

Press Note

20th July 2018

Quote by Mr. Erich Nesselhauf, Managing Director and CEO, Daimler India Commercial Vehicles, with regard to the new Axle Load Regulation

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DICV fully supports the ministry's strategic targets to elevate the regulatory framework for the Indian CV sector to match international standards.

This approach will not only benefit people and the environment, but also increase the global competitiveness of the Indian CV industry including its component suppliers, in line with the goals of the 'Make in India' Initiative.

BharatBenz trucks and buses today already meet many major international standards that are still awaiting their introduction in India (Truck Code, Bus Body Code).

Regarding the transition to a new Axle Load Regulation, with robust, proven aggregates and higher horse power engines, BharatBenz is well prepared to meet these new load requirements.

At the same time, we share the concerns voiced by SIAM regarding media speculations about an unconditional inclusion of older vehicles, many of which are in fact technically unfit to carry additional load safely. From our point of view, all owners of vehicles certified under the old norms should be able undergo an efficient, shortened re-certification process before being permitted to carry more load according to the new limits. This will protect the investments of those customers who have opted for modern, capable trucks before and safeguard the residual value of these vehicles.

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DICV at a Glance

Daimler India Commercial Vehicles (DICV) is a 100% subsidiary of Daimler AG, Stuttgart, Germany. DICV is a full-fledged commercial vehicle player in the Indian market. It currently produces and sells above 9 to 49 tons trucks for the Indian volume market, under the brand BharatBenz. BharatBenz stands for Indian engineering with German DNA. Under its bus division, the company produces and sells BharatBenz buses and Mercedes-Benz buses from its manufacturing plant at Oragadam. Bharat-Benz products have been engineered to serve all major customer segments with a focus on total-cost-of ownership, safety, reliability and comfort. Trucks including knocked-down vehicle kits as well as buses and bus chassis produced for the FUSO brand and the Mercedes-Benz brand are exported to more than 30 markets in the Middle East, Africa, Asia, and Latin America.

The state-of-the-art production plant at Oragadam near Chennai spreads over 400 acres (160 hectares) and was opened in 2012. The site is also home to DICV's headquarters and R&D operations, and features a highly modern test track. DICV has made an overall investment of more than INR 5,000 crores. In August 2016, less than four years after the start of production, the milestone of 50,000 produced vehicles was crossed – an unprecedented ramp-up in the Indian commercial vehicle industry.