

Government of Himachal Pradesh

Cabinet Approves Draft Electric Vehicle Policy

Relevant to EV

Context

The EV Policy was proposed earlier this year (July 2021) by transport minister Anupam Kashyap.

Aim:

The policy aims to promote sustainable transport system for making Himachal a global hub for electric mobility development and manufacturing of electric vehicles besides creating public and private charging infrastructure for such vehicles, along with providing subsidy and incentives to the electric vehicle manufacturing industries.

Salient Features

- Primary objective is to make battery electric vehicles (BEVS) form at least 15 per cent of the new vehicle registrations by 2025
- Make three cities-Shimla, Baddi, and Dharamshala- model cities for EV readiness and adoption
- Envisages the electrification of Himachal Road Transport Corporation (HRTC) buses and cabs
- Incentivise the adoption of EVs across segments and also create a network of public charging stations
- At least one charging station would be made available within every 1km x 1km grid in major cities and towns, and at least one slow-charging station (on each side) will be created every 25km on state highways
- At least one fast-charging point (on each side) every 50kms on busy national highways will also be deployed
- All EVs have been exempted from payment of road tax under the Himachal Pradesh Motor Vehicles Taxation Act
- Commercial EVs have also been exempted from requiring permits

Funding

- An umbrella state EV fund will be created using a 'feebate structure', where fees are applied to ICE vehicles to raise funds that are returned as rebates in the form of incentives
- The state EV fund will be capitalised from sources such as additional road tax and/or registration fees charged to ICE vehicles, green tax on ICE vehicles registered in the state, pollution cess on petrol and diesel vehicles sold in the state