

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1359
ANSWERED ON:16.11.2010
COLLECTION OF TOLL TAX FROM ROAD USERS
Hegde Shri Anant Kumar;Sharma Shri Jagdish

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has amended its policy in regard to assigning the responsibility for collecting toll from the road users during the year 2010;
- (b) if so, whether the new policy proposes to give responsibility of collecting toll tax to private organisation instead of ex- servicemen;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether such changes in policy would lead to giving priority to revenue generation over self-employment; and
- (e) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH)

(a) to (c): No, Madam. In exercise of powers conferred under Section 7 and 9 of the National Highways Act 1956, Central Government have notified National Highways Fee (Determination of Rates and Collection) Rules, 2008. In accordance with these Rules, the user fee is collected by the Central Government or the executing authority or the concessionaire as the case may be, at the toll plaza. In respect of public funded projects, the fee levied under these rules is collected by the Central Government or the executing authority, as the case may be, through its own officials or through contractors. National Highways Authority of India (NHAI), being executing authority, in turn, have accordingly been collecting the user fee through ex-servicemen/ex-servicemen agency sponsored by Directorate General of Re-settlement (DGR). However, recently, NHAI have shifted from their existing procedure and have adopted the following three methods –

- (i) Operation, Maintenance and Transfer (OMT) Concession Agreement
 - (ii) an agency engaged through competitive bidding and
 - (iii) DGR sponsored ex-servicemen in Jammu & Kashmir, North Eastern States and other difficult areas. NHAI have however, incorporated provision in such contracts at
- (i) and
- (ii) above, to have a mandatory clause for engaging at least 50% ex-servicemen against the total requirement of manpower.

(d) & (e): Do not arise.