



ECONOMY

Satisfaction of taxi drivers with the 3.07% increase in fares

The industry considers fuel price inflation to be «very damaging»

The Andorran Taxi Association is in favor of unification with a single exchange

EL PERIÒDIC
ESCALDES-ENGORDANY
@PeriodicAND

The president of the Andorran Taxi Association (ATA), Marcio Pereira, and the president of the Interurban Taxi Association (ATI), Pau Vaño, stated that the sector is satisfied with the increase in fares which the Government approved yesterday after the press conference of the Council of Ministers. Thus, the Executive has updated the rates of the taxi service and has increased them to 3.07%, slightly below this year's Consumer Price Index (CPI) which is 3.3%.

Pereira said they would like the increase to be the same as the CPI, but they understand that the current situation is complicated, because «people have just come out of a two-year coronavirus crisis and it has to let it breathe a little». He added that although prices had not risen for more than two years, «this is a good start».

In a similar vein, the president of the ATI stated that «we still have a lot to do» emphasizing the misinformation about the minimum rates that taxi drivers have, which causes certain misunderstandings with customers who, according to Vaño, «They only see what appears on the taximeter». In this regard, the government also revised yesterday the minimum rates for telephone calls to a taxi reservation center that apply when the amount indicated by the taximeter is lower than these minimum prices.

The presidents of the ATA and the ATI highlighted the alarming situation that the sector is experiencing as a result of fuel inflation, which they said is «very damaging» to them. Vaño pointed out that in his point of view the «disproportionate» increase in fuel costs al-

Source Govern d'Andorra Graphic Pako Temprado

	CURRENT RATE	PROPOSAL
FLAG DOWN	2.65 €	2.74 €
AMOUNT PER KILOMETER TRAVEL		
WORKING DAY (FROM 7 TO 21 H.)	1.16 €	1.20 €
SATURDAY, SUNDAY AND HOLIDAYS (FROM 0 TO 24 H.)	1.37 €	1.42 €
SUPPLEMENT, JANUARY 1st, MARCH 14th SEPTEMBER 8th, DECEMBER 25th	3.00 €	3.10 €
MINIMUM RATE PER CALL TO A RESERVATION CENTER		
ENCAMP, LA MASSANA, SANT JULIÀ	7.55 €	7.80 €
EL PAS DE LA CASA	38.95 €	40.20 €

most 20% of the salary of taxi drivers, while Marcio proposed that the transport sector can enjoy a reduced amount for fuel, ie, which have an adapted price. «If the IGI is 4.5%, then we would pay only 2.5% or 2% directly, that is, less fuel taxes», he suggested.

TAXI STATION // Regarding the situation of the taxi station that is being promoted by the Minister of the Presidency, Economy and Business, Jordi Gallardo, together with the taxi associations in the country, the project is still in the drafting of the regulation of the central. This unification of taxi drivers in the Principality in the same exchange does not imply the disso-

Fuel price inflation is a problem that is «very damaging» to the taxi industry

lution of taxi associations, said the president of the Association of Intercity Taxi Drivers, as he indicated that the idea is that the Government manages the switchboard and that no taxi driver may have preferences when choosing passengers.

On the other hand, the president of the Andorran Taxi Association told EL PERIÒDIC that they are in favor of the creation of the unified switchboard, but «everything will depend on how it is done». Marcio wanted to highlight the importance of the figure of the worker as an essential axis of the project. «Taxi drivers and their expenses should be taken into account, meaning that the switchboard does not involve an extra expense for the worker», he said. ≡

The ATA maintains that the bus on demand is a «direct unfair competition to the sector»

►► The President of the Andorran Taxi Association (ATA), Marcio Pereira, maintained his position that the use of the bus on demand is a «direct unfair competition with the sector» and added that complies with what is public transport. Marcio reiterated that «the bus must stop at the stop» and that they must fulfill their func-

on. «It's up to the taxi drivers to pick them up at the front door», he said. The president of the Association of Intercity Taxi Drivers (ATI), Pau Vaño, stated that the «door to door» of the bus on demand, personally, he has never seen in any other city, but that now the ATI is focused in the creation of the future taxi station unified by the Govern-

ment. On the other hand, the two presidents explained that the demand in the Mayor's Office for the bus to the demand of Escaldes-Engordany by the transport company Montmantell has surprised them, although neither association expressed intentions. to also file a complaint about the bus as a «covert» taxi.

Your leading real estate agency in Andorra.

Our experience guarantees results, realtors since 1988.



(+376) 353 424 / (+376) 379 769

(+376) 747 747

laportella@andorra.ad

Casa Nova Olivet 10 · Ordino

www.laportella.ad

COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

SOA registrants are stabilizing at pre-pandemic figures

The number of job vacancies is almost double that of January 2020, and Jover attributes this to the economic recovery

EL PERIÒDIC
ANDORRA LA VELLA
@PeriodicAND

The number of job seekers in Andorra has stabilized. This was pointed out by the Minister of Spokesperson, Eric Jover, in his appearance yesterday after the Council of Ministers, where he shared that at the end of January, there were 432 unemployed people in the Andorra Employment Service (SOA). This figure is almost the same as the previous month, when there were 428 registered, but significantly lower than a year ago, as in January 2021 there were 1,264 unemployed people. In other words, the drop in one year was 65.8%.

