

Pradhan Mantri Gram Parivahan Yojana (PMGPY)

Relevancy:

- GS Prelims, GS Mains paper II
- Policies and programmes of Gol, Women Empowerment, PMGPY scheme

About PMGPY:

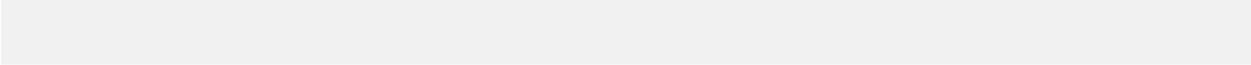
- Pradhan Mantri Gram Parivahan Yojana (PMGPY) was launched by the central government.
- Under the PMGPY scheme, the government would provide interest free loans to women self help group to buy commercial passenger vehicles.
- The scheme would be launched on the lines of ongoing rural scheme “Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana”.
- The scheme would be launched soon to provide interest free loan on commercial vehicle in the areas where the roads have already been constructed under the PM Gram Sadak Yojana.

Objective of Pradhan Mantri Gram Parivahan Yojana (PMGPY)

- To improve the public transport facility and generate employment options in rural areas.
- To bridge the gap between villages and cities where the roads have been constructed but there is no or very less public transport.

Provisions under the scheme:

- A loan of maximum Rs. 6 lakh would be provided under the PMGPY scheme and the loan tenure would be about 6 months.

- According to survey study, the best option would be to provide loan at interest subsidized interest rate for 10-12 seater commercial passenger vehicle to run on a stretch of 20-22 kilometer which connects at least 10-14 small villages.
 - The scheme is expected to boost public transport facility in rural areas and generate employment options, especially among women.
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Polluter Pays Principle

Relevancy:

- GS Prelims, GS Mains paper III
- Environment, NGT, Polluter Pays Principle

Recently:

- The National Green Tribunal (NGT) has held the Art of Living Foundation “responsible for causing damage and environmental degradation” to the Yamuna floodplains by organising the World Culture Festival there in March 2016.
- The cost of restoration shall be recovered from the Art of Living Foundation following the “Polluter Pays Principle”.

Polluter Pays Principle:

- As per the principle, those who pollute the environment must be made to pay not just for the costs of remedial action, but also for compensating victims of environmental damage.

Evolution of the Principle:

- The origin of Polluter Pays Principle can be traced to the **Stockholm Declaration** made at the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment in June 1972, where the then Prime Minister Indira Gandhi drew a link between environmental pollution and poverty.
- The Stockholm Declaration asked signatory countries to develop international laws “regarding liability and compensation for the victims of pollution and other environmental damage”.
- The Principle was expressed more clearly in the **Brundtland Commission** report of 1987 titled- Our Common Future.

- The 1987 report greatly influenced the Rio Earth Summit of 1992, which, for the first time, explicitly enshrined the Polluter Pays Principle.
- The Principle came onto the statute books in 2010 when the National Green Tribunal Act was enacted. But there is no prescribed method yet to calculate compensation.

About the Brundtland Commission:

- The Brundtland Commission, or the World Commission on Environment and Development, was established in 1983 to examine environmental issues resulting from rapid industrialisation.
- For the first time, “sustainable development” was defined. Alongside, the Polluter Pays Principle was emphasised.
- The 16th of the 27 principles enshrined in the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development outlined this as, “the approach that the polluter should, in principle, bear the cost of pollution...”.