



Haryana to Dispose and Recycle Old Vehicles | Haryana | 21 Jan 2025

Why in News?

The **Haryana Government** has notified [the Vehicle Scrappage and Recycling Facility Incentive Policy, 2024](#), to ensure the proper **disposal and recycling of old vehicles** and promote environmental sustainability by reducing [pollution](#).

Key Points

- **About the Decision:**
 - It is highlighted that [the National Green Tribunal \(NGT\)](#) set a 10-year limit for diesel vehicles and 15 years for petrol vehicles in the National Capital Region (NCR).
 - This regulation **led to a continuous increase in the number of condemned vehicles**, prompting the Haryana Government to act.
- **Environmental and Economic Benefits:**
 - The policy aims to **protect the environment by reducing pollution and promoting economic growth**.
 - Vehicle owners would receive financial benefits, and the public would gain relief from abandoned vehicles cluttering roads, streets, and public spaces.
- **Implementation as an Industrial Scheme:**
 - The state government **plans to implement the policy as an industrial scheme** with incentives such as capital subsidies or state GST reimbursement for new industrial units.
 - The Department of Industries and Commerce will develop a 10-year land leasing module through [the Haryana State Industrial and Infrastructure Development Corporation \(HSIIDC\)](#).
- **Financial Support for Entrepreneurs:**
 - The government will provide up to **Rs 20 crore in financial assistance**, covering **10% of project costs (excluding land)**, to startups, women entrepreneurs, and candidates from [the Scheduled Caste category](#) for venture capital funds.
 - Complete stamp duty reimbursement is offered in D-category industrial blocks, while B and C blocks receive a 75% reimbursement.
- **Incentives for Centres of Excellence and Skill Development:**
 - The government will provide a **50% grant of project costs, up to Rs 5 crore, for establishing Centres of Excellence**.
 - An additional Rs 50 lakh will be granted to **10 industries that contribute to youth skill development and employment** within the state.

NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL

The National Green Tribunal (NGT) is a specialised body for swift resolution of environmental and natural resource cases.

About

- 🕒 **Establishment:** By National Green Tribunal Act 2010
- 🎯 **Objective:** Quick resolution of environmental & natural resource cases
- 🕒 **Case Resolution:** Within 6 months
- 📍 **Places of Sitting:** New Delhi (Principal), Bhopal, Pune, Kolkata, and Chennai

Structure

- 👤 **Composition:** Chairperson, Judicial Members, and Expert Members
- 🕒 **Tenure:** Up to 5 years/until age 65 (no reappointment)
- 👤 **Appointments:** Chairperson - Central Government (with the CJI's consultation)
 - 👤 10-20 judicial members & 10-20 expert members - Selection Committee

India is the third country globally (after Australia and New Zealand) and the first developing nation to establish a specialised environmental tribunal like NGT.

Powers & Jurisdiction

- 👤 **Jurisdiction:** Civil cases on environmental issues and rights
- 🕒 **Suo Motu Powers:** Granted since 2021
- 👤 **Roles:** Adjudicatory, preventative, and remedial
- 👤 **Procedures:** Follows Principles of natural justice
 - 👤 Not bound by the CPC, 1908 or Indian Evidence Act, 1872
- 👤 **Principles:** Sustainable Development; Precautionary; Polluter pays
- 👤 **Orders:** Executable as civil court decrees; offers relief and compensation (**decisions are binding**)
- 👤 **Appeals:** Tribunal can review its decisions.
 - 👤 If decision fails - Appeal to the SC to be filed within 90 days

NGT deals with Civil Cases under

- 👤 Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974
- 👤 Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Cess Act, 1977
- 👤 Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980
- 👤 Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981
- 👤 Environment (Protection) Act, 1986
- 👤 Public Liability Insurance Act, 1991
- 👤 Biological Diversity Act, 2002



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NGT Notice to Haryana Pollution Board | Haryana | 21 Jan 2025

Why in News?

The [National Green Tribunal \(NGT\)](#) issued a notice to [the Haryana State Pollution Control Board \(HSPCB\)](#) in response to an appeal filed by [the Freedom Park Society, Gurugram](#), challenging the Rs 1.55 crore penalty imposed as [Environmental Compensation \(EC\)](#) for faults in its [Sewage Treatment Plant \(STP\)](#).

Key Points

- **Cause of STP Damage:**
 - It was argued that **stormwater flooding in August 2022** caused damage to the STP, as heavy rainfall affected the entire Gurugram area.

- **Remedial Measures Taken:**

- Following the [natural disaster](#), the Freedom Park Society immediately repaired the STP and restored its compliance with environmental norms.
- Private lab test reports confirm that the STP resumed functioning properly after repairs.

- **Contention Over the Penalty:**

- The penalty for 415 days of violation is arbitrary, irrational, and contrary to the "**Polluter Pay**" principle established by [the Supreme Court](#) in cases such as **Indian Council for Enviro vs. Union of India** and [Vellore Citizens Welfare vs. Union of India](#).

Haryana State Pollution Control Board

- It was formed as a **statutory organisation** by Government of Haryana in the year 1974 to preserve the wholesomeness of water and prevent water pollution after Government of India legislation of [Water \(Prevention and Control of Pollution\) Act, 1974](#).

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