Shri Rajiv Gauba, Member, NITI Aayog launches PACT and ZET marketplace, urges stategic electrification of India's freight sector

Posted On: 07 SEP 2026 5:53PM by PIB Delhi

Shri Rajiv Gauba delivered the inaugural address at the 5th E-Fast India Summit 2026. During the event, he marked a significant milestone in India's clean mobility journey with the launch of the Platform for Aggregating Clean Transport (PACT) and the Zero Emission Truck (ZET) Marketplace.

In his address, Shri Gauba noted that e-FAST has evolved over four years from a forum for dialogue into a vehicle of coordinated action, mirroring the shift in India's clean mobility discourse from intent to implementation. Shri Gauba emphasised that transitioning to electric mobility is an economic, environmental, and strategic imperative essential for achieving the global commitment of Net Zero by 2070 and realising the vision of Viksit Bharat by 2047. He highlighted that accelerating electric vehicle adoption is vital for the nation's energy security and improving citizens' quality of living.

He outlined the progress achieved through government initiatives including the PLI schemes for Automobiles and Advanced chemistry cells, expansion of public charging infrastructure owing to investments made by the Oil Marketing Companies, and demand-side schemes such as FAME, PM e-DRIVE, PARIVARTAN and PM e-Bus Sewa, supporting a rise in EV sales.

Addressing the heavy-duty commercial sector, Shri Gauba noted that while heavy trucks represent only 3-4% of the vehicle fleet, they contribute to over a third of transport-sector carbon emissions. He identified structural fragmentation among logistics operators, high financing costs, and the absence of coordinated corridor planning as the key constraints holding back the market, noting that PACT and the ZET Marketplace have been designed to close precisely this gap through demand aggregation, financing innovation and corridor-based projectization.

He observed that only around 800 heavy-duty electric trucks were sold in 2025, underscoring the need for strategic electrification of key freight corridors given that 70% of India's freight moves by road. He called for blended finance mechanisms, leasing models, and stronger data systems to bring the cost of capital for electric trucks closer to diesel equivalents.

Shri Gauba called upon logistics providers, manufacturers, charge point operators and financiers to engage with the platform in shaping the corridors, financing instruments and commercial models that will define electric freight in India.

He observed that the summit reflects a wider institutional lesson that extends well beyond freight, that in complex, capital-intensive sectors, government is at its most effective not when it seeks to allocate outcomes directly, but when it builds systems that allow markets to discover them, describing PACT as one such enabling mechanism.

***

MJPS/SS/PRK