

## **FAME India Phase-II Scheme**

For Prelims: Parliamentary Committee, FAME India Scheme Phase-II, Electric Mobility, National Electric Mobility Mission Plan, Vehicle Scrappage Policy.

For Mains: Government policies, EVs: Advantages, Challenges

#### **Source: DTE**

## Why in News?

The <u>Parliamentary Standing Committee</u> on Industry has recently put forth crucial recommendations regarding the extension and enhancement of the <u>Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of (Hybrid &)</u> <u>Electric Vehicles in India (FAME India) Scheme Phase-II.</u>

- The committee suggests extending the FAME India Phase-II Scheme's deadline by at least three more years to facilitate the transition momentum to electric mobility.
- The current deadline is March 31, 2024, with a budget allocation of Rs 10,000 crore.

## What are the Committee Recommendations for Improvement?

- Restoration of Subsidy on Electric Two-Wheelers:
  - The committee suggests **restoring the subsidy on electric two-wheelers**, which was reduced in June 2023.
    - Government reduced the FAME-II subsidy for electric two-wheelers after June 1, 2023.
      - The initial 40% incentive on ex-factory price was cut to 15%. Reduction in subsidies negatively impacted electric two-wheeler sales. Budget constraints cited as a reason for subsidy reallocation.
  - It also recommends projecting enhanced budget allocations, if required, to maintain the momentum and pace of electric vehicle penetration.
- Inclusion of Private Electric Four-Wheelers:
  - The ministry should increase the number of electric vehicles supported in the four-wheelers
    category and include private electric four-wheelers in the FAME-II Scheme, with a cap
    based on the cost and battery capacity of the vehicle.
- Supportive Government Frameworks:
  - The committee emphasizes the need for supportive, transparent, and consistent government frameworks at national, state, and local levels to make India a global EV hub.
    - It also recommends focusing on establishing dedicated manufacturing **hubs and industrial parks for batteries, cells, and EV auto components.**
- Funding for BHEL and Charging Stations:
  - More funds should be allocated to **Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL)** to facilitate popularizing EV mobility.
    - BHEL provided Engineering, Procurement, and Construction (EPC) solutions for EV charging stations. These include solar-based charging stations and **battery energy**

## storage systems.

• Additionally, public sector undertakings and government institutions should participate in installing charging stations on their premises.

## • Incentivizing Charging Station Installation:

 FAME-II should incentivise individual investors in charging stations. Women's self-help groups and cooperative societies should be assisted in opening and operating charging stations, with assured returns provided by the government from its funds.

#### What is the FAME India Scheme?

## Background:

- FAME India is a part of the National Electric Mobility Mission Plan.
- The scheme's main objective is to encourage the adoption of electric and hybrid vehicles by **offering upfront incentives on purchase.**
- The scheme covers <u>Hybrid and electric</u> technologies like Mild Hybrid, Strong Hybrid, Plug-in Hybrid and battery Electric Vehicles.

#### Phase I:

- Started in 2015 and was completed on 31st March 2019, with an outlay of Rs 895 crore.
- The 1<sup>st</sup> phase of FAME The scheme had four focus areas namely, technology development, demand creation, pilot project, and charging infrastructure.
- Achievements:
  - In the 1<sup>st</sup> phase of the scheme, about 2.78 lakh xEVs were supported with total demand incentives. In addition, 465 buses were sanctioned to various cities/states under this scheme.

#### FAME India Phase-II:

- The **Ministry of Heavy Industries** is implementing the scheme for five years, starting April 1, 2019, with a total budget of Rs. 10,000 crore.
- This phase mainly focuses on supporting the electrification of public & shared transportation and aims to support through demand incentive eBuses, e-3 Wheelers, e-4 Wheeler Passenger Cars and e-2 Wheelers.
  - In addition, the creation of charging infrastructure is also supported under the Scheme.
- Achievements:

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Category	Number of Vehicles			Amount (in Rs. Crores)		
	Revised Targets	Achievement	%	Revised Targets	Achievement	%
e-2W	9,68,000	6,89,016	71%	3,500	3,160	90%
e-3W	1,26,000	80,341	64%	700	456	65%
e-4W	11,000	8,115	74%	250	189	76%
e-Buses	7,090	2,838 – supplied 6,862 - committed	97%	4,307	1,181 – paid 3,151– committed	73%
Total	11,12,090	7,80,310	70%	8,757	4,986	57%

## What are the Other Government Initiatives to Promote EV Adoption?

- National Electric Mobility Mission Plan (NEMMP).
- National Mission on Transformative Mobility and Battery Storage.
- Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme.
- Vehicle Scrappage Policy.
- Go Electric campaign.
- EV30@30 campaign.

# **UPSC Civil Services Examination, Previous Year Questions (PYQs)**

# **Mains**

**Q.** How is efficient and affordable urban mass transport key to the rapid economic development in India? **(2019)** 

