MICRODOT TECHNOLOGY

Microdot Technology is a process of spraying thousands of microscopic dots onto vehicles or other assets in order to provide a unique identification. Each Microdot carries this unique identification which is registered to the owner, but is not visible to the naked eye. Microdot Technology is used in an attempt to combat car theft and has also been used in the recovery of vehicles which have been stolen.

Here are some facts on Microdot Technology:

1. Counterfeiting is virtually impossible due the covert security measures in every microdot.
2. All microdotted assets are logged onto a database and this information is used to track the rightful owner of an asset.
3. Microdots are virtually impossible to remove which makes them one of the best vehicle security measures.

In India

The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has issued a draft notification to make microdots mandatory in vehicles.

- The draft rules amend the Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989 and allow motor vehicles and their parts to be affixed with permanent and nearly invisible microdots that can be read physically with a microscope and identified with ultraviolet light.
- The microdots would have to comply with the Automotive Industry Standard- 155 (AIS 155) requirements.
  - The Standards are developed by the Automotive Industry Standards Committee (AISC) set up under Central Motor Vehicles Rules - Technical Standing Committee (CMVR-TSC) by the Ministry of Road Transport & Highways.

The move is aimed at making India free from vehicle thefts and spurious spare parts.

- The government has envisaged that with microdots becoming a permanent feature in vehicles, identifying them would become easier in case they are stolen.
- Annually about 2.14 lakh vehicles are stolen across the country with Delhi topping the list at 38,644 in 2016, which translates to over 100 vehicles daily, followed by UP (34,480) and Maharashtra (22,435).
- The move will ensure that consumers have a way of identifying original parts from fake ones and that contributes to overall safety as well.