

**LEGAL_AWARENESS FROM 2020 21 EMAIL DATED 17 08 2021 REGARDING GOVT POLICY ON
SCRAPPING OF OLD VEHICLES IN INDIA DURING COVID TIMES**

To

Hon'ble Prime Minister of India

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Chief Secretary Odisha

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Subject- Govt Policy on scrapping of old vehicles in india during Covid Times

Respected Sir

With due respect I want to draw your kind attention towards certain facts which are not considered while taking such a drastic decision regarding scrapping of old vehicles whether it pollutes or not.

GROUNDS

- 1. It is pertinent to mention that the Middle Income Group (MIG) is going to be hit hard financially by such unreasonable policy of scrapping of vehicles where the primary criteria is the age of the vehicle in years and not the reason for creating pollution which is secondary as it appears.**
- 2. The criteria of 15 years for private vehicles and 10 years for commercial vehicles need to be explained how they are differently polluting the environment although the vehicles are same.**
- 3. We are living in an abnormal time of COVID where live and livelihood is not certain.**
- 4. The MIG has lost their jobs, business and certainty in source of income and as per media report they are forced to sell their old gold ornaments to maintain their minimum standard of living.**
- 5. The future of their children regarding the education, fees for school/college/tuition and future after completing the so-called education by beg and borrow/bank loan is not certain and the way out for repayment of loans is also closed as they have no job opportunity because of**

closing down of business organization due to COVID and non-recruitment in Govt as policy because of bankruptcy of state treasury.

6. Failure of Govts in intervening in the matter of giving relief in fee structure of private schools and colleges is a setback to the MIG as they are overburdened with the pending financial liabilities for the education of their children since last 2 years due to COVID.
7. It is pertinent to mention that MIG is the bread earner of both CORPORATE SECTOR and BPL segment as they are the customers of MNCs and Corporates and they provide jobs to the BPL segment in household as well as in their business/profession.
8. The MIG segment is the main source of direct and indirect taxes to the Govts and greatest participant in subscription to GST.
9. So basically MIG is the backbone of the economy and simultaneously provide intellectual support to the system and unfortunately no Govt (state or Central) has introduced a single scheme to benefit them during COVID 19.
10. The Govts have introduced hundreds of schemes like free food, free education, free housing, free mediclaim, free agricultural benefits etc to the BPL segment which is financed by MIG taxpayers and definitely not by political party funds; which should never be forgotten.
11. By faulty and unreasonable policies of Govt it seems after a few years during this COVID time there will be only two segments ie Corporate sector who are always blue eyed boys who are never hit by any COVID and the BPL segment who are the kingmakers and the vote banks and are always over-protected by the Govts.
12. MIG group are always sacrificed by the Govts and always left on their own as they are not the reliable voters and always remain headache for the system as they are well aware of their legal rights and ask too many questions.
13. Under the circumstances the policy of scrapping old vehicles is another uncalled for financial liability of purchasing new vehicle which could have been easily postponed till the life becomes normal and financial stability comes back to the MIG families.
14. Just to give a boost to the AUTOMOBILE AND ITS ANCILLIARY SECTOR as well as for START UP PROJECTS the life of MIG SHOULD NOT BE TAKEN HOSTAGE.
15. The minimum savings of MIG should not be spent on unwanted and unnecessary EMIs of vehicle loans to the banks which are meant to be kept for emergency spending on medical bills and feeding of the family during COVID as they have no backup from the Govt and it seems to be a curse of being MIG which is proven true in this COVID time.
16. The assurance of some benefits in percentage in registration and road tax is just an eyewash and actually people will pay more in EMIs than savings offered in scrapping schemes.
17. As the Govts keep on postponing the renewals of road tax, insurance, vehicle licence, driving licence, fitness certificate etc during COVID; the policy of scrapping should be delayed by few years till WHO certifies the world is COVID free and assured vaccination with guarantee of prevention and cure is certified by Govt.
18. We have already lived in pollution for last 70 years since independence and already learnt to live with pollution because people do not die of pollution but they die of malpractices and non-implementation of existing laws and guidelines of Ministry/Dept of Transport and Roadways.

19. The Govt should give emphasis on rehabilitating the dying industries due to COVID instead of starting new startups with new bank loans during COVID.
20. The economy and the financial health of the people are already at a halt due to night curfew, weekend shutdown, frequent lockdown anticipating wave 3....4...etc and non-availability of sufficient dose of vaccine.
21. Under such critical financial crisis it is not advisable to implement forcefully the policy of scrapping of vehicles based on age and it should be done on concrete proof of pollution and it should not be generalized.
22. The Govt should make public aware for scrapping by making the scrapping public by providing visuals/video footages with vehicle number that their vehicle is actually scrapped in the dumpyard and recycled and not RE-SOLD by denting/painting.
23. Under the circumstances you are requested to keep the policy implementation of scrapping vehicles on hold till a judicial intervention is done.
24. It is also suggested that Govt should engage its technical institutes like IITs, RECs to invent methods to reduce pollution in the existing vehicles rather than putting very high financial duties on COVID stricken consumers who are already struggling to survive.
25. Due to heavy rise in price of fuel already most of the vehicles are off road and due to COVID restrictions the movement of vehicles is far less and so the pollution is also less.
26. So during COVID time the idea of scrapping vehicles and incentive to purchase new vehicles does not sound good and ethical as the person may not get a chance of driving a new vehicle due to fear of COVID infection and frequent lockdown and shutdown.
27. It is not wise to purchase a new vehicle being forced by Govt policy and keep it in garage in COVID time and so the Govt should re-consider its scrapping policy.
28. If within one year COVID vaccine can be invented then why not the techniques/gadgets for pollution reduction be invented for the vehicles in next one year.
29. Please treat this as my representation for re-considering the faulty policy of scrapping vehicles which will be produced in a Writ form in the Hon'ble Court.

Thanking you

Yours faithfully

Jayanti Das