

## **FASTag Details for New Vehicle Registration**

## Why in News

Recently, the **Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH)** has decided to ensure capturing of **FASTag details while registering or issuing fitness certificates** to vehicles all over the country.

 Besides facilitating smooth commutation/transit, use of electronic medium of FASTag payment, would also help in checking Covid-19 spread as cash payment is avoided.

## **FASTag**

- Introduced in 2017, it is an electronic toll collection system with reloadable tag feature which allows automatic deduction of toll without having to stop for carrying out the cash transaction.
  - The reloadable tag allows addition of monetary values multiple times.
- It is operated by the <u>National Highway Authority of India (NHAI)</u> under the supervision of MoRTH.
- The tag uses Radio Frequency IDentification (RFID) technology and is fixed on the windscreen of the vehicle once active.
  - RFID is the use of radio waves to read and capture information stored on a tag
    attached to an object. A tag can be read from up to several feet away and does not need to
    be within the direct line-of-sight of the reader to be tracked.
- It is linked to a prepaid account from which the applicable toll amount is deducted.
  - Consumers avoided using it following complaints of technical glitches, and money getting deducted twice from their bank accounts or e-wallets.

## **Key Points**

- The MoRTH has directed the **National Information Centre (NIC)** to ensure details of the electronic toll collection device are captured on **VAHAN portal**.
  - The full integration of <u>National Electronic Toll Collection (NETC)</u> with VAHAN portal has been achieved and the portal is now getting all information on FASTags through Vehicle Identification Number/ Vehicle Registration Number (VIN/VRN).
- VAHAN Portal: It acts as an integrated solution for vehicle registration for the State
   Transport Department. It helps in various processes like fitness, taxes, permits & enforcement to
   get computerized.
  - The State Transport Department is governed by both Central Motor Vehicle Regulation (CMVR) and state specific Motor Vehicle Regulation (State MVR).
  - Consequently, VAHAN was conceptualized as a product that would capture the functionalities mandated by CMVR as well as state MVRs.

 National Electronic Toll Collection: It was developed by <u>National Payments Corporation of India</u> (NPCI) in 2016 for electronic toll collection at toll plazas using FASTag.

**Source: PIB** 

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