



All India Road Transport Workers' Federation

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Date: 12-06-2023

To,
Shri.Nitin Gadkari ji,
Honorable Minister for RTH,
Government of India,
New Delhi.

Respected Sir,

Sub: Press report-Allegations made against the Conductors & Drivers
of STUs-Requested to withdraw the remarks-Regarding.

With regard to the matter in subject, it is reported in the media that you have made allegations against the Conductors & Drivers of STUs and false statement on the cost of operation per KM for Diesel Bus and the Electric Bus. We are astonished to see such news item. Being the senior and highly knowledgeable Minister, we did not expect such comments from you. We, the All India Road Transport Workers' Federation strongly condemn the allegations reportedly made by you. We demand to withdraw the remarks forthwith.

While addressing the Annual Session of CII, it is reported that you have said that to curtail the instances of errant Conductors not sharing the revenues with the Transport Companies and the theft of Diesel will be plugged with the introduction of the Electric Buses. It is reported that the cost of operation per KM for the Diesel Bus is Rs.115 and it is only Rs. 41 for the Electric bus. All these are totally false and baseless. You might have given wrong information about the STUs. The remarks will convey the message that your Government wanted to dismantle the STUs and with that intention only such derogative comments were made. The remarks are insulting the Conductors and Drivers of STUs who are striving their best for the Corporation and the public.

It is a well established fact that the accident ratio is very nominal in STUs. With regard to Fleet utilisation KMPL, STUs are on the top. The reported comments will undermine all these facts and such allegations will create a negative impression on you as the Minister of Road Transport ND Highways.

With regard to the cost of operation of Diesel buses and Electric Buses there is some variance. But it is not as high as reported by you. It is a material fact that the cost of the Electric Bus is almost 3-4 times higher than the Diesel Luxury bus. The people are badly in need of Buses. At this juncture, sufficient number of Diesel Buses can be procured with the amount spent for procurement of limited Electric Buses. Further, heavy infrastructure like charging stations etc required in large number. The Battery is the main component in the Electric Buses which is to be imported from abroad. It is the reality that the Electric Buses have become white elephants to STUs as they are being operated under GCC. But the Diesel Buses are being manufactured totally in India with international standards providing large scale employment.

The Diesel rates are skyrocketing because of the policies of your Government. Nowhere in the World Public Transport is considered as a source of revenue to the exchequer except in India. It is irony to blame the STUs for the cost of operation.

It is not out of place to mention here that there are innumerable complaints of rampant corruption in political and executive circles in the country. It seems that to mask those complaints, false allegations are made against the hard working workers and the best STUs.

The All India Road Transport Workers' Federation once again demands to withdraw your comments forthwith.

Yours Sincerely



(R.LAKSHMAIAH)
General Secretary