

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4013

ANSWERED ON:19.12.2011

LEAKAGE IN TOLL EARNINGS

Bajwa Shri Partap Singh; Gowda Shri D.B