

Maharashtra Withdraws Proposed Tax on Premium EVs

Why in News?

Maharashtra Chief Minister announced that the state government will not impose the proposed 6% tax on <u>electric vehicles (EVs)</u> priced above Rs 30 lakh.

Key Points

- Proposed in Budget 2025-26:
 - The tax on high-end EVs was initially introduced in <u>Maharashtra's 2025-26 state</u> <u>budget</u> before being withdrawn.
 - The government reconsidered the tax after stakeholders raised concerns about its potential impact on EV adoption and revenue generation.
 - The Chief Minister highlighted that Maharashtra is emerging as a key EV manufacturing hub, with major plants coming up in Pune and Chhatrapati Sambhaiinagar.
 - He emphasized that shifting from petrol and diesel vehicles to EVs would significantly reduce <u>air pollution</u>, as conventional vehicles are the primary contributors.
 - Over 2,500 electric buses are being introduced in phases, and more than 50% of newly registered vehicles in Maharashtra are now electric, reflecting the state's strong push for clean mobility.

Electric Vehicles

- **About:** Electric vehicles are a type of vehicle that use one or more electric motors for propulsion, instead of a **traditional internal combustion engine (ICE)** that burns gasoline or diesel.
 - Though the concept of electric vehicles has been around for a long time, it has drawn a
 considerable amount of interest in the past decade amid a rising carbon footprint and
 other environmental impacts of fuel-based vehicles.
- Types of Electric Vehicles:
 - Battery Electric Vehicles (BEVs): Solely rely on battery power for propulsion and produce zero tailpipe emissions.
 - Plug-in Hybrid Electric Vehicles (PHEVs): Combine an electric motor with a gasoline engine. They can be charged externally and run on battery power for a limited range, then switch to the gasoline engine for longer journeys.
 - **Hybrid Electric Vehicles (HEVs):** Use both an electric motor and a gasoline engine, but the battery cannot be charged directly by plugging in.
 - The battery is charged by the gasoline engine or **through regenerative braking.**

