

PRESS RELEASE

PRAWAAS 2019 PASSENGER MOBILITY CONFERENCE GETS UNDERWAY WITH RESOUNDING RESPONSE

- BOCI'S FLAGSHIP EVENT WILL BE A 3-DAY EXTRAVAGANZA TO PROMOTE **SAFE, SMART AND SUSTAINABLE PASSENGER MOBILITY**
- THE SECOND EDITION OF THE EVENT WILL BRING TOGETHER ENTIRE ECO-SYSTEM OF PUBLIC TRANSPORT FROM BUS & CAR MANUFACTURERS TO THE FLEET OWNERS AND OPERATORS FROM 29 STATES AND 7 UNION TERRITORIES

MUMBAI, 25 JULY 2019: PRAWAAS 2019, INDIA'S MOST DEFINITIVE CONFERENCE ON PASSENGER MOBILITY WAS FLAGGED OFF TO A ROUSING RESPONSE IN PRESENCE OF HOST OF DIGNITARIES, INDUSTRY CAPTAINS, POLICY MAKERS, ACADEMICIANS, THOUGHT LEADERS AND KEY STAKEHOLDERS REPRESENTING THE INDUSTRY. THE SECOND EDITION OF PRAWAAS IS BEING HELD FROM 25TH - 27TH JULY 2019 AT CIDCO EXHIBITION CENTRE, VASHI, NAVI MUMBAI, WITH THE THEME "**SAFE, SMART AND SUSTAINABLE PASSENGER MOBILITY.**"

ORGANIZED BY **BUS AND CAR OPERATORS CONFEDERATION OF INDIA (BOCI)**, THE INAUGURAL EVENT WAS GRACED BY **SHRI. AADITYA UDDHAV THACKERY**, PRESIDENT, YUVA SENA, YOUTH WING OF SHIV SENA, **SHRI. DIWAKAR NARAYAN RAOTE**, HON'BLE MINISTER, MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND KHAR LAND DEVELOPMENT, GOVERNMENT OF MAHARASHTRA, **SHRI. T. J. LALNUNTLUANGA**, HON'BLE MINISTER OF STATE FOR TRANSPORT, L&J, PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, ENVIRONMENT, FOREST & CLIMATE CHANGE, GOVERNMENT OF MIZORAM, **SHRI. ANUJ KATHURIA**, CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER, ASHOK LEYLAND LTD, **SHRI. ROHIT SRIVASTAVA**, VICE- PRESIDENT AND PRODUCT LINE HEAD - PASSENGER COMMERCIAL VEHICLES, TATA MOTORS AND **SHRI. THOMAS FRICKE**, MANAGING DIRECTOR, DAIMLER BUSES INDIA AND OTHER INDUSTRY CAPTAINS AND INDUSTRY-BODY LEADERS.

SHRI. AADITYA UDDHAV THACKERY, PRESIDENT, YUVA SENA, YOUTH WING OF SHIV SENA SAID, "I AM HONORED TO BE A PART OF THIS EXCITING EVENT. TRANSPORT IS ONE OF THE MOST CRITICAL ASPECT OF DEVELOPMENT AND NO STATE CAN GO FORWARD UNLESS IT HAS A ROBUST TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM IN PLACE. MAHARASHTRA AS A STATE HAS TAKEN A NUMBER OF KEY INITIATIVES LIKE RATIONALIZATION OF BUS FARES, HAS RESULTED IN AN EXPONENTIAL RISE IN COMMUTERS TAKING PUBLIC TRANSPORT. I AM CONFIDENT THAT THROUGH A PLATFORM LIKE PRAWAAS, THE INDUSTRY WILL GEAR UP TO CREATE THE MOBILITY ECOSYSTEM OF TOMORROW. HE FURTHER SPOKE ABOUT BRINGING A CHANGE FOR THE NEXT 20 YEARS AND THAT HE WAS AT THE 2ND EDITION OF PRAWAAS TO TAKE SUGGESTIONS AND LOOK AT MULTI MODULE PUBLIC TRANSPORT SYSTEM WHICH WILL LEAD TO BETTER LAST MILE CONNECTIVITY."

