

# Tata Motors warns against lower GST for hybrid vehicles

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Shailesh Chandra, MD, Tata Motors passenger vehicles and passenger EV divisions. AFP

**A**ny attempt to lower tax rates levied on hybrid cars will confuse the industry and “spread thin” the government’s efforts to achieve its net-zero objectives, a senior official of Tata Motors, the country’s leading passenger electric vehicle maker, cautioned on Wednesday.

Shailesh Chandra, managing director, Tata Motors' passenger vehicles and passenger EV divisions, said hybrid vehicles use a small battery pack and a motor that relies heavily on a fossil-fuel engine, effectively making them gasoline-run vehicles. He argued that hybrids do not align with the key objectives of achieving net carbon-zero, improving air quality levels, and cutting fossil fuel imports.

These objections come amid the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) and Ministry of Heavy Industries' move to seek the auto industry's consensus on rationalizing taxes on hybrid passenger

Chandra dismissed the idea of offering incentives for hybrids, calling it a "misguided effort" by some Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs). He pointed out that fossil fuel-based technologies, such as Gasoline Direct Injection (GDI) and Compressed Natural Gas (CNG), contribute to improving fuel efficiency

without the need for additional incentives, highlighting the existing benefits for hybrids in the form of a 2% lower cess on hybrid vehicles.

India currently levies a goods and service tax (GST) of 28% on hybrid vehicles, and 5% on EVs.

Efforts by the India units of Japanese carmakers Toyota

Motor Corp. and Suzuki Motor Corp., which are global leaders in hybrid technologies and have been slow in developing and adapting fully-

persuade the government to rationalize the GST levied on hybrid vehicles have once again split the industry into two distinct, vociferous lobbies—one, constituting domestic manufacturers Tata Motors, Mahindra & Mahindra & South Korean carmakers Hyundai and Kia, and the other consisting of Japanese carmakers Toyota, Suzuki and Honda.

# Indian firms struggle to find suitable directors for boards

More than 1,400 independent directors are set to retire by 1 April, as per [primeinfobase.com](https://www.primeinfobase.com)

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Indian companies scrambling to find replacements for their boardrooms are struggling to find candidates with the right technology chops or expertise in handling the outcomes of geopolitical uncertainties.

According to a study by executive search firm Heidrick & Struggles, three out of five respondents who participated in its survey are reshuffling their boards, and more than half of these firms are unable to find suitable talent.

The survey analysed responses from about 150 managing directors, board chairs and chairs of subcommittees in India to understand their business priorities for 2024, and their perception around refreshing their boards.

More than 1,400 independent directors are set to retire by 1 April, according to data research firm primeinfo-base.com. The Companies Act, 2013, stipulates that firms cannot have directors on their boards for longer than 10 years.

Companies are seeking independent directors with niche talent in digital and consumer behaviour, as well as an understanding of generative artificial intelligence, Heidrick & Struggles said in its study titled *2024 Heidrick & Struggles India CEO and Board Survey*.

“With key areas such as cybersecurity risk and incorporating AI being top issues organizations are expected to face in the new year, many recognize the need to identify board members who possess the skill-sets and capabilities relevant in navigating these new challenges,” the search firm said, sharing findings of the study exclusively with



Companies are seeking independent directors with niche talent in digital and consumer behaviour, among others.

*Mint.*

Heidrick & Struggles said three in five respondents were seeking new directors either to overhaul their board or as they needed to hire a new director in 12-18 months. "About three quarters of the

respondents cite the retirement of a director as the reason they are undergoing a refresh, and one in two aim to infuse new skill-sets into their boards," stated the study.

