



Interview 5

Taxi driver

B Raj, MJ Tours and Travels



There's been a boom for taxi firms in the last few years. IT companies all pay us to transport workers to and from the offices. The public transport is too unreliable. The only way is by private vehicle.

I work nearly every day and always for IT businesses. I take them from the hotel to the office and back. Sometimes I wait there all day, getting paid for sitting.

I'm driving all types of people today. Chinese, Britishers, Europes, Americans. There are so many from north India, Delhi and Mumbai. They are shifting to Bangalore. I go to the airport most days. From there straight to the office. Then straight to the airport. Some come and go in a day.



I'm using English everyday. Speaking with the foreigners. Some like to talk, others have the computer on, even when it's ten minutes from A to B. They like to talk on the cell-phone in English. So, I'm listening to find new words.



They are always rushing. They tap their feet in the traffic jams. They get rude sometimes. They think they're big people, very important, too important to talk in a polite way. They like to speak to the foreigners and forget about the people in their country.

There are so many uneven roads and uncovered holes all over. There's loose mud sliding and vehicles are skidding. Pavements get washed away in the monsoons and are never repaired. There's pot-holes and rubble on the sides. And when there's no surface on the road it makes it dangerous for two-wheelers (motorbikes).

There isn't any traffic management. It's a standstill on Airport Road in the evening. By Dell and Intel on the intersection of the Inner Ring Road there are over 6,000 vehicles on the



road, and it's impossible to move in the monsoons. The jams are next to high-star hotels, hi-tech businesses and service apartments. We can't hide it anymore.