A NEW LOGO OF **YUVA-BOCI** WAS ALSO UNVEILED BY SHRI THACKERY ON THE OCCASION.

SHRI. DIWAKAR NARAYAN RAOTE, HON'BLE MINISTER, MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND KHAR LAND DEVELOPMENT, GOVERNMENT OF MAHARASHTRA SAID, "PRAWAAS IS AN EXCELLENT

INITIATIVE AND I AM HAPPY TO BE A PART OF THIS EVENT. AS A PART OF THE GOVERNMENT, WE HAVE TAKEN A NUMBER OF INITIATIVES THAT WILL EASE PAIN OF COMMUTERS WHILE MAKE OPERATIONS PROFITABLE FOR THE OPERATORS. THERE IS A NEED FOR GREATER COOPERATION AMONGST THE STAKEHOLDERS TO CREATE A WIN-WIN PROPOSITION FOR ALL."

THIS EDITION OF PRAWAAS WILL BRING ALL THE STAKEHOLDERS FROM THE BUS AND CAR OPERATOR ASSOCIATIONS ONTO A SINGLE PLATFORM. THE EVENT IS EXPECTED TO SEE THE PARTICIPATION OF 10000+ BUS OPERATORS, 150+ LEADING EXHIBITORS, 20000+ BUSINESS VISITORS AND 100+ EXPERT SPEAKERS. THE EXHIBITION SPREAD OVER 1,50,000 SQ. FT. WILL BE A GRAND SHOWCASE OF LEADING BUS & CAR MANUFACTURERS, BUS BODY BUILDERS, COMPONENT AND ACCESSORIES, MAINTENANCE EQUIPMENT & SERVICES, IT & MOBILITY SOLUTIONS, TRAINING & SKILLS, FINANCE & INSURANCE, STU'S & TOURISM BOARDS ETC. FOCUS ON ELECTRIC MOBILITY WILL BE ONE OF THE MAIN ATTRACTIONS OF PRAWAAS 2019.

SHRI JAGDISH PATANKAR, ORGANIZING SECRETARY, PRAWAAS 2019 CO-CHAIRER OF THE **LEADERSHIP CONCLAVE** WITH THE THEME, **FUTURE OF MOBILITY**. A HOST OF EMINENT SPEAKERS PARTICIPATED IN DISCUSSING FUTURISTIC TRANSPORTATION SOLUTIONS SHAPING TOMORROW'S PUBLIC TRANSPORT. **MR. ABHAY DAMLE**, JOINT SECRETARY, TRANSPORT/RS/COORD/ICMORTH, GOVERNMENT OF INDIA ITERATED THAT, SAFE RELIABLE AND SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT IS THE NEED OF THE HOUR. THE ENTIRE SECTOR THAT INCLUDES OEMS, OPERATORS, SUPPLIERS, TRADE BODIES AND POLICYMAKERS NEED TO BE ALIGNED TO MEET THE NEEDS OF THE PASSENGERS. **MR. THOMAS FRICKE**, MANAGING DIRECTOR, DAIMLER BUS INDIA SAID, "SHARING THE ROAD IS THE NEXT BIG THING AND IT WILL REDEFINE THE FUTURE OF COMMUTE. THE MOBILITY SECTOR WILL UNDERGO A MAJOR OVERHAUL IN THE YEARS TO COME, SIGNIFICANTLY DISRUPTING THE INDUSTRY AND ACCELERATING THE SHIFT FROM OWNING A VEHICLE AS A PRODUCT TO CONSUMING MOBILITY AS A SERVICE."

