



Urgent Concern: Harassment and Assault of Drivers at Madhya Pradesh Borders

1 message

AITWA (All India Transporters Welfare Association) <info@aitwa.org>

Fri, 17 Jan 2025 at 21:59

To: Nitin Gadkari <nitingadkari@gmail.com>

Cc: AITWA Secretariat <secy@aitwa.org>, ashok.goel@blrlogistiks.com, ak@apmdrs.in

To,
Shri Nitin Gadkari
Hon'ble Minister for Road Transport and Highways
Government of India
New Delhi

Dear Sir,
Greetings from AITWA!

All India Transporters Welfare Association (AITWA), a leading organization representing the transport industry across India, is committed to addressing the challenges faced by the sector and ensuring the welfare of its stakeholders.

We are writing to bring to your immediate attention a grave incident that highlights the harassment, physical assault, and intimidation faced by truck drivers at Madhya Pradesh (MP) borders.

Incident Highlight

On 17th January, 2025 Friday at 6:00 AM a loaded truck en route from Pune to Nepal was crossing the Hanumana-Rewa-Madhya Pradesh check post when the driver was stopped by RTO staff. Upon refusing to pay an unauthorized entry fee demanded by the officials, the driver was brutally assaulted, leaving him with visible injuries.

The traumatized driver approached Mr. Indresh (Sub-Inspector) at the Hanumana Police Station to seek help. When the police accompanied the driver to the spot to investigate, the RTO staff not only refused to cooperate but also resumed abusing and threatening the driver in front of the police. Feeling scared and further intimidated, the driver refrained from filing a formal police complaint.

We have attached herewith photographs of the injured driver and the RTO vehicle involved in this incident for your reference.

Key Concerns:

- Physical Harassment:** Such violent behavior by officials undermines the safety and dignity of drivers who are performing essential services for the economy.
- Intimidation and Abuse:** The driver's reluctance to file a complaint reflects the fear instilled by such incidents and the lack of a secure environment for drivers to seek justice.
- Unlawful Practices:** Despite compliance with all statutory payments, drivers are being forced to pay illegal entry fees.
- Impact on Operations:** This incident not only disrupted the movement of goods but also set a harmful precedent for continued abuse of power by local authorities.

Our Humble Request:

- Immediate Action:** Direct the concerned state authorities to investigate this incident, take strict action against the involved officials, and ensure the safety of drivers at state borders.
- Driver Protection Measures:** Introduce safeguards to protect drivers from harassment, including grievance redressal mechanisms, dedicated helplines, and on-ground support systems.
- Accountability and Monitoring:** Issue strict instructions to state governments to curb such unlawful practices at border check posts and establish transparent systems for resolving disputes.

Sir, this incident highlights the urgent need for intervention to protect the dignity, safety, and livelihood of drivers who are critical to India's supply chain. We believe your prompt action will not only provide justice in this particular case but also deter similar misconduct in the future.

We remain available for further details or assistance regarding this matter and look forward to your swift action.

Thanks & Regards,

J.P. SINGLA
NATIONAL SECRETARY



ALL INDIA TRANSPORTERS WELFARE ASSOCIATION -[AITWA]

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