

Total Ban on Diesel Vehicles in India

Why in news?

A government panel has recommended to ban all the diesel four wheelers by 2027.

Why did the panel recommend to ban diesel vehicles?

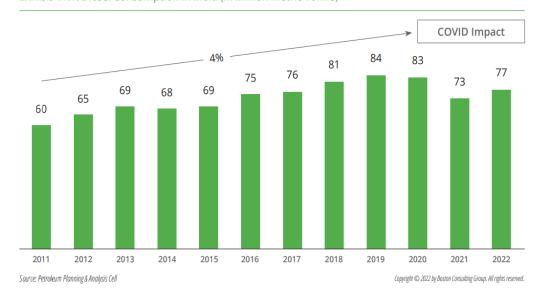
- **Greenhouse gas emissions** To achieve the stated aim to reduce the greenhouse gas emissions by 40% to mitigate <u>climate change</u>.
- **Net zero goal** To produce 40% of its electricity from renewables as part of its 2070 net zero goal.
- Oxides of nitrogen (NOx) The higher compression ratio of diesel engines increase emissions of oxides of nitrogen (NOx).
- **Volkswagen emissions scandal** Led to an increase in the negative perception against diesel across <u>markets</u>, including India.

A panel formed by the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas has recommended a ban on the use of diesel-powered four-wheel vehicles by 2027 in **cities with a population of more than 1 million**.

What is the importance of the diesel vehicles?

- Diesel engines have higher fuel economy than petro engine.
- Diesel engines do not use high-voltage spark ignition (spark plugs), and thus use less fuel per kilometer.
- Diesel engines have higher compression ratios, making it the fuel of choice for heavy vehicles.
- Diesel engines offer more torque (rotational or turning force) and are less likely to get stalled.

Diesel currently accounts for about 40% of India's petroleum products consumption.



What will be the consequences if there is a total ban?

- **Affects transportation** Around 87% of diesel fuel sales are in the transport segment, with trucks and buses accounting for about 68%.
- Affects the state's GDP Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, and Haryana make up almost 40% of the diesel sold in India.
- Affects the auto manufactures The auto manufactures have heavy invested in transition their diesel fleet from BS-IV to BS-VI emission norms.
- Low availability of alternates The commercial vehicle segment have not explored much of the alternatives such as electric vehicles which would cause serious disruptions in the segment.

What is the way forward?

- According to Energy Transition Advisory Committee report LNG has the potential to replace both diesel and CNG in heavy-duty vehicles and thereby reduce GHG emissions.
- The diesel should be phased out, rather than proposing a complete ban to avoid any serious disruptions.
- Railways and gas-powered trucks could be used for the movement of cargo.
- Indian should built underground gas storage to meet any unforeseen demand of energy in the future.

Quick facts

Petroleum Planning & Analysis Cell (PPAC)

- PPAC is attached to the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas was created effective from 1st April 2002.
- PPAC assists the Government in discharge of some of the functions earlier performed by Oil Coordination Committee (OCC).
- The expenditure of PPAC is borne by Oil Industry Development Board (OIDB).
- The functions of PPAC includes
- Administration of **subsidy on PDS Kerosene** and domestic LPG and **freight subsidy** for far flung areas.
- Maintenance of information data bank and communication system to deal with emergencies and unforeseen situations.
 - Analyzing the *trends in the international oil market* and domestic prices.
 - Forecasting and evaluation of petroleum import and export trends.

Reference

1. The Indian Express | Ban On Diesel Vehicles

