Source : www.pib.gov.in Date : 2021-01-26

GREEN TAX TO BE IMPOSED ON OLDER VEHICLES SOON, TO CLEAN UP THE ENVIRONMENT BY PHASING OUT UNFIT AND POLLUTING VEHICLES

Relevant for: Environment | Topic: Environmental Conservation, Sustainable Development, and EIA

The Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Sh. Nitin Gadkari has approved a proposal to levy a “Green Tax” on old vehicles which are polluting the environment. The proposal will now go to the states for consultation before it is formally notified. The main principles to be followed while levying the Green Tax are :

The benefits of the “Green Tax” could be :

The Minister also approved the policy of deregistration and scrapping of vehicles owned by Government department and PSU, which are above 15 years in age. It is to be notified, and will come into effect from 1st April, 2022.

It is estimated that commercial vehicles, which constitute about 5% of the total vehicle fleet , contribute about 65-70% of total vehicular pollution. The older fleet, typically manufactured before the year 2000 constitute less that 1 % of the total fleet but contributes around 15% of total vehicular pollution. These older vehicles pollute 10-25 times more than modern vehicles.

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