

Tesla proposes building battery storage factory

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Tesla has drawn up plans to make and sell battery storage systems in India and submitted a proposal to officials seeking incentives to build a factory, two people aware of the plan said, as Elon Musk continues a push to enter the country.

Tesla has been in talks about setting up a new electric vehicle (EV) factory in India to build a car priced around \$24,000 for weeks, with discussions overseen directly by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Its renewables push, however, has not been reported so far.

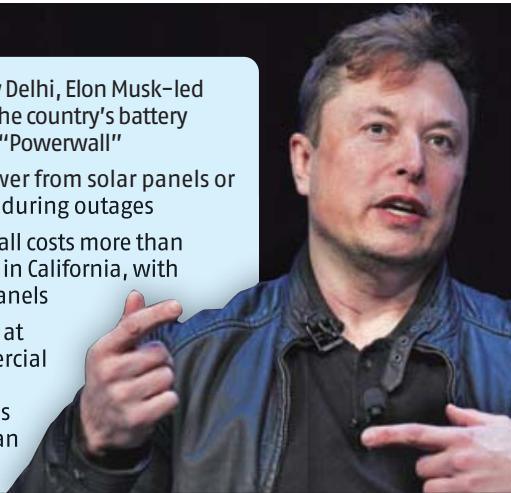
In recent meetings in New Delhi, Tesla proposed supporting the country's battery storage capabilities with its "Powerwall", a system that can store power from solar panels or the grid for use at night or during outages, said the sources who declined to be named as the matter is confidential.

Although Tesla sought a number of incentives to set up a battery storage factory, Indian officials conveyed these would not be available, one of the sources said. But they added that the government could help create a fair business model for the company by offering subsidies to those purchasing such products.

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- The system can store power from solar panels or the grid for use at night or during outages
- With incentives, Powerwall costs more than \$5,500 (about ₹4,57,066) in California, with additional costs for solar panels
- The technology is aimed at domestic and light commercial use but Tesla could look at developing larger solutions for industry if the India plan comes to fruition



ernment remain keen on the proposal, and New Delhi continues to review it, it is not certain if the plan will be realised, said the first source.

The Powerwall proposal is part of the US company's plans for a broader presence in India, thinking beyond EVs, the second source said, adding Tesla was keen to find residential as well as industrial customers for its battery storage systems. "Large policy level calibration will be required. Tesla's intent is to have the Powerwall business in India," said the

source. Neither Tesla, the Indian government's chief spokesperson nor the commerce ministry responded to requests for comment.

India has boosted electricity supplies to towns and villages but still faces peak-time shortages as demand surges. It is largely dependent on coal-based power generation as storage technologies are expensive and not yet widespread.

Last year, India faced its worst power crisis in more than six years due to coal transportation problems. **REUTERS**