

HM ready with BS-IV compliant Ambassadors

Kolkata: Hindustan Motors has finally bounced back by rolling out its BS IV compliant 1.5-litre diesel Ambassador, three years past deadline.

While sale of Bharat Stage III cars was banned in 17 cities — including Kolkata — from April 1, 2010, HM continued to manufacture and sell BS III yellow taxis in the replacement market following a special notification from the government. That honeymoon was about to end with the government terminating the BS III-extension favour to HM and allowing other manufacturers, including Maruti Suzuki and Mahindra & Mahindra, to supply cabs.

But with HM now getting its 1.5-litre diesel taxi model certified by the Automotive Research Association of India (ARAI), it is back in the reckoning. HM managing director & CEO Uttam Bose said, "We had been working on upgrading our Ambassador to match BS IV norms for over a year. We are happy that our efforts have borne fruit and we have received certification from ARAI after passing rigorous tests." TNN

TIMES OF INDIA, Pg-3, 29th JULY, 2013