



# All India Road Transport Workers' Federation

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**Date: 18-12-2024**

**To,  
Shri. Nitin Jairam Gadkari Ji,  
Honourable Minister for Road Transport and Highways,  
Government of India,  
New Delhi.**

**Respected Sir,**

**Subject: Withdrawal of the abnormal enhancement of penalties in  
M.V. Amendment Act, 2019 and restoration of the old  
penalties of M.V.Act, 1989- Requested- regarding**

We would like to draw your kind attention to the abnormally enhanced penalties in the M.V. Amendment Act, 2019. As you well aware, our ordinary Auto Rickshaw Drivers, the petty lorry owners and other small goods and passenger vehicle owners who are self-employed have been getting penalized heavily for the trivial offences. Moreover, our huge vehicle-owned driving population is also feeling the heat. Some of them are to pay thousands of rupees every month for such minor faults- mostly happened unintentionally.

After the penetration of Uber/Ola/Rapido etc., the App-based companies, our traditional Auto Rickshaw Drivers earnings and daily income have fallen down drastically and they are struggling to make both ends meet. Given this precarious situation, the enhanced penalties have rubbed the salt in their wounds. So, we humbly request you to examine and to consider the withdrawal of the enhanced penalties and restore the penalties that were in the M.V. Act 1989.

It is not out of place to mention that Late Professor Dinesh Mohan, TRIPS, IIT Delhi who has supported many of the provisions of the M. V. Amendment Act 2019 has opposed the abnormal enhanced penalties. He has written an article explaining the background of imposing penalties and compared with different countries. He proved in that article that the penalties shall not exceed the earnings and suggested to reconsider the same. Recently your good-self also have announced in a press conference that even though the penalties are enhanced heavily the accidents did not come down. It is a material fact that by imposing heavy penalties the accidents cannot be brought down.

Sir, in fact, the Auto Rickshaws and E Rickshaws have become the common mode of transport in all the towns and cities. They are suffering a lot with the high diesel prices. Any burden on these sectors will ultimately become the burden on the people at large as eventually it would be transferred to the shoulders of the common people.

We once again kindly request our Hon'ble Minister to consider our submission more sympathetically as involves lakhs of poor unorganized road transport workers and come with a positive response along with appropriate measures to withdraw the penalties enhanced in the M. V. Amendment Act, 2019 and to revert back to the old penalty systems contained in the M. V. Act, 1989.

With high hope of positive response from you Sir and with high Regards,

Yours Sincerely



(R.Lakshmaiah)  
General Secretary