

# 'Consultations on new EV policy to boost investments under way'

**OPEN INVITATION.** Talks aim to bring all countries on board, including Italians and Koreans: Govt official

**Amiti Sen**  
New Delhi

The government is in consultations with both domestic and foreign stakeholders to formulate a policy to boost the manufacture of electric vehicles (EVs), said a senior government official.

"Consultations on new EV policy to boost investment and manufacturing are underway.

"Talks aim to bring all countries on board, including Italians, Koreans, and of course, Indian car-makers. It should be for everyone," said the official.

The statement on the proposed EV policy is im-



**LONG WAY TO GO.** EV penetration in India is quite low, with electric cars accounting for just 1.3% of the total car sales in 2022

portant as US car major Tesla is reportedly in talks with the government for adequate policy support for setting up its manufacturing facilities in the country.

The government is not yet ready to set a timeline

for the proposed EV policy as diverse interests have to be accommodated, said another source.

## 'NO PROPOSAL YET'

Earlier this month, in response to a query in Parliament on the possible

sops for EVs, Minister of State for Commerce and Industry, Som Parkash, said there was no immediate proposal.

"At present, there is no proposal either to provide exemption from local value addition cost or to provide subsidy on import duty on import of electric vehicles in India," he said.

However, some official sources, on condition of anonymity, later clarified that Tesla's demands for sops, including import duty cuts, were still being considered, although nothing was immediately expected.

Officials also said the sops would not be for any particular manufacturer, but for the industry in

general. There is not much enthusiasm among domestic car manufacturers, such as Tata Motors and Mahindra & Mahindra, towards import duty cuts on EVs sought by foreign companies, as they are concerned about losing business.

The EV policy under consideration is likely to take the interests of all stakeholders into consideration, the official added.

## EV MARKET

EV penetration in the Indian automobile market is quite low with electric cars accounting for just 1.3 per cent of the total car sales in the country in 2022, per industry estimates.