

HARSH PATI SINGHANIA

Nehru House
4 Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg
New Delhi 110002

April 19, 2021

Shri Nitin Gadkari
Hon. Minister for Road Transport and Highways
Government of India
Transport Bhawan, 1, Parliament Street
New Delhi – 110001
E-mail: email@nitingadkari.org; nitin.gadkari@nic.in

Re: Joint Representation by 45 Historic Vehicle Clubs & Museums for the protection of Vintage Motor Vehicles - Ref: Draft Notification no G.S.R. 734(E) dated 25 November 2020; 'Special Provision for Registration of Vintage Motor Vehicles'.

Dear Shri Gadkari Ji,

At the outset we greatly appreciate the steps that the Government is taking in battling the Covid crisis.

I am writing with a request that your Ministry may kindly favourably consider the enclosed Joint Representation dated 16th April 2021 for the protection and preservation of Vintage Motor Vehicles, as submitted and signed by representatives of 45 Historic Vehicle Clubs and Museums in India.

Specifically, may I request that the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways consider the following four critical matters to be adequately addressed in the Rules concerning Special provision for Registration of Vintage Motor Vehicles proposed to be notified by your Ministry:

1. Vintage motor vehicles older than 30 years from the date of manufacture may kindly be permitted to be registered under the draft Rules "Special Provision for Registration of Vintage Motor Vehicles" as these vehicles are very small in number and are an important part of our national automotive heritage.
2. No commercial use whatsoever may be permitted but free use of these Vintage Motor Vehicles may be allowed for personal purposes, with no other purpose restrictions;
3. The important exemptions requested from (i) emission compliances, (ii) obtaining pollution under control certificate and (iii) obtaining a certificate of fitness (as requested in paragraph 7.3(b) of the attached Joint Representation) may kindly be granted and the exemption be specifically provided for as these historic vehicles cannot be mechanically modified or altered or expected to meet the new emission/ fitness/ pollution norms, applicable to later production cars. Any modification or alteration to historic vehicles will completely destroy the authenticity and originality of these historic vehicles.
4. To enable the transparent registration of Vintage Motor Vehicles, a Self-Certification/ Declaration/Indemnity by the owner, of the required registration particulars, should suffice - just as in the case of Income Tax Returns. There may be no need for a representative from any private automobile association, club or a committee to be involved in the process of approval or rejection for registration of a Vintage Motor Vehicle, as such involvement of private representatives in the different State committees may create unnecessary red tape and provide scope for corruption and influence peddling.

As a citizen, I support this representation as there will be various benefits like promotion of tourism, culture, employment, manufacturing and revenue to the Government. As you have always been a proponent of building our national heritage and culture, I am sure you will give this request due consideration.

With best regards,

Yours sincerely,



Enclosed: Joint Representation dated 16th April 2021.