been sold within the January-March period of 2016. Joerg Schreiber, Chairman of the AEB Automobile Manufacturers Committee commented: "March sales result demonstrates that the automotive market as a whole is not in good shape yet although gradually moving closer to hitting a bottom after many months of continuous decline. Further progress in this direction largely depends on the stability of the macroeconomic environment and the continuity of government efforts in stimulating market demand in the coming months"

Sollers-Mazda is the first manufacturer to sign the industrial assembly analogue agreement

04.04.2016 / Vedomosti

The Ministry of Industry and Commerce Interdepartmental Commission has approved the first federal special investment agreement, signed by the Mazda Sollers Manufacturing Rus joint venture (with 50%-50% partnership) on Thursday. The relevant statement has been made by the representative of the Ministry of Industry and Commerce Industrial Development Fund (FRP) to Vedomosti. The contract, which will be valid until 2023, will have been signed by the end of April, as told by the representatives of FRP and Sollers.

According to the special investment agreement, Mazda Sollers Manufacturing Rus will invest 2 billion rubles in the organisation of engine production in Vladivostok, with 50,000 units capacity, said the representative of FRP. The company will also set up the production of the renewed Mazda-6 and Mazda CX-5 models, as stated by an official from the Fund and confirmed by the representative of Sollers, without revealing the investment details. Mazda Sollers Manufacturing Rus will have an annual production capacity of 100,000 vehicles. Mazda sales have shrunk by 46% to 27,358 vehicles, according to AEB data.

The joint venture will retain the benefits, as to the transportation of the vehicles by railway from Vladivostok, for the duration of the contract, as well as being entitled with guaranteed participation in government programmes supporting the automotive market and car production, says a person familiar with the preparation process of the investment contract. Representatives of Sollers and FRP have not made any comments on the subject. Mazda Sollers Manufacturing Rus has not applied for preferential advantages in government purchases, but asked for customs exemptions, however this request has not been approved, added the source. The availability of discounts on the imports of technological equipment has also been discussed, as told by the Sollers representative, however the joint venture can only be eligible for discounts by becoming a resident of the Special Economic Zone in Vladivostok, the application for which has already been made.

The joint venture has missed out on the benefits for car component imports last year, by failing to reach the required capacity within the time limit set by the industrial assembly agreement, reminded a Ministry of Economic Development official. The Sollers representative has added that various measures are being studied for Mazda, for the purpose of cost reduction during car component imports.

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