

ಪತ್ರಿಕಾ ತುಣುಕುಗಳು  
PAPER CLIPPINGS

ಇಲಾಖೆ / ವಿಷಯ : DEPARTMENT / SUBJECT:

6  
Minister

ಪತ್ರಿಕೆಯ ಹೆಸರು : NAME OF THE NEWS PAPER: Deccan Herald ದಿನಾಂಕ : DATE: 6/4/2

## Savadi urges RTC workers to put off stir, assures pay hike

'Revision can happen if EC gives nod as model code is in place'

6/4/2  
BENGALURU, DHNS

**T**ransport Minister Laxman Savadi on Monday assured the workers of the road transport corporations (RTCs) of a hike in salary and urged them to postpone the planned strike from April 7 to May 4.



Laxman Savadi

Under the banner of Karnataka State Road Transport Employees League, workers of BMTC, KSRTC, NWKRTC and NEKRTC have given a call for strike from April 7 to protest the government's "failure" to

### Workers refuse to budge

The employees' league said it will go ahead with the strike on April 7.

Reacting to Savadi's statement that a Labour Tribunal had ordered a status quo till April 9, the league's president R. Chandrashekhar said they had informed the tribunal that the strike cannot be postponed.

implement salary under the 6th Pay Commission for the RTC workers.

"The model code of conduct (MCC) is in place in three districts of the state. We have already written to the Election Commission, seeking its permission to effect a hike in the salary of the workers. We are ready to announce the hike tomorrow if we get the EC nod," he said.

The minister addressed a

Anand, a senior leader of the league, noted that the league has given the notice period of 21 days as per law.

"We have listened to the government's appeals many times earlier and waited for three months. Our demand for salaries as per the 6th pay commission recommendations stands," he added.

press conference in the wake of allegations by the league that the government's announcements with regard to fulfilling eight of the nine demands fall short of their expectations.

"We are in the middle of a pandemic which has caused economic crisis. Still, we are ready to give a hike. I appeal to the workers to postpone their protest till the MCC ends," he said.

Rs 3,800 crore burden

While assuring a hike, the minister noted that talks were going on regarding implementation of the 6th pay commission.

"There are many complications. Many of the schemes and allowances given to workers may go. This will lead to different allegations. We have held six meetings with the workers. We will hold more meetings to thrash out these issues," he added.

He said the four RTCs were running due to the government grant of Rs 1,952 crore. "Our ridership had recently climbed to 65% of the pre-Covid numbers. The recent surge in case has caused a drop of 5% to 10%," he added.

The minister said the corporation's salary expenses will go up by Rs 3,800 crore if the salaries were increased on a par with the 6th pay commission.

"You may be demanding the right thing. But it's not the right time. The government is in a financial crisis due to Covid," he said.