

INDUSTRY INCENTIVES

Figure 11: Electric two-wheeler factory in India



Source: Ather Energy

Electric vehicles provide a rare opportunity for new market entrants to counter the heavyweights of the automotive industry, and for new regions to capitalize on the projected industrial growth within this sunrise sector. Industry incentives, or supply-side incentives, are aimed at vehicle manufacturers, battery producers, and ancillary companies, to encourage the production of electric vehicles and component parts of the EV value chain. Incentives are generally in the form of subsidies, grants, and tax waivers, as well as infrastructural support in terms of land allocation and industrial park creation.

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The central government has laid out a production-linked incentive (PLI) scheme to boost manufacturing in the automotive sector, which also benefits EV manufacturers. However, there are no specific incentives in GoI schemes for the EV industry. State EV policies, on the other hand, have focused strongly on supply-side incentives for EV and component manufacturers, to achieve industrial growth and employment generation. While some states have applied industrial incentives for the EV sector on par with other industries, others have explicitly provided more favorable incentives by earmarking it as a "thrust sector" or "priority sector."

Some states have prioritized specific components of the EV value chain, notably battery manufacturing, with higher incentives to promote the localization of this critical component. In addition to financial incentives, state EV policies provide incentives for innovation, research and workforce development, to create a competitive advantage. Table 7 below provides an overview of the industry incentives being offered by state EV policies.





Capital subsidies for industrial development

States facilitate investment promotion through capital cost subsidies to offset high upfront development costs. These are offered as tiered incentives for industries of different sizes ranging from micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) to ultramega projects.

States are linking subsidy amounts to geographic location of industries, with lower subsidies in more developed regions and higher subsidies in underdeveloped regions.

In states such as Maharashtra, EV manufacturers can avail of subsidies at one tier above their eligibility, effectively receiving higher incentives than their size or location qualifies them for.

Which states are using it?

- Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh provide varying capital subsidies by size of industry (see Table 8 for details). Both states offer differentiated subsidies based on industry type as well. Karnataka's subsidies for large to ultra-mega industries are restricted to battery manufacturing/ assembly and charging infrastructure manufacturing companies. In addition to these, Andhra Pradesh offers subsidies for EV manufacturers (of 2Ws, 3Ws, 4Ws and buses) and hydrogen storage and fueling equipment manufacturers, too.
- Tamil Nadu offers capital subsidies only for intermediate products used in the manufacture of EVs and charging infrastructure, where State Goods and Services Tax (SGST) reimbursement is not applicable.
- The Kerala government will proffer a 20% capital subsidy on new EV manufacturing units, while Telangana offers capital subsidies up to 20% of investment capped at INR 300 million for mega enterprises.
- In Maharashtra, while there is no capital subsidy for new industries, expansion projects of MSMEs get a 25% subsidy only on additional capital equipment acquired for technology upgrade, subject to a maximum of INR 2.5 million.

Table 8: Capital subsidies by size and type of industry

Capital Subsidies	MSME	Large	Mega	Ultra-mega		
Karnataka	INR 1.5 million to	EV battery manufacturing/assembly - 20% up to INR 200 million for first 2				
	5 million (25% of	units				
	investment)					
		EV charging equipment manufacturing - 20% up to INR 50 million for first				
		5 units				
Andhra Pradesh	1.5 million to	10% of investment	10% (max INR 200	Special incentives for		
	50 million	(max INR 100 million)	million) for first 2 units	mega, ultra-mega and		
		for first 2 units in	in various segments	integrated automotive		
		various segments		projects		
Tamil Nadu	All industries - 15%	ries - 15% of eligible investment (payable over 10 years)				
	EV battery manufacturing - 20% of eligible investment (payable over 20 years)					
	MSMEs - additional capital subsidy for e-vehicle component or charging infrastructure					
	manufacturers					
Kerala	20% capital subsidy for new EV manufacturing units					
Telangana	Up to 20% capital subsidy capped at INR 300 million for mega enterprises					

Tax exemptions and interest subsidies

Apart from capital subsidies, tax exemptions or reimbursements of the SGST and interest subsidies on loans are the two other fiscal incentives deployed by states under the umbrella of industrial promotion subsidies.

Which states are using it?

- Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, and Maharashtra offer SGST exemptions/reimbursements and interest subsidies on loans (see Table 9 for details).
- Bihar, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, and Telangana offer SGST reimbursements for periods ranging from 5 to 15 years from the date of commencement of commercial production.
- Most states have upper limits on the amount of SGST reimbursement that may be

claimed, depending on the size of industry and its location within the state.

■ Karnataka, rather than offering an SGST exemption, allows sanctioning of SGST as an interest-free loan for large, mega, ultra-mega and super mega enterprises.

Table 9: Tax exemptions and interest subsidies by industry size

Capital Subsidies	MSME	Large	Mega	Ultra-mega	
Maharashtra	100% of gross SGST payable 5% interest subsidy on loans	50% of gross	Customized package of incentives for prestigious mega and ultra-mega projects, on a case-to-case basis		
Uttarakhand	Interest subsidy on loans from 5% to 10% up to INR 800,000 for medium enterprises	7% interest subsidy up to INR 2.5 million/ year able will be reimbursed	10% (max INR 200 million) for first 2 units in various segments 50% of net SGST payable	Special incentives for mega, ultra-mega and integrated automotive projects	
Uttar Pradesh	90% SGST reimbursement for small industries for 5 years	60% SGST reimbursement for 5 years per annum for 5 years, up	70% SGST reimbursement for 10 years		
Andhra Pradesh	100% SGST reimbursement for 5-7 years	100% SGST reimbursement for 10 years	NA	NA	
Telangana	NA	NA	100% net SGST reimbursement, up to INR 50 million/year, total cap of INR 250 million over 7 years		
Bihar	80% SGST reimbursement for 5 years				
Tamil Nadu	100% SGST reimbursement up to 2030 (up to 100% of eligible investment)				
Punjab	100% SGST reimbursement for 15 years (up to 200% of eligible investment)				
Karnataka	NA	100% of net SGST can be sanctioned as interest-free loans for 8-13 years			

Land development incentives

Land acquisition and development costs are significant capital expenditure items for setting up new industrial units. Incentives for land development include subsidies on the cost of land, fee waivers for the conversion of agricultural to industrial land, and stamp duty and registration charge exemptions on the purchase and registration of land.

Through land development incentives, states aim to promote under-developed districts by offering higher incentives in certain regions. The development of industrial clusters is also catalyzed by extending benefits availed by larger auto OEMs to ancillary component suppliers.

Which states are using it?

■ Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, and Uttarakhand offer land cost subsidies for manufacturing units, depending on size and location of industry (see Table 10 for details).