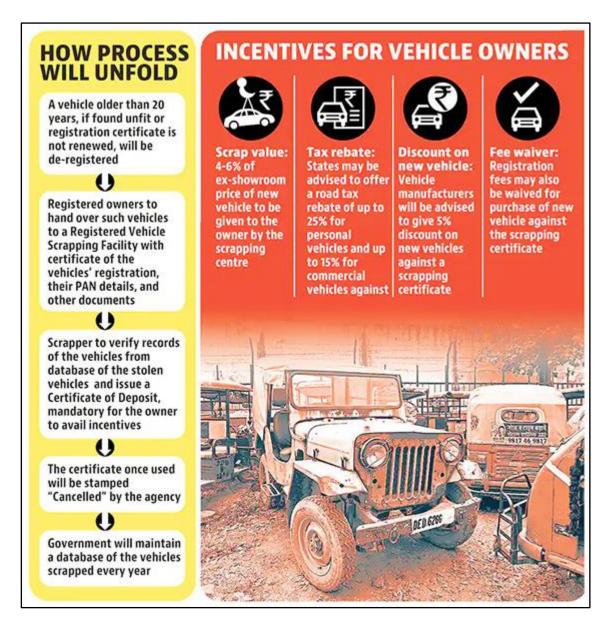
Brief Report on Vehicle Scrapping Policy

Union road transport minister Nitin Gadkari has launched one of the most talked-about policies on phasing out old and defective vehicles. The fleet modernisation programme of the government aims to achieve multiple goals like reduction in air pollution, the fulfilment of India's climate commitments, improving road and vehicle safety, better fuel efficiency, and boosting the availability of low-cost raw materials for auto, steel and electronics industry. Going forward, private vehicles will be de-registered after 20 years if found unfit or in case of failure to renew registration. Enhanced reregistration will be applicable on private vehicles from the 15th year of original registration.



Salient features of the government's vehicle scrappage policy:

It was first announced in the Union Budget for 2021-22.

- The policy is estimated to cover 51 lakh Light Motor Vehicles (LMVs) that are above 20 years
 of age and another 34 lakh LMVs above 15 years of age.
- India will also implement a Global Positioning System (GPS)-based toll collection
 system and do away with all toll booths within a year.
- Aim: Reducing the population of old and defective vehicles, bringing down vehicular air pollutants, improving road and vehicular safety.

Provisions:

Fitness Test:

- Old vehicles will have to pass a fitness test before re-registration and as per the
 policy government commercial vehicles more than 15 years old and private
 vehicles which are over 20 years old will be scrapped.
- Old vehicles will be tested at the Automated Fitness Center and the fitness test of the vehicles will be conducted according to international standards.
 - Emission test, braking system, safety components will be tested and the vehicles which fail in the fitness test will be scraped.
 - The Ministry has also issued rules for registration procedure for scrapping facilities, their powers, and scrapping procedure to be followed.

o Road Tax Rebate:

- The state governments may be advised to offer a road-tax rebate of up to 25% for personal vehicles and up to 15% for commercial vehicles to provide incentive to owners of old vehicles to scrap old and unfit vehicles
- Vehicle Discount: Vehicle manufacturers will also give a discount of 5% to people who will produce the 'Scrapping Certificate' and registration fees will be waived off on the purchase of a new vehicle.
- Disincentive: As a disincentive, increased re-registration fees would be applicable for vehicles 15 years or older from the initial date registration.

Significance:

- Creation of Scrap yards: It will lead to creation for more scrap yards in the country and effective recovery of waste from old vehicles.
- Employment: In the new fitness centers, 35 thousand people will get employment and an investment of Rs 10,000 crores will be pumped in.

Improved Revenue:

- This will boost sales of heavy and medium commercial vehicles that had been in the contraction zone as a result of economic slowdown triggered by the bankruptcy of IL&FS (Infrastructure Leasing & Financial Services) and Covid-19 pandemic.
- The government treasury is expected to get around Rs 30,000 to 40,000 crores of money through Goods and Services Tax (GST) from this policy.

Reduction in Prices:

- Prices of auto components would fall substantially with the recycling of metal and plastic parts.
- As scrapped materials will get cheaper the production cost of the vehicle manufacturers will also reduce.

Reduce Pollution:

- It will help improve fuel efficiency and reduce pollution.
- As older vehicles pollute the environment 10 to 12 times more, and estimated that
 17 lakh medium and heavy commercial vehicles are more than 15 years old.

Other Initiatives to Curb Vehicular Pollution:

- o Go Electric Campaign
- o FAME India Scheme Phase II.
- o Electric Vehicles (EV) Policy 2020 for Delhi.
- Hydrogen Fuel Cell Based Bus and Car Project.
- o National Electric Mobility Mission 2020.

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