

Delhi govt starts scrapping its old diesel, petrol vehicles; replacing them with EVs

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The Delhi government has started the process of replacing its old petrol and diesel vehicles with electric ones, reported news agency PTI on Saturday.

The General Administration Department (GAD) recently procured 12 electric vehicles to be used by ministers and top officers of the Delhi government.

"We have also started the process to identify and send such vehicles that have completed their lifespan for scrapping," a senior GAD officer was quoted as saying.

According to a National Green Tribunal (NGT) order, the use of diesel and petrol vehicles older than 10 years and 15 years respectively is banned in Delhi.

After the launch of the Electric Vehicle Policy in August 2020, various departments and autonomous bodies of the Delhi government have started replacing old petrol and diesel vehicles in their fleets with electric vehicles.

"It is being done on a case-to-case basis keeping in mind the relatively higher prices of electric vehicles as compared to conventional vehicles," said a senior Delhi government officer.

In February last year, the Delhi government had directed all its departments and autonomous bodies to hire or purchase only electric vehicles for their fleets.

"All departments of the Delhi government will now use only electric vehicles. Over 2,000 petrol and diesel vehicles will be replaced with electric vehicles," Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia had said.

The GAD is also working on the replacement of several old vehicles with VIP series of registration numbers like 0001 parked in a lot near the Delhi Secretariat.

"While these vehicles will be scrapped, their VIP registration numbers will be retained for registration of new vehicles to be procured by the department," the officer said.

The government had earlier this month started the registration process for centres for retrofitting old diesel and petrol vehicles with electric kits to convert them into e-vehicles.

According to officials, 10 manufacturers of electric kits have been empanelled to convert old petrol and diesel vehicles into electric vehicles that can not ply on the city roads.

With inputs from agencies.