UP Enforces 'No Helmet, No Fuel' Rule

Why in News?

The **Uttar Pradesh Transport Department** has proposed a strict **"no helmet, no fuel" policy** across cities in the state in an effort to reduce road accidents and fatalities involving two-wheelers.

- The Chief Minister observed that **road accidents claim approximately 25,000 to 26,000 lives** in the state annually.

Key Points

- The '**No Helmet, No Fuel' policy** is set to be implemented in Noida starting **26th January 2025**.
    - This move aims to enforce helmet usage among **two-wheeler riders** and enhance **road safety** in the region.
- Fuel stations across the state have been directed to install signage reading, **"No Helmet, No Fuel."**
    - This initiative **had been introduced earlier in Gautam Buddh Nagar district** in **2019** but was only implemented sporadically.
- The Transport Commissioner issued an official letter directing the fuel station operators not to sell fuel to **two-wheeler riders,** who are not wearing helmets, including the pillion.
- The **Uttar Pradesh Transport Department** is also working to ensure widespread awareness of the policy.
    - Fuel station operators must be educated about the relevant provisions of the **Motor Vehicles Act, 1988** and the **Uttar Pradesh Motor Vehicles Rules, 1998**.
- While some support the initiative as a necessary step to enforce helmet usage and save lives, others argue that the government should also consider **improving road quality** and **overall safety measures** rather than enforcing new laws.

Motor Vehicles Act, 1988

- Replacing the **Motor Vehicles Act, 1939**, this Act came into force on **1st July 1989.**
- The Act provides in detail the **legislative provisions regarding** licensing of drivers/conductors, registration of motor vehicles, control of motor vehicles through permits, special provisions relating to state transport undertakings, traffic regulation, insurance, liability, offences and penalties, etc.

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