Jover also considered that the last two records meant a return to «levels similar to those of the pre-pandemic» and that they meant «technical unemployment» in «any country». «It's a bag of people who don't have a job and it's often temporary», such as people who are changing, said the minister, who pointed out that it is «difficult to reduce» and that in Andorra it is around 2.9%.

However, Jover pointed out that the main task is to «differentiate those enrolled between these storms and those who have an extended stay because they have difficulty re-occupying», which with the decrease in registered, is provided. At this point, the different training options proposed by the administration also have an im-



► A person is attended by the Andorran Employment Service (SOA).

pact, as the minister remarked: «It is important to offer a sufficiently comprehensive and attractive training catalog».

This training is also key to filling the vacancies offered by the SOA itself, which at the end of January was 1982. This figure is significantly higher than in previous years and breaks the stability

of the number of unemployed, as it represents 538 more jobs offered than in January 2021, and 900 more than in 2020. «This demand shows that there is a significantly higher need for labor» said Jover, adding that this was due to a «rise in the economic sectors and the labor market». In addition, regarding the discrepancy between job-

seekers and the jobs offered, the Minister indicated that he can respond to: the jobs are not attractive enough or to the difference between what is sought and the skills of the registrants, winning importance of the formations mentioned to alleviate the second point.

Ultimately, the government shared that 34 people received the

the figures

432 people were unemployed in January, 65.8% less than the same month last year.

1,982 places to fill SOA bids, 538 more than a year ago and 900 more than two years ago.

34 beneficiaries of involuntary unemployment benefits in January, one less than in December.

involuntary unemployment benefit in January, one less than in December. And to complete the analysis of the country's economic development, the minister also highlighted the data on imports and exports recorded in January. Regarding imports, Jover stressed that the value of the last month had been 117 million euros, 67% more than last year and 5.4% more than the previous one. In addition, they also grew by excluding energy products, which are volatile, noting that at that time the increase was 57% and 2.6% respectively. And in terms of exports, they had grown by 10% compared to 2021 and 22% compared to 2020, which is a «finding that the economic fabric is recovering». ≡

The National Housing Commission is taking shape

This body will replace the task previously performed by the Board

EL PERIÒDIC
ANDORRA LA VELLA

The Council of Ministers approved on Wednesday the Regulation of the National Housing Commission, which establishes its nature, composition and functions. According to the spokesman for the Minister, Eric Jover, this body will replace the function of the National Housing Board and will be attached directly to the National Housing Institute (INH), with a consultative and participatory role. Among other things, its functions will be to exchange information, help define, develop and analyze proposals in relation to housing policies, and

analyze regulatory drafts and plans and programs that have an impact on housing promoted by the Government, by the municipalities and by the INH. The commission will also have to make proposals to encourage collaboration, cooperation and inter-administrative coordination, and make contributions to the development of studies on housing, urban planning, land and building. In short, the Government assessed that the main objective of the National Housing Commission will be to contribute to the diagnosis of the situation and the design of proposals to the INH aimed at improving it.

In relation to its organization, the Commission will have two levels: the Plenary, chaired by the President of the Steering Committee of the INH, Josep Maria Pla, and which



► Josep Maria Pla.

brings together all the people who are part of it, - members of the institutions and different entities and associations in the country involved; and working groups, which will be made up of different members with the aim of analyzing and working on proposals and then submitting them to the Plenary. ≡

Education opens call for different exams

These are the official POB, POB PRO and tests for those over 25 years old

EL PERIÒDIC
ANDORRA LA VELLA

The Executive approved yesterday, at the proposal of the Ministry of Education and Higher Education, three calls for the official tests of the level of baccalaureate (POB) and professional (POB PRO), and for those over 25 years of age. According to the POB, the exams for school hours will take place between February 7th and April 8th, and the exams for the unified schedule will take place at the Andorra la Vella Congress Center between April 30th and May 3rd this year. Face-to-face candidates must register for the high school between February 21st

and 25th.

As for the POB PRO test, all the exams are held at the Aixovall Training Center in Sant Julià de Lòria. Face-to-face candidates can register for the vocational training center on February 22nd or March 8th. Likewise, the free candidates for the POB and the POB PRO must register in the period between February 17th and March 11th, 2022, through Government Procedures.

Ultimately, the annual test for access to higher education for people over the age of 25 will take place on June 14th and 15th, 2022 at the Vocational Training Center. Applicants must register in the period between February 17th and March 11th, 2022, also through the Procedures Service. ≡

Don't miss any special editions of **El Periòdic!**