



All India Road Transport Workers' Federation

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Defeat BJP led NDA to protect the Transport sector and the livelihood of the workers.

National Working Committee meeting of All India Road Transport Workers' Federation which met on 27 & 28th February in Thiruvananthapuram unanimously resolved to work hard to defeat the BJP led NDA in the ensuing general election.

The meeting reviewed the situation in the Road Transport sector and the pitiable conditions of the workers. As soon as the Modi led Government took over Office in 2014, started attacking Road Transport by bringing the Road Safety Bill with the motto to hand over the entire Road Transport sector to big corporate houses. Later on, it was renamed as M.V. Amendment Act 2019. Several sections were incorporated to pave the way for closure of the RTCs.

Further, the diesel prices and the insurance premiums have been doubled during these 10 years. The number of toll plazas have been increased and the toll charges are enhanced drastically. Penalties have been enhanced multiple and the vehicle scrapping policy is introduced. All these policies have thrown the Road Transport sector in to serious crisis.

The unorganized Road Transport Workers are not covered under any labour laws. 08 hours duty, weekly rest, PF, ESI etc. are not applicable. They do not have any Social Security. The long pending demand for Social Security Act is unheard till date.

The App based companies like Uber, Ola, Rapido etc are squeezing the blood of the drivers, burdening the customers in different ways and earning lakhs of crores of rupees. In this situation the Government of India should launch an alternative App. This demand is also unheard.

Adding fuel to the crisis the Government has enacted the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita-2023 abnormally enhancing the period of imprisonment and penalties under section 106(1) & (2). This has created tremors among the Drivers and led to strike on 01st and 02nd January 2024. Then the Government has negotiated with AIMTC and announced that it will consult with AIMTC before implementation. But it has not assured to withdraw the draconian provisions. Notification has been issued for implementation of the Act except Section 106(2). But sub section 1 of

section 106 is going to be implemented. At any point of time the Government may notify 106(2) also for implementation.

In the light of the above, the National Working Committee unanimously resolved to defeat the BJP led NDA in the ensuing Parliament elections. The meeting also decided to take up a massive campaign among the Road Transport Workers throughout the country on the following demands.

1. Section 106 (1) & (2) of Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita should be withdrawn and an amendment to this effect should be brought in the Parliament.
2. Social Security Act for the unorganized Road Transport Workers should be enacted.
3. M.V.Act Amendment 2019 should be repealed.
4. Diesel prices, Insurance Premium and Toll Charges are to be regulated.
5. The Government of India should develop an alternative App to Uber/Ola/Rapido etc to protect the interest of the drivers and the customers.
6. Vehicle scrapping policy should not be mandatory. It should be optional.
7. Policy decisions are to be taken to strengthen and expand RTCs and the procurement, maintenance and operation of Electric Buses should be entrusted to the RTCs duly extending the financial support.



R.Lakshmaiah,

General Secretary