PRESENT FOR THE INAUGURATION OF PRAWAAS 2019 AND LAUNCHING A NEW BUS, OYSTER, FROM ASHOK LEYLAND, **MR. ANUJ KATHURIA, COO, ASHOK LEYLAND**, SAID, "WE ARE PROUD TO PARTNER WITH PRAWAAS WHICH FOCUSES ON PUBLIC TRANSPORT AND ITS FUTURE. ASHOK LEYLAND BUSES HAVE BEEN THE LEADING IN THIS SPACE AND TODAY WE ARE EXCITED TO LAUNCH YET ANOTHER BUS, OYSTER, WHICH WILL BE ANOTHER GAME CHANGER IN THE PUBLIC TRANSPORT SPACE. THE OYSTER IS OUR NEXT GENERATION MIDI-BUS, IN THE PREMIUM CATEGORY. A MULTI – PURPOSE PREMIUM A.C. BUS, IT IS DESIGNED SPECIFICALLY FOR THE COMFORT OF TOURISTS AND STAFF, RELEVANT FOR CITY-DWELLERS. IT IS THE BEST-IN-CLASS MIDI BUS WITH A CAPACITY OF 41 PASSENGERS AND IS IDEAL FOR TRAVELLING FOR INTRACITY APPLICATIONS."

MR. ROHIT SRIVASTAVA, VICE PRESIDENT AND PRODUCT LINE HEAD – PASSENGER COMMERCIAL VEHICLE, TATA MOTORS SAID "RAPIDLY GROWING CITIES HAVE LED TO AN UPSURGE IN THE DEMAND FOR EFFICIENT PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION IN ALL PARTS OF THE COUNTRY, URBAN AS WELL AS RURAL. THE BUSES MANUFACTURED BY TATA MOTORS HAVE ALWAYS ADHERED TO THIS INCREASING DEMAND WHILE ENSURING BEST IN CLASS PRODUCTS TO SUIT THE TRAVEL REQUIREMENTS OF PASSENGERS AND DRIVERS ALIKE. OUR PRIORITY IS TO PROVIDE EFFICIENT, CLEAN AND AFFORDABLE VALUE PROPOSITIONS TO OUR CUSTOMERS WITHOUT COMPROMISING ON SAFETY AND THE COMFORT LEVELS OF THE PASSENGERS. THE

VEHICLES DISPLAYED AT PRAWAAS 2019 IS A TESTIMONY OF OUR IN-DEPTH UNDERSTANDING OF THE INDIAN MARKET.”

THE PANEL DISCUSSION ON **INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGY FOR TRANSFORMING PASSENGER MOBILITY** BROUGHT OUT INTERESTING INSIGHTS FROM PARTICIPANTS. **MR. JOCHEN ENGERT**, FOUNDER AND CEO, FLIXBUS CALLED FOR GREATER COOPERATION BETWEEN GOVERNMENT AND PRIVATE OPERATORS TO PROVIDE SEAMLESS, SAFE AND SUSTAINABLE PASSENGER MOBILITY. THE CONVERSATION RANGED FROM THE FUTURE OF PASSENGER MOBILITY, TRANSFORMATION THAT INDIVIDUAL OPERATORS HAVE MADE IN THEIR OWN AREAS, THE EXISTING CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES AND ENDED WITH EACH OF THE CEOs GIVING AWAY PRECIOUS ADVICE FROM THEIR OWN EXTENSIVE EXPERIENCE TO HELP OTHERS GEAR UP FOR THE FUTURE.

THE SECOND DAY OF THE CONFERENCE PROMISES TO BE FULL OF EXCITING EVENTS AND INVIGORATING DISCUSSIONS. THE HIGHLIGHT OF THE DAY WILL BE THE COVETED BOCI EXCELLENCE AWARDS AND A KEYNOTE ADDRESS BY **SHRI NITIN GADKARI**, HON'BLE MINISTER FOR ROAD TRANSPORT, HIGHWAYS AND SHIPPING MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES, GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

MR. PRASANNA PATWARDHAN, PRESIDENT, BUS OPERATORS CONFEDERATION OF INDIA SAID, “THE SECOND EDITION OF PRAWAAS WILL BE BIGGER AND BETTER. WE ARE ELATED TO HAVE ALL KEY STAKEHOLDERS HERE TO ENGAGE ON THIS PLATFORM AND EXPLORE SOLUTIONS THAT WILL SHAPE THE TRANSPORT OF TOMORROW. OWING TO ENVIRONMENT CONCERNS, ELECTRIC VEHICLES WILL PLAY A HUGE ROLE IN MASS MOBILITY. HOWEVER, THE POLICY AND INFRASTRUCTURE WOULD NEED TO KEEP UP IN ORDER TO TAKE FULL ADVANTAGE OF THE BENEFITS THEY PROVIDE.”

