

Defeat BJP and Allies which have devastated the STUs Vote for Left, Democratic and Secular parties those who assures to Strengthen and expand STUs- AIRTWF

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Parliament election notification is going to be issued by the Election Commission soon. All India Road Transport Workers' Federation appeals to all the Road Transport Workers and their families to exercise their vote freely and not with sentiments. Before voting to a political party, we should think twice/thrice to whom we have to vote. The main criteria should be to protect the State Road Transport Corporations and to protect the interests of the workers. The ruling dispensation at the centre which came to power with the active support of our votes has devastated the STUs during the last 10 years.

The M.V.Act Amendment 2019 is aimed at dismantling the existing STUs in the country. The incorporation of "Aggregators, clubbing the State Carriage and Contract Carriage permits in to one as Transport permit, exempting the vehicle and route permit clauses in the name of enhancing competition are some of the examples which will badly affect the STUs which are already in serious financial crisis. The introduction of Electrical buses under FAME II being operated by the private people in the name of Gross Cost Contract guaranteeing minimum profit are draining the revenues of the STUs.

The crisis of the Road Transport Corporations are being shifted on to the workers by reducing the workforce, enhancing the workloads, non filling up the vacancies, appointments on outsourcing and other means has become the order of the day. Salaries and terminal benefits and pensions are not being paid in time in some STUs. The contributions recovered from the workers towards PF and other establishments are not being remitted in time.

Nowhere in the world, the Public Transport is considered as a source of revenue to the exchequer except in India. Free Transport was introduced in the Country of Luxemburg in February 2020. Even in some cities in USA free transport is allowed to some sections of the commuters like students. In UK students and senior citizens are given free transport. The fare box collection in the Public Transport is far lower than the operational cost throughout the world. But the Public Transport is being funded by the Central and local Governments in almost all the countries in the world. Quite contrary to the world experience, the fares in the

STUs are high and they are burdened with different types of taxes by the Centre and many state Governments.

Defied promises: The BJP and Narendra Modi during the 2014 and 2019 elections have assured the voters certain promises. Bringing down the prices of essential commodities within 100 days, creation of two crore jobs every to the unemployed youth, depositing Rs.15 lakhs in to the accounts of all the citizens etc. All these promises have been defied by the Government after coming to power. The prices of essential commodities have sky rocked, no new jobs have been created rather job losses has occurred. Black money has been made white money. Atrocities on women, minorities and dalits are on the high side. The assurances given to the farmers on MSP etc are violated. More so people are divided on communal basis.

All India Road Transport Workers' Federation appeals to all the Road Transport Corporations Workers and their family members to defeat the BJP and allies and vote for Left, Democratic and Secular parties those who come forward to strengthen and expand the STUs and to protect the interests of the workers by fulfilling the following demands.

1. Capital Contribution as per RTC Act 1950 should be restored.
2. Withdraw draconian M.V.Act Amendment 2019.
3. Strengthen and expand STUs.
4. Procure and provide one lakh new buses both for augmentation and replacement as one time measurement to the STUs on prorata basis.
5. Convert the debts of all the STUs as equity.
6. STUs should not be measured on the scale of Profit & Loss.
7. STUs should be entrusted to purchase, maintain and operate Electric Buses by extending viability gap funding.
8. Withdraw penal provisions 106(1) & (2) in BNS 2023.
9. Fill up the vacancies with regular appointments and withdraw contract/our sourcing appointments.
10. STUs should be given licence to install fuel stations across the country.

All India Road Transport Workers' Federation