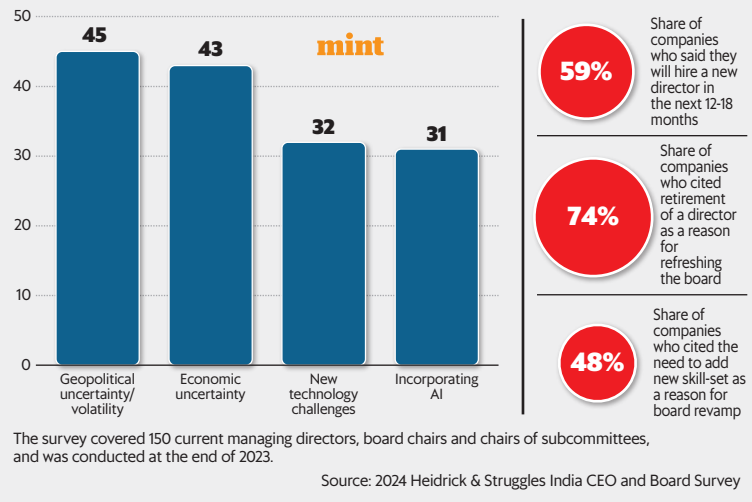
The hunt is proving tougher than expected also because of global factors that are weighing more heavily on Indian companies.

“Indian businesses are not isolated anymore and global crises like wars are impacting supply chains. Companies need experts who can offer strategies and guidance against these events.

## Talent hunt

Companies are looking for experts as board members who can help them navigate global crises like wars and supply-chain disruptions.

Share of respondents who cited the following challenges for companies in 2024. ( in %)



which is a rare skill-set,” Suresh Raina, partner at Heidrick & Struggles India, told *Mint*.

Executive search firms have sought out expatriates living in India to join some of these boards, but such candidates typically have high demands. Potential "senior directors ask for \$150,000–\$200,000 (₹1.25–1.7 crore per annum) to be part of a board," said Raina.

Commissions of independent directors on the boards of Nifty50 companies have doubled over the previous five fiscal years, according to a study by consulting firm Deloitte.

An independent director's commission is largely dependent on a mix of fees for attending board meetings, called sitting fees, and commissions linked to a

company's performance. While sitting fees are capped at ₹1 lakh, commissions are expected to increase.

Currently, about 84% of a director's payments is in the form of commissions with sitting fees accounting for the rest.

At banks and insurance companies, the commissions account for about 89% of a director's payments.

Heidrick & Struggles said that 41% of the respondents in its survey preferred experienced executives when appointing new directors. "There are a number of new directors but firms are not keen to hire those who haven't sat on boards before," said K. Sudarshan.

managing partner at executive search firm EMA Partners. "We are working on 7-8 open positions for tech, manufacturing and fintech firms."