MR. K T RAJASHEKHARA, CHAIRMAN, BUS OPERATORS CONFEDERATION OF INDIA SAID “WE ARE EXCITED TO WELCOME OUR PARTNERS, POLICYMAKERS, OPERATORS AND OTHER KEY STAKEHOLDERS TO PRAWAAS 2019. PRAWAAS IS THE RESULT OF BOCI'S EFFORTS TO BRING TOGETHER AN INDUSTRY THAT WAS LARGELY FRAGMENTED EARLIER. WE ARE CONFIDENT THE 3-DAY EVENT WILL RESULT IN INNOVATION, POLICY DISCUSSIONS AND FURTHER COOPERATION THAT WILL MAKE PUBLIC TRANSPORT MORE VIABLE.”

ABOUT BOCI

BUS OPERATORS CONFEDERATION OF INDIA (BOCI) WAS CONSTITUTED ON 4TH FEBRUARY 2016. BOCI IS A NON-GOVERNMENT, NOT-FOR-PROFIT, PASSENGER TRANSPORT INDUSTRY-LED AND MANAGED ORGANIZATION THAT PLAYS A PROACTIVE ROLE IN INDIA'S DEVELOPMENT PROCESS. THE ORGANIZATION PROMOTES, ENCOURAGES, CO-ORDINATES, SAFE AND SECURE PASSENGER TRANSPORT BY COACH AND BUSES WITHIN INDIA AND ITS NEARBY COUNTRIES. IT ACTS AS INTERFACE BETWEEN THOUGHT LEADERS TO ENHANCE EFFICIENCY, COMPETITIVENESS AND BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES FOR ITS MEMBERS BY PROVIDING RANGE OF SPECIALIZED SERVICES AND STRATEGIC GLOBAL LINKAGES. BOCI PROVIDES A PLATFORM FOR CONSENSUS BUILDING AND NETWORKING ON KEY ISSUES AMONGST ITS MEMBERS. THE ORGANIZATION BRINGS IN ALL STATE ASSOCIATIONS AND UNIONS UNDER ONE UMBRELLA TO ACHIEVE BETTER COORDINATION AND CONFIDENCE BY ESTABLISHING A SYSTEM OF OPERATOR ACCREDITATION.

FOR MORE DETAILS ON THE EVENT, VISIT WWW.PRAWAAS.COM

DAY TWO OF PRAWAAS 2019 WITNESSES ENTHRALLING ACTION

- THOUGHT LEADERS FROM ACROSS THE COUNTRY CONVERGE AT PRAWAAS TO DISCUSS THE FUTURE OF PASSENGER MOBILITY
- SESSIONS ON PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP, SHARED MOBILITY, INNOVATIVE FINANCING, MOBILITY AND TOURISM AND MORE
- MULTIPLE PANEL DISCUSSIONS FROM PROMINENT VERTICAL AND BUSINESS LEADERS

MUMBAI, 26 JULY 2019: THE ACTION CONTINUED, ON THE SECOND DAY OF PRAWAAS 2019, INDIA'S MOST DEFINITIVE CONFERENCE ON PASSENGER MOBILITY. THE PENULTIMATE DAY OF THE EVENT POWERED ON WITH WITH GREATER NUMBERS OF SESSIONS, SPEAKERS AND PARTICIPANTS.

