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In cars with automatic transmission, there will be computerized portions, which act as a controller of the gear shifting features of the vehicle. This computerized portion is called as the Transmission Control Module, shortly called as TCM. They are normally located in the back side of the engine of any vehicle directly behind the firewall. The working of TCM is simple and it receives many sensor signals that allow it to determine the particular running conditions of the vehicle. These signals come from the engine control unit of the vehicle, which is shortly called as ECU. The data and signals received from ECU are automatically computed and used for determining the exact timing and method of changes to be made to the gear. In other words, according to the current driving conditions of the vehicle, the whole gear shifting control is executed by the TCM.

The first two solenoids of the engine of the vehicle are mobilized by the TCM in response to the speed signals sent by the vehicle and the throttle together. This enables the shift valves to begin moving thereby bringing about change in the pressure of clutch, in compatibility with the received data. Finally, the shifting of gears happens with the solenoids in full operation.

Interesting part in the working of transmission control module is when the vehicle is climbing up or down a hill. For instance, if a person is getting down from a hill, which is steep at the speed of 75 km/h or more than this speed with a hold on the break, the gear will shift from the fourth to the third position. As against this, if the vehicle is climbing, the third gear will be in place. In other words, shifting of gears will not happen accidentally.

TCM is an important component that is responsible for ensuring the regulation of fuel usage thereby bringing about fuel efficiency. The power of vehicle is also regulated by TCM with the help of ECM, irrespective of whether it is Dodge ECU or Ford ECU or anything of that sort. Information regarding the transmission system of the vehicle is also stored by the TCM and this information enables effective shifting of gears irrespective of the condition in which the vehicle is being used.

Thus, Dodge ECU and TCM enable the effective functioning of Dodge and similarly the functioning of any vehicle is regulated by its TCM and ECU.

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