

‘A record year for freight rates, auto sales’

Our Bureau

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India's mobility sector closed 2025 on a strong note, with truck rentals soaring to the highest levels across major trunk routes and vehicle sales reaching unprecedented levels. December data reveals sustained freight momentum despite seasonal headwinds and weather disruptions, according to the Shriram Mobility Bulletin.

Truck rentals remained firm in December, with rates increasing across most trunk routes. Round-trip rentals for 18-tonne payload vehicles surged, with the Delhi-Mumbai corridor leading gains at 12 per cent year-on-year. Demand for BS-VI compliant trucks remained particularly strong in the NCR region due to GRAP restrictions limiting older vehicle move-



ment. However, the weather posed challenges. Foggy conditions and snowfall in the upper Himalayan regions disrupted trucking activity, constraining goods and vehicle movement toward the month-end, said the bulletin.

LANDMARK YEAR

The year was also a landmark for vehicle sales. Passenger car sales grew 10 per

cent y-o-y supported by GST cuts and successive repo rate reductions.

Two-wheeler sales neared the 2-crore mark, the highest ever in a calendar year. Goods carriers, three-wheeler goods vehicles, maxi cabs, and buses all posted best ever annual sales, reflecting strong demand across commercial segments, the bulletin said.

“The demand for trucks remained high in December thereby pushing up truck rentals across major trunk routes. The GST cuts and lower interest rates has resulted in higher vehicle sales across categories. Some manufacturers increased vehicle prices from January citing higher input costs. This may have a temporary impact on new vehicle sales.” said Sudarshan Holla, Joint MD & COO, Commercial Vehicles, Shriram Finance.