THE HIGHLIGHT OF THE DAY INCLUDED THE **BOCI EXCELLENCE AWARDS** CEREMONY WHICH WAS ATTENDED BY A PACKED HOUSE. THE AWARDS RECOGNIZED EXTRAORDINARY CONTRIBUTION IN VARIOUS CATEGORIES FOR PROMOTING BEST PRACTICES, SHOWCASING ACHIEVEMENTS AND ENCOURAGING INNOVATION. INDIVIDUALS AND COMPANIES THAT REDEFINED THE PARADIGMS OF PASSENGER MOBILITY WERE FELICITATED.

HRI NITIN GADKARI, HON'BLE MINISTER FOR ROAD TRANSPORT, HIGHWAYS, MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES, GOVERNMENT OF INDIA ADDRESSED THE DELEGATES ON DAY TWO OF PRAWAAS 2019.

THE SESSION ABOUT **STAGE OPERATIONS AND ITS CHANGING ROLE** HAS EMINENT SPEAKERS ARTICULATE THE CHANGING PARADIGMS OF PUBLIC TRANSPORT. **MR. JALAJ GUPTA**, HEAD SALES GLOBAL BUSES ASHOK LEYLAND SAID, "GOVERNMENT, OEMS, OPERATORS AND AGGREGATORS ARE THE 4 STAKEHOLDERS PLAYING IMPORTANT ROLE IN TRANSPORTATION SECTOR. GOVERNMENT MUST PLAY IMPORTANT ROLES IN BASIC THINGS LIKE IMPLEMENTATION OF BUS BODY CODE OR UNIFORM IMPLEMENTATION OF AS153. SO, THE CODE MUST APPLY TO OEMS AS IT SHOULD TO BUS BODY BUILDER."

AN INTERESTING SESSION ON **SCHOOL BUS CHALLENGES**, CHAIRED BY **MR. SIDDIQ GANDHI**, VICE PRESIDENT BOCI HAD PANELISTS LIKE **MR. SANJAY KUMAR**, HEAD MARKETING (BUS) VOLVO EICHER COMMERCIAL VEHICLES LTD., **MR. S N DHOLE**, SCIENTIST C, VEHICLE CERTIFICATION SAFETY & HOMOLOGATION DIVISION, CIRT, AND **MS. KALPANA DWIVEDI**, PRINCIPAL ST. JOSEPH CBSE, PANVEL AMONG OTHERS. THEY SPOKE ABOUT THE OPPORTUNITIES IN RUNNING SCHOOL BUSES AS AGAINST CHALLENGES. ONE OF THE KEY CONCERN IS SAFETY AND EVERYONE NEEDS TO TREAT IT LIKE A STATE OF MIND MORE THAN JUST A GADGET ON THE VEHICLE. THE AUTHORITIES HAVE INTRODUCED GUIDELINES TO ENSURE CHILDREN'S SAFETY, THE BUSES MUST BE FITTED WITH FEATURES LIKE PANIC BUTTON, TRACKING SYSTEM AND CAMERAS THAT CAN BE MONITORED. AIS143 IS AN EYE OPENER, WHICH WILL INCREASE SAFETY HOWEVER THIS WILL INCREASE INITIAL COST.

YUVA BOCI WAS ONE OF THE MOST SOUGHT-AFTER SESSIONS IN THIS EDITION OF PRAWAAS. THE SESSION ENCOMPASSED THE SPIRIT OF BOCI IN THE NEXT GEN MOBILITY SOLUTIONS. THE NEW AGE ENTREPRENEURS WORKING TOWARDS EASING COMMUTERS PAIN AND SOLVING DAY TO DAY PROBLEMS THAT WOULD HELP TAKE THE PUBLIC TRANSPORT TO THE NEXT LEVEL. HOST OF STARTUPS PRESENTED OUT OF BOX SOLUTIONS ON ACCESSIBILITY AND INCLUSIVITY, SUSTAINABILITY AND CARBON FOOTPRINT, E-MOBILITY SOLUTIONS AND USE OF INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGY SUCH AS IOT IN TRANSPORT.