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(INR in Lakhs except Earnings per share data)						
Extract of Un-audited Consolidated Financial Results for the quarter and nine months ended December 31, 2023						
Particulars	Quarter Ended			Nine Months Ended		Year Ended
	December 31, 2023	September 30, 2023	December 31, 2022	December 31, 2023	December 31, 2022	March 31, 2023
	Un-audited	Un-audited	Un-audited	Un-audited	Un-audited	Audited
Revenue from operations	18,295	16,453	18,157	51,604	52,527	71,340
Loss for the period (before tax and/or exceptional items)	(187)	(1,451)	(427)	(613)	(6,589)	(5,642)
Loss for the period before tax (after exceptional items)	(187)	(1,451)	(427)	(613)	(6,589)	(5,642)
Loss for the period after tax and share of profit of joint venture	(82)	(633)	(69)	(79)	(5,017)	(3,809)
Total comprehensive income/(loss) for the period [comprising loss for the period after tax and share of profit of joint venture and other comprehensive income (after tax)]	(61)	(993)	146	(376)	(8,585)	(11,424)
Paid-up equity share capital (Face value - INR 10/- per share)	7,367	7,367	7,367	7,367	7,367	7,367
Other equity excluding revaluation reserves as per the balance sheet						1,40,196
Securities Premium Account	24,239	24,239	24,239	24,239	24,239	24,239
Net Worth (as per the Companies Act 2013)	1,52,240	1,52,299	1,50,980	1,52,240	1,50,980	1,52,276
Outstanding Debt*	15,034	10,880	23,618	15,034	23,618	5,697
Debt Equity Ratio (in times)	0.10	0.07	0.16	0.10	0.16	0.04
Capital Redemption Reserve	1	1	1	1	1	1
Debt Service Coverage Ratio (in times)	0.01	(0.10)	0.01	0.02	(0.21)	(0.57)
Interest Service Coverage Ratio (in times)	0.48	(2.89)	0.29	0.39	(3.66)	(2.40)
Loss per share (of INR 10/- each)	(not annualised) (0.11)	(not annualised) (0.86)	(not annualised) (0.09)	(not annualised) (0.11)	(not annualised) (6.81)	(5.17)
Basic & Diluted						
*Outstanding Debt comprises of current borrowings (including current maturities of long term borrowings) and non-current borrowings.						
Notes:						
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The above is an extract of the detailed format of quarterly financial results filed with the Stock Exchanges under Regulation 33 and Regulation 52(4) of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015 (SEBI LODR), as amended. The full format of the quarterly financial results are available on the Stock Exchange websites (<a href="http://www.bseindia.com">www.bseindia.com</a>) and <a href="http://www.nseindia.com">www.nseindia.com</a>) and on the Company's website (<a href="http://www.hmv.in">www.hmv.in</a>).</li> <li>For the other line items referred in regulation 52(4) of the SEBI LODR, pertinent disclosures have been made to the Stock Exchanges (BSE and NSE) and can be accessed on the Stock Exchange website (<a href="http://www.bseindia.com">www.bseindia.com</a>) and <a href="http://www.nseindia.com">www.nseindia.com</a>.</li> <li>The above consolidated financial results for the quarter and nine months ended December 31, 2023 were reviewed and recommended by the Audit Committee and approved by the Board of Directors at their respective meetings held on January 17, 2024. The Statutory Auditors have conducted a "Limited Review" of the above results pursuant to Regulation 33 and Regulation 52(4) of the SEBI LODR, as amended and have issued an unmodified review opinion.</li> <li>The consolidated financial results have been prepared in accordance with the Indian Accounting Standards (Ind AS) prescribed under Section 133 of the Companies Act, 2013 read with Companies (Indian Accounting Standards) Rules, 2015, as amended from time to time.</li> <li>Additional information on standalone financial results is as follows:-</li> </ol>						
(INR in Lakhs)						
Particulars	Quarter Ended			Nine Months Ended		Year Ended
	December 31, 2023	September 30, 2023	December 31, 2022	December 31, 2023	December 31, 2022	March 31, 2023
	Un-audited	Un-audited	Un-audited	Un-audited	Un-audited	Audited
Revenue from Operations	18,295	16,453	18,157	51,604	52,527	71,340
Loss Before Tax	(204)	(1,467)	(528)	(793)	(7,070)	(6,339)
Loss After Tax	(105)	(696)	(170)	(312)	(5,729)	(4,749)
Total Comprehensive Income/(Loss)	(84)	(1,056)	44	(609)	(9,297)	(12,364)
For and on behalf of the Board of Directors						
Place: New Delhi Date: January 17, 2024			Shobhana Bhatia Chairperson			

# IIFL FINANCE

## Performance Highlights Q3FY24

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HIGHLIGHTS OF IIFL FINANCE LIMITED UNAUDITED RESULTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023

₹ Crores	Quarter Ended			Nine Months Ended		
	Dec 31, 2023	Dec 31, 2022	Growth % Y-o-Y	Dec 31, 2023	Dec 31, 2022	Growth % Y-o-Y
Loan AUM	77,444	57,941	34%	77,444	57,941	34%
Total income <sup>1</sup>	1,687.5	1,318.4	28%	4,712.0	3,690.0	28%
Pre provision operating profit <sup>1</sup>	960.3	751.7	28%	2,674.4	2,057.4	30%
Profit before tax	716.3	555.1	29%	2,018.2	1,518.5	33%
Profit after tax (Pre NCI) <sup>2</sup>	545.2	423.2	29%	1,543.6	1,150.0	34%
Profit after tax (Post NCI) <sup>2</sup>	490.4	378.3	30%	1,390.1	1,087.6	28%
Earnings per share (in ₹) <sup>3</sup>	12.9	10.0	29%	36.6	28.6	28%
Book value per share (in ₹)	266.6	225.6	18%	266.6	225.6	18%

<sup>1</sup>Excluding Fair Value Changes. <sup>2</sup>NCI is Non Controlling Interest. <sup>3</sup>Quarter ended numbers are not annualised. These numbers pertain to IIFL Finance Limited (Consolidated). Detailed quarterly financial results are available on the Company's website viz. [www.iifl.com](http://www.iifl.com) and on the Stock Exchange website viz. [www.bseindia.com](http://www.bseindia.com) and [www.nseindia.com](http://www.nseindia.com)

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