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SC allows diesel taxis with all-India permit to ferry BPO employees in Delhi, NCR

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EW DELHI: The Supreme Court on Monday agreed to relax its order banning diesel-run all-India tourist permit taxis which ferry BPO employees in Delhi and NCR.

However, the court asked the Delhi government, the Environment Pollution Control Authority and the taxi owners association to give a concrete road map for phasing out diesel taxis from the NCR.

The SC relief comes on Centre's plea that a <u>blanket ban on diesel taxis in</u> <u>the Delhi-NCR region would badly hit the flourishing BPO sector</u>.

The disel ban could cost the country \$1.2 billion, the Centre had told the court during hearing last week.

Solicitor general Ranjith Kumar had also told the court that the BPOs may consider moving their operations out of India if the ban adversely affected their work.

A Supreme Court bench had banned taxis that run on diesel from plying on NCR's roads. Diesel cab operators had been given a deadline of April 30 to convert their vehicles into ones that run on CNG.