THE SESSION ON **PUBLIC PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP IN DELIVERING BUS TRANSPORT** WAS CHAIRED BY **MR. SK LOHIA**, MANAGING DIRECTOR, IRSDCL. THE PANELISTS INCLUDED **MR. SHASHI VERMA**, CHIEF TECHNOLOGY OFFICER AND

DIRECTOR OF CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE, TRANSPORT FOR LONDON, **MR. GERARD OLLIVIER**, LEAD TRANSPORT SPECIALIST, THE WORLD BANK, **MR. SHIVANAND SWAMY**, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE IN URBAN TRANSPORT, RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION AMONG OTHERS. THE AUDIENCE WERE IN RAPT ATTENTION WHILE THE PANELIST DISCUSSED THE IMPORTANT ROLES GOVERNMENT, OEMS AND OPERATORS AND AGGREGATORS PLAY IN FORMING AN ECOSYSTEM FOR SEAMLESS PASSENGER CONNECTIVITY AND MOBILITY.

*“THE MOST EFFECTIVE CITIES IN URBAN MOBILITY LIKE SINGAPORE, PARIS OR HONG KONG, LEVERAGE BUSES FOR 30 TO 54 PERCENT OF THEIR PUBLIC TRANSPORT TRIPS, AS A CORE COMPONENT OF THEIR MOBILITY SYSTEM,” MENTIONS **GERALD OLLIVIER, LEAD TRANSPORT SPECIALIST FOR THE WORLD BANK.** “THEY DESIGN SERVICES THAT ARE FREQUENT, RELIABLE, SIMPLE TO UNDERSTAND, SERVICE ALL AND ARE COST EFFECTIVE LIKE IN LONDON. WITH BACKING OF CLEAR LAWS AT STATE OR LOCAL LEVEL, CLEAR PLANNING AND FUNDING RESPONSIBILITY CAN BE ESTABLISHED, LIKE IN LYON WITH THE USE OF A METROPOLITAN LEVEL AGENCY, SYSTRAL. SINCE FARE-BASED REVENUES TYPICALLY ONLY COVER PART OF BUS OPERATING COSTS, THEIR AUTHORITIES NEED TO CREATE NON-FARE BASED REVENUES AND SUBSIDIES TO SUPPLEMENT THOSE, REFLECTING THE POSITIVE IMPACT OF BUS SERVICES ON OVERALL MOBILITY. FOR INDIA, SUCH EXPERIENCE CAN BE HELPFUL IN UPGRADING URBAN BUS SERVICES BY COMBINING A CLEAR VISION FOR MOBILITY BACKED BY LAW, INSTITUTIONS WITH CLEAR PLANNING, FUNDING AND PERFORMANCE MONITORING RESPONSIBILITIES, AND BALANCED CONTRACTING WITH PRIVATE OPERATORS BACKED BY SECURED FUNDING AND KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS MONITORED THROUGH IT SYSTEMS.”*

ONE OF THE TOPICAL ISSUES ON **SHARED MOBILITY: A GAME CHANGER OR TROUBLE MAKER?** WAS CHAIRED BY MS. SHREYA GADEPALLI, DIRECTOR SOUTH ASIA, ITDP AND THE PANEL INCLUDED MR. ASHISH KUMAR SINGH (IAS) PRINCIPAL SECRETARY, TRANSPORT & PORTS, MAHARASHTRA, **MR. RAMNATH SUBRAMANIAM**, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, MAHA METRO RAIL LTD AND **Ms. IRAVATI DAMLE**, HEAD PUBLIC POLICY, UBER AMONG OTHERS. THE PANEL DISCUSSED VARIOUS ASPECTS OF SHARED MOBILITY. THE PANEL POINTED THAT SHARED MOBILITY IS THE ULTIMATE SOLUTION TO INCREASING CONGESTION AND POLLUTION IN OUR CITIES TODAY. THE POLICY NEEDS TO ADDRESS TAXATION IN A WAY THAT SHARED MOBILITY IS ECONOMICAL AND AFFORDABLE THEREBY REDUCING THE NEED FOR PERSONAL VEHICLES. GOOD INFRASTRUCTURE AND SAFETY ARE ALSO SOME OF THE KEY CONCERNS THAT BECOME PROHIBITIVE TO SHARED MOBILITY.

