

# Standards for EV batteries to be out soon

SANDIP DAS  
New Delhi, December 27

**NATIONAL BATTERY SWAPPING** standards for electric vehicles (EVs) will be finalised soon, paving the way for faster growth of the fledgling industry, which will play a key role in cutting vehicular pollution and greenhouse gas emissions.

According to sources, the norms to be unveiled by the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) will focus on three aspects: battery, connectors, and battery management systems.

Minister for consumer affairs Piyush Goyal will chair a meeting of key stakeholders on January 3 to finalise the policy, the sources added. The meeting will also discuss whether battery swapping standards would be made mandatory.

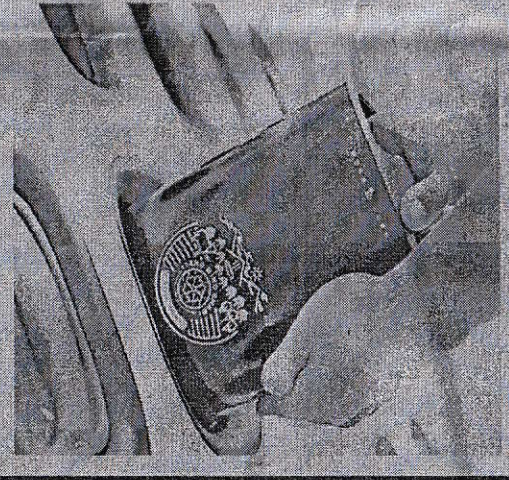
BIS had formed a committee to formulate standards on aspects such as size and dimensions of the battery, communication proto-

## PREPARING A ROADMAP

■ On January 3, consumer affairs minister Piyush Goyal will discuss national battery swapping standards for EVs with stakeholders

■ It will also be discussed whether the swapping standards would be made mandatory or not

■ Experts will also dwell on issues and challenges in developing a common benchmark for EV batteries



cols, connectors and interoperability among EVs.

Union minister for road transport and highways Nitin Gadkari had recently said in Lok Sabha that BIS standards are being formulated keeping in mind that “they do not stifle innovation and rather enable effective, efficient, reliable, safe, and customer-friendly implementation of battery-swap-

ping infrastructure”.

Earlier Rohit Kumar Singh, secretary, department of consumer affairs, had told FE that the standards, being finalised in consultation with manufacturers of EV scooters, will focus on size, connectivity protocol and quality of cells. Singh said quality norms would not create any impediment to the growth of the EV industry.

He said the BIS standards would be in tune with average temperature prevalent during most times of the year.

In May, a NITI Aayog discussion paper had stressed the need for standards as the first step towards a national battery swapping policy. “Safety and reliability of the battery is one of the primary concerns surrounding the prospects of battery swapping,” it had said.

It had said that for EV battery swapping to become popular, it was paramount that the government specify at the earliest minimum operational and safety standards for it without compromising the performance of the battery.

Because of rising space constraints to set up charging stations on a large scale, finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman had announced in the Budget for FY23 that the government will introduce battery swapping policy and interoperability standards in order to improve efficiency in the EV ecosystem.