

Green Cess in Uttarakhand

Why in News?

According to the officials, the **Uttarakhand Government** will soon impose a <u>green cess</u> on out-of-state vehicles.

• A Green cess is a **form of tax** levied by the government with the **purpose of** <u>environmental</u> <u>conservation</u>.

Key Points

- Introduction of Green Cess in Uttarakhand:
 - The cess will range from Rs 20 to Rs 80 and will apply to both commercial and private vehicles.
 - Two-wheelers, <u>electric vehicles</u> and <u>Compressed Natural Gas (CNG)</u> vehicles, ambulances, fire brigades, and vehicles registered in Uttarakhand **will be exempted.**
- Implementation and Technology:
 - The system is targeted to become operational by the end of December 2024.
 - Automatic number plate recognition cameras will identify vehicles, and cess amounts will be deducted directly from vehicle owners' <u>FASTag</u> wallets.

FASTag

- It is a device that employs <u>Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) technology</u> for making toll payments directly while the vehicle is in motion.
- <u>National Highways Authority of India (NHAI)</u> launched two mobile Apps MyFASTag and FASTag Partner to facilitate the availability of FASTags.
- The **tag is valid for 5 years** from the date of issuance and comes in seven different color codes.

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