THE SESSION ON **ROLE OF MOBILITY IN PROMOTING TOURISM** WAS CHAIRED BY **MR. KANWARJIT SINGH SAWHNEY**, MANAGING DIRECTOR, BAKSHI TRANSPORT SERVICE (P) LIMITED AND MR. RADHAKRISHNA HOLLA, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, CAUVERY CARS, BENGALURU. THE PANEL INCLUDED **SHRI. ABHIMANYU R. KALE**, MANAGING DIRECTOR MAHARASHTRA TOURISM DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LTD AND MR. **MR. JENU DEVAN, IAS**, MANAGING DIRECTOR & COMMISSIONER OF TOURISM, TOURISM CORPORATION OF GUJARAT LTD. THE PANEL ITERATED THAT MOBILITY PLAYS A CRUCIAL ROLE IN TOURISM PROMOTION. IN A COUNTRY LIKE OURS, WHICH IS RICHLY ENDOWED WITH CULTURE AND HERITAGE, TOURISM HAS LARGELY UNDERPERFORMED DUE TO INADEQUATE CONNECTIVITY. ENSURING SAFE AND SECURE TRANSPORT WOULD POSITIVELY IMPACT TOURISM BOTH FROM WITHIN THE COUNTRY AS WELL AS FOREIGN TOURISTS. THE GOVERNMENT AND PRIVATE OPERATORS MUST COME TOGETHER TO MAKE TOURISM VIABLE THROUGH BETTER MOBILITY OPTIONS.

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ITS MEMBERS. THE ORGANIZATION BRINGS IN ALL STATE ASSOCIATIONS AND UNIONS UNDER ONE UMBRELLA TO ACHIEVE BETTER COORDINATION AND CONFIDENCE BY ESTABLISHING A SYSTEM OF OPERATOR ACCREDITATION.

FOR MORE DETAILS ON THE EVENT, VISIT WWW.PRAWAAS.COM

PRAWAAS 2019

Prawaas 2019- Roadshows Schedule & Details. Prawaas 2019 had 8 Roadshows & 1 BOCI-Industry Interactive Meet at Bengaluru. All these meets aimed at inviting all relevant stakeholders to main event in Navi Mumbai and were given detailed information about spectrum of activities planned for Prawaas 2019.

www.prawaas.com

PRESS RELEASE

Prawaas 2019 Concludes on a High Note

More than 10000 visitors, 150+ exhibitors, 100+ speakers and 5000+ operators from 29 states and 7 Union Territories participated in the 3-day extravaganza. Thought leaders from India and abroad congregated at Prawaas to discuss the future of passenger mobility.

Mumbai, 27 JULY 2019: The second edition of Prawaas mobility conference concluded on a high note today at CIDCO Convention and Exhibition Center, Navi Mumbai. Organized by Bus and Car Operators Confederation of India (BOCI), the event brought together operators, OEMs, policymakers, thought leaders and industry captains on the same platform to redefine passenger mobility in the country.

In his keynote address, **Shri Nitin Gadkari, Hon'ble Minister for Road Transport, Highways; Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, Government of India** said, *"I am happy to be here amongst the Prawaas family. The initiative taken by BOCI to bring all public mobility stakeholders together on one platform is commendable. As a government, we stand for simplification of processes, transparency and a corruption free system. Online registration of vehicles, one nation one permit, amendment in Motor Vehicle Act to remove education qualification criteria, subsidies for electric vehicles and providing better infrastructure like bus-ports will revolutionize public transport."*

"We are committed towards the environment and believe that electric vehicles will lead the way forward. However, there are cost and infrastructure constraints which need to be considered. Biofuel made from ethanol has yielded great results in my constituency in Nagpur and we have decided to convert all our public buses to biofuel. This has not only helped the city environment and transport but has also provided an additional source of income to the farmers. The central government is committed towards better passenger mobility and we will work with state governments to realize this goal." He added.

