



Forum for Decarbonisation of Transport Sector

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Why in News

Recently, **Forum for Decarbonizing Transport** was jointly launched by **NITI Aayog** and **World Resources Institute (WRI)**, India.

- **WRI India** is an **independent charity legally** registered as the **India Resources Trust** which provides objective information and practical proposals to foster environmentally sound and socially equitable development.
- **NITI Aayog** serves as an advisory think tank for the government and is chaired by the Prime Minister. It replaced the **Planning Commission**.

Key Points

- **About:**
 - The forum is a part of the **Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC)-Transport Initiative for Asia (NDC-TIA) project**, which focuses on developing a coherent strategy of effective policies and the formation of a multi-stakeholder platform for decarbonising transport in the region.
 - NDC-TIA is a joint programme of **seven organisations that will engage China, India, and Vietnam** in promoting a **comprehensive approach to decarbonising transport in their respective countries**. The project is part of the **International Climate Initiative (IKI)**.
 - The IKI is a **key element of Germany's climate financing and the funding commitments** in the framework of the **Convention on Biological Diversity**.
 - It will act as the conduit for bringing diverse voices and needs to adopt an **integrated approach for greening the transport sector in India**.
- **Aim:**

To Bring down the peak level of GreenHouse Gas emissions (transport sector) in Asia (in line with a well below 2-degree pathway), resulting in problems like **congestion and air pollution**.

- **Expected Benefits:**
 - It will help in the **development of innovative business models** for targeted results and the holistic growth of the electric mobility space in India.
 - It will **also provide a platform to initiate dialogues for the development of uniform policies and help achieve specific results** in reducing emissions from the transport sector.
- **Need:**
 - India has a **massive and diverse transport sector**, which is also the **third most CO₂ emitting sector**.
 - Data from **International Energy Agency (IEA), 2020** and **Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change, 2018** suggests that within the **transport sector, road transport contributes to more than 90% of the total CO₂ emissions**.
 - With increasing **urbanisation**, the fleet size i.e. the **number of sales of vehicles is increasing rapidly**. It is projected that the **total number of vehicles will be doubled by 2030**.
 - Therefore, the **transition to a decarbonisation path** for the transport sector in India is essential to achieving the goals of the **Paris Climate Agreement for 2050**.
- **Related Initiatives:**
 - **FAME Scheme:**
It is a part of the **National Electric Mobility Mission Plan**. Its main thrust is to encourage electric vehicles by providing subsidies.
 - **Incentives under PLI Scheme:**
 - Last year the scheme was rolled out for **various industries** including an **outlay of over Rs. 5700 crore for the automobile and auto-component industry** over a period of five years.
 - Around Rs.18,000 crore was approved for development of advanced cell chemistry battery storage manufacturing.
 - These incentives further aim to **encourage indigenous development of Electric Vehicles (EVs) so as to bring down their upfront cost**.
 - **Renewable Automotive Industry:**
India is currently engaged in building a domestic renewable automotive industry with the aim to become the **world's largest electric vehicle manufacturing and supplying hub**.
Battery electric vehicle and fuel-cell vehicle technologies are all set to overtake **fossil-run vehicles in the country by 2050**.

Way Forward

- India has a **great opportunity to decarbonize its urban transport sector**. **Promotion of walking, cycling and public transport** coupled with **electrification of motor vehicles** should be the right strategy for the country.

- To **leverage and streamline EVs across the country**, there is a need to **create a favourable ecosystem** for different stakeholders.
- A **coordinated effort between these stakeholders** will help enable investment, encourage adoption, and ensure fair operation in the industry.

Source: PIB