

Rawalpindi On the directives of District Coordinator Officer (Rawalpindi) Rashid Mehmood Langrial, the Regional Transport Authority (RTA) has launched a campaign against private and public transport vehicles, particularly school vans, having extra gas cylinders and petrol cans under seats.

The DRTA has also dispatched warning notices to all school managements, asking them to direct their drivers to remove extra petrol cans from their vehicles otherwise strict action would be taken against them.

During last two days, the Regional Transport Authority impounded dozens of wagons, Suzuki pick-ups, taxicabs, rickshaws and school vans having more than one gas cylinders, sub-standard gas cylinders, loose gas cylinders and extra petrol can under seats. The RTA challaned the drivers of these vehicles and impounded several of them on Tuesday.

District Coordination Officer (DCO) Arshad Mehmood Langrial issued these directives while chairing a high-level meeting held here to review the status of vehicles in the backdrop of the Gujrat incident. The meeting was attended by all relevant officials.

The DCO asked the Regional Transport Authority secretary and the motor vehicle examiner (MVE) to take strict action against the drivers of public service vehicles who were not following the Ogra rules and regulations for installation of CNG kits and placing extra CNG cylinders and petrol cans under seats.

The DCO also ordered the RTA to issue challans to the vehicle owners who were using liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) instead of the CNG.

The district labour officer told the participants of the meeting that as many as 268 CNG stations were functioning in the city, of which 51 filling stations have workshops for installation of CNG kits in vehicles.

The DCO also issued directives for launching a drive against illegal CNG workshops.

Regional Transport Authority (DRTA) Secretary Owais Manzoor Tarar told The News that they were taking action against vehicles on daily basis. We have sent warning notices to all school managements and asked them to direct their drivers to avoid having extra petrol cans under seats otherwise strict action would be taken against them.

He admitted that the majority of drivers place extra petrol cans under seats, which is not only illegal but also a dangerous practice. We will not allow any kind of illegality, he claimed.

All-Pakistan CNG Association Supreme Council Chairman Ghayas Abdullah Piracha said that the Gujrat incident happened because extra petrol cans were placed under seats otherwise compressed natural gas (CNG) is not dangerous. He appreciated the concerned authorities for taking action against the drivers involved in this dangerous practice.

Courtesy: The News