The event has taken giant strides since inception two years ago and has become the most sought-after platform for all things related to public transport. This year the business exhibition had over 150 marquee exhibitors, encompassing national, international brands and pathbreaking startups providing passenger mobility solutions.

Mr. Prasanna Patwardhan, President BOCI, said, “It is important to shift our focus from ‘**Moving Vehicles**’ to ‘**Moving People**’. This will depend upon how government transforms Public Transport. Leading nations have minimum 6 buses for 1000 passengers while in India it is lower than 1 Bus per 1000 passenger. One bus creates twenty direct & indirect jobs. Compared to the international norm, we require at least thirty lakh more buses, which can be achieved only with increased private sector participation. The results of these efforts will have a huge impact on GDP and will create employment for at least fifty million Indians in the next five years. Today over 80% Public transport on Roads is provided by BOCI members with combined fleet strength of about 15 Lakh buses and 11 lakh cars. There is an urgent need for the Central and State governments to accord top priority to Bus Transport and create conducive ecosystem that will bring ease of travel to 1.3 Billion People.”

The final day saw some charged discussions on **Accelerating Electric Mobility in India**. The session was chaired by **Mr. Amit Bhat, Director of Integrated Urban Transport, WRI India** and **Mr. Ravi Pandit, Co-founder, Chairman and Group Chief Executive Officer, KPIT**. The speakers iterated that future of mobility is electric. There are around 130 million electric vehicles expected to hit the roads globally by 2030. In India some of the biggest constraints remain initial investment, charging infrastructure, incumbent transport system and local manufacturing and serviceability. The panel however agreed that despite challenges, India’s public mobility system makeover is taking place at a rapid pace. With collaboration and collective efforts, the sector is poised for exponential growth.

The 2nd edition of Prawaas concluded with the awards ceremony and valedictory speech by Hon’ble Minister, heavy industries and public enterprises, Government of India, **Shri Arvind G Sawant**. While discussing the road ahead he mentioned that **Hon’ble PM Shri Narendra Modi** has entrusted him with the ministry concerned with vehicles which is a big responsibility.

He further mentioned that “As a consumer I have a different experiences, my life has gone in city buses and state buses and the days have changed now and beauty is added

to the buses and now we need to look at safety of the passengers which is the responsibility of the private operator as well as the government. PRAWAAS as rightly pointed out is a journey and for that you need PRAWAASIS and they will not come to you until they find their journey SAFE, SMART AND SUSTAINABLE.”

Further he said that the government will give Subsidies to buses, 4 wheelers and to 2 wheelers, we have reduced the GST from 12% to 5% for EV's, we have removed the cess which was 22%. 40% subsidy to those who will go for Electrical buses.

After the Paris agreement the world is worried about the change of climate hence we need to think about green initiatives and address the issue with the disposal of batteries, he added “We must think about e-waste, what is the plan for battery waste? lithium is hazardous and if you invest money in vehicles which are good looking, we need to think of sustainability as well. We need to make a pollution free country. Roads and congestion is an issue but pollution is a much more serious issue. We need charging stations, we need power for power station, make use of solar, renewable energy and we also need to think of batteries that can sustain for 500km run”.

The session concluded by vote of thanks by **Mr. Harsh Kotak**, Treasurer, BOCI.

About BOCI

Bus Operators Confederation of India (BOCI) was constituted on 4th February 2016. BOCI is a non-government, not-for-profit, Passenger transport industry-led and managed organization that plays a proactive role in India's development process. The organization promotes, encourages, co-ordinates, safe and secure passenger transport by coach and buses within India and its nearby countries. It acts as interface between thought leaders to enhance efficiency, competitiveness and business opportunities for its members by providing range of specialized services and strategic global linkages. BOCI provides a platform for consensus building and networking on key issues amongst its members. The organization brings in all State associations and Unions under one umbrella to achieve better coordination and confidence by establishing a system of Operator accreditation.

For more details on the event, visit www.prawaas.com