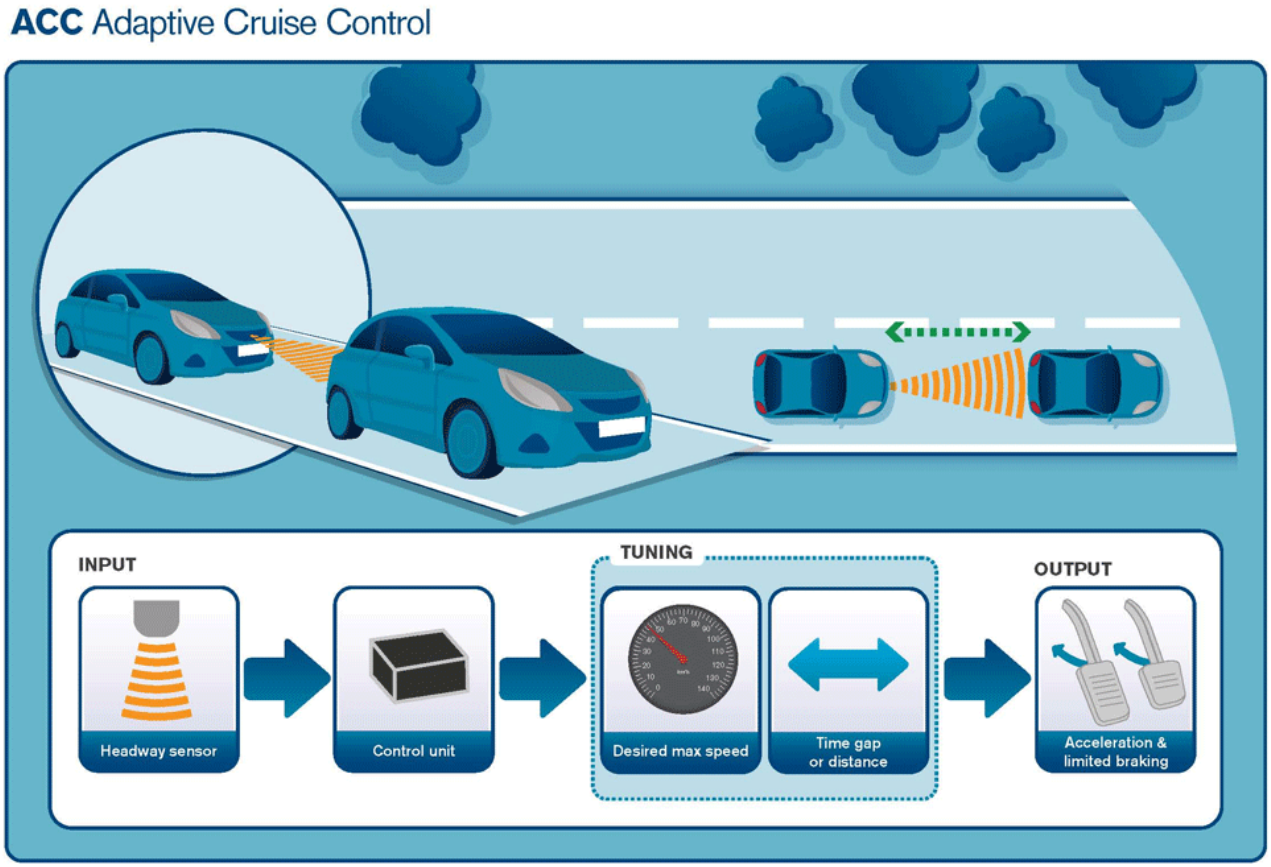
1.11 CRUISE CONTROL IN AUTOMOBILES

Adaptive Cruise Control Feature for passenger cars allows the host vehicle to adapt to the speed in line with the flow of traffic. Driving in heavy traffic or keeping a safe distance to the preceding vehicle calls for a high level of concentration. The Adaptive Cruise Control feature can reduce the stress on the driver by automatically controlling the vehicle speed & maintaining a predefined minimum distance to the preceding vehicle. As a consequence, the driver enjoys more comfort & can concentrate on the road a little better.



A radar sensor is usually at the core of the Adaptive Cruise Control. Installed at the front of the vehicle, the system permanently monitors the road ahead. As long as the road ahead is clear, the cruise control feature maintains the speed set by the driver. If the system spots a slower vehicle within its detection range, it gently reduces speed by releasing the accelerator or actively engaging the brake control system. If the vehicle ahead speeds up or changes lanes, the cruise control automatically accelerates to the driver's desired speed. Standard Adaptive Cruise Control can be activated from speeds of around 30 km/h (20 mph) upwards and supports the driver, primarily on cross-country journeys or on

freeways. The cruise control stops & go variant is also active at speeds below 30 km/h (20 mph). It can maintain the set distance to the preceding vehicle even at very low speeds and can decelerate to a complete standstill. When the vehicle remains stopped longer, the driver needs only to reactivate the system, for example by briefly stepping on the gas pedal to return to cruise control mode. In this way, cruise control stops & go supports the driver even in heavy traffic and traffic jams. Since Adaptive Cruise Control is a comfort and convenience system, brake interventions and vehicle acceleration only take place within defined limits. Even with Adaptive Cruise Control switched on, it remains the driver's responsibility to monitor the speed and distance from the vehicle in front.