



All India Road Transport Workers' Federation

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PRESS RELEASE

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All India Road Transport Workers' Federation (AIRTWF) welcomes the announcement of Mr. Nitin Gadkari, honorable minister for Transport for fixed duty hours to commercial Truck Drivers. AIRTWF demands the minister to take appropriate steps to really reduce the accidents.

AIRTWF would like to remind the honorable Minister that section 13 and 15 in Chapter V of the Motor Transport Workers Act-1961, have categorically stated the duty hours of transport Worker in a day, the hours of rest between the termination of a duty and the commencement of the next duty. The irony is that there is no enforcement of the provisions of the Act. Most of the truck drivers are neither given the appointment letters nor even recorded in Government/Labour department records as they are working as drivers. It is the need of the hour to enforce the provisions of the laws by creating a mechanism.

AIRTWF demands the honorable minister Mr. Nitin Gadkari ji to restore the provision of double drivers on National Permit Vehicles which was withdrawn by the same NDA government two years back. AIRTWF also demands the Government to take immediate steps to rectify the Block Spots on Highways, the defects in the construction of roads and other factors contributing to road accidents and to provide rest places for drivers on highways.

The honorable minister did not even call a meeting of Trade Unions functioning in the Transport sector in his 7 years tenure to discuss the problems faced by the drivers, the factors contributing to accidents. Simply making statements and comments without addressing the key issues contributing to the road accidents, will not yield results.

(K.K.DIVAKARAN)
General Secretary

