Driverless Cars - An Opportunity

What is the issue?

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- The incentives provided by cab operators to their drivers are being taken back as they are getting hold of the market.
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- Drivers protested and sought government intervention, after being jobless with unviable cab driver option.
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- Union Transport Minister has said that driverless cars will not be allowed in India in order to save jobs and secure these drivers.
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- However, many claim that driverless cars are actually an opportunity for India and that they generate high paying jobs.
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How is that an opportunity?

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- Today, no global automaker is confident that Indian roads can have driverless cars.
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- But the government should encourage **Indian innovation** in these autonomous vehicles.
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- This will provide scope for
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1. Massive **investments** by companies in designing vehicles, building sensors and other equipments.
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2. **Training** the cars to drive on Indian roads.
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3. Making advances in **technologies** such as Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning and other such emerging areas.
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- All these are only job generating opportunities than otherwise.
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What should the government do?

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- Doing business should be made easy for the automakers, encouraging them to invest and innovate thereby generating job opportunities.
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- Planners and policy makers should design better road signs, and help build suitable road infrastructure.
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- Government should invest in an independent regulator, frame laws to govern them and ensure fair play.
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- It should also need to work on improving education to the masses to tap these opportunities.
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Source: Business Standard

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