Ease of Vehicle Ownership Index: Andhra Pradesh 1st, Tamil Nadu 3rd

Topics: Economy · UPSC Prelims · TNPSC · SSC · Current Affairs



News

India's first 'Ease of Vehicle Ownership Index' (EVOI) 2026, which assesses how easy it is in each State to buy, sell and transfer ownership of pre-owned vehicles, was released in New Delhi on 4 November 2026. It was prepared by the tech policy body IndiaTech.org with the consumer organisation Consumer VOICE and released by Harsh Malhotra, Minister of State for Road Transport and Highways. Fifteen States/UTs, accounting for over 85% of India's organised used-car market, were scored out of 10 on six pillars. Andhra Pradesh (5.91) topped, Keralam (5.74) was second, Tamil Nadu shared third place with Delhi at 4.58, and Uttar Pradesh (2.47) came last. No State scored above 6; actual transfer costs run up to about 10 times the official fee. Respondents reported paying ₹7,000–8,000 at the Hosur and Krishnagiri RTOs against an official fee of about ₹800. The Minister said the Ministry would examine the report's recommendations, which include 'One Bharat, One Road Tax' and a 24-hour service timeline.

Key facts for the exam

Point	Details
Index	Ease of Vehicle Ownership Index (EVOI) 2026 – India's first
Published by	IndiaTech.org and Consumer VOICE
Release	4 Nov 2026, New Delhi – MoS Harsh Malhotra

Point	Details
Scope	15 States/UTs; 6 pillars
Ranking	1. Andhra Pradesh 5.91; 2. Keralam 5.74; 3. Tamil Nadu, Delhi 4.58
Bottom	West Bengal 2.56, Bihar 2.51, Uttar Pradesh 2.47
Weakest pillar	Cost & affordability – 12 of 15 States below 3.5
Road tax	As per the report, 3% (UP) to 14% (Karnataka, Telangana) on a ₹6-lakh petrol car – a gap of over ₹66,000
Key proposal	One Bharat, One Road Tax; 24-hour service timeline

Background

- Law: Registration and ownership transfer follow the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 (Section 50 – transfer of ownership) and the Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989. The seller files Form 29 and, with the buyer, Form 30. A 2022 amendment to the CMV Rules introduced the 'deemed owner' framework for Authorised Dealers of Registered Vehicles (ADRVs).
- Constitution: In the Seventh Schedule, 'mechanically propelled vehicles' are in the Concurrent List (Entry 35), but 'taxes on vehicles' (road tax) are in the State List (Entry 57). That is why each State levies its own road tax and a vehicle moving to another State is taxed again – hence the call for 'One Bharat, One Road Tax'.
- E-governance: VAHAN (vehicle registration) and SARATHI (driving licences) are MoRTH platforms built by the National Informatics Centre (NIC), offered through the Parivahan portal and the mParivahan app. Yet in 13 of 15 States, physical copies are still required after an online application.
- Economy: The study estimates India's pre-owned vehicle market will grow from $36.4 billion in 2025 to $73.5 billion in 2030. Delayed transfers mean sellers keep getting challans after the sale (28.1% of sellers).

Tamil Nadu link: Tamil Nadu shared third place with Delhi at 4.58 – three southern States hold the top three places. But the study flagged ₹7,000–8,000 being paid against an official fee of about ₹800 at the Hosur and Krishnagiri RTOs near the Karnataka border.

Frequently asked questions

What is this news about?

India's first 'Ease of Vehicle Ownership Index' (EVOI) 2026, which assesses how easy it is in each State to buy, sell and transfer ownership of pre-owned vehicles, was released in New Delhi on 4 November 2026.

What are the key facts to remember for the exam?

Index: Ease of Vehicle Ownership Index (EVOI) 2026 – India's first; Published by: IndiaTech.org and Consumer VOICE; Release: 4 Nov 2026, New Delhi – MoS Harsh Malhotra; Scope: 15 States/UTs; 6 pillars.

What is the background to this news?

Law: Registration and ownership transfer follow the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 (Section 50 – transfer of ownership) and the Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989.

Practice questions (with answers)

1. Which organisations prepared India's first Ease of Vehicle Ownership Index (EVOI) 2026?

A) NITI Aayog

B) MoRTH

C) SIAM

D) IndiaTech–Consumer VOICE

Answer: D – Explanation: Prepared by IndiaTech.org and Consumer VOICE; released in New Delhi on 4 Nov 2026 by MoS Harsh Malhotra.

2. What was Tamil Nadu's position in the EVOI 2026 ranking?

A) 3rd (joint with Delhi)

B) 1st

C) Last (15th)

D) 2nd

Answer: A – Explanation: Tamil Nadu and Delhi – 4.58 each. ₹7,000–8,000 paid against an ₹800 fee at the Hosur and Krishnagiri RTOs was flagged.

3. Which State, helped by biometric-based transfers, topped EVOI 2026?

A) Keralam

B) Andhra Pradesh

C) Telangana

D) Karnataka

Answer: B – Explanation: Andhra Pradesh – 5.91 (RC transfer in 7–10 days). Keralam (5.74) was second; Uttar Pradesh (2.47) last.

4. 'Taxes on vehicles', the reason behind the 'One Bharat, One Road Tax' demand, fall in which list of the Seventh Schedule?

A) Union List

B) Concurrent List

C) Residuary power

D) State List

Answer: D – Explanation: State List, Entry 57 – so road tax varies by State. 'Mechanically propelled vehicles' are Concurrent List Entry 35.

5. Which national MoRTH platform handles vehicle registration services, including ownership transfer?

A) SARATHI

B) e-Challan

C) VAHAN

D) FASTag

Answer: C – Explanation: VAHAN – built by NIC. SARATHI is for driving licences, FASTag for tolls and e-Challan for traffic fines.

Sources: Autocar Professional; Autocar India; Motorindia; CARS24; Constitution of India. © Shanmugam IAS Academy.