

Principal scientific advisor bats for inclusion of e-trucks in FAME-III

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A report by the office of the Principal Scientific Adviser (PSA) to the Government of India has batted for the inclusion of electric trucks in the third tranche of the Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of Electric Vehicles (FAME-III) scheme.

Titled "Bharat Zero Emission Trucking (ZET) Policy Advisory", the report outlines a comprehensive plan to transition India's trucking sector to zero-emission vehicles, with a target of achieving 100 per cent zero-

emission truck sales by 2050. The report notes that the Ministry of Heavy Industries (MHI) is leading several initiatives aimed at e-trucks, including the potential incentives under the forthcoming FAME-III programme.

"This ministry is spearheading multiple initiatives specifically targeted towards e-trucks, including potential incentives under the upcoming FAME-III programme," the report says. *Business Standard* reported in January on the potential inclusion of e-trucks in the scheme, with a proposed budget of ₹100 crore. These incentives aim to support

heavy commercial vehicles (HCVs) in industries such as mining, steel and cement, facilitating their transition from diesel-powered HCVs that emit carbon dioxide. The Bharat ZET Policy Advisory document serves as a comprehensive guide to accelerate the adoption of ZETs in India, detailing 30 strategic interventions across five key areas.

The plan includes financial incentives to make ZETs more appealing to buyers, a revamped regulatory framework to provide market clarity, and the development of zero-emission refuelling infrastructure through tax credits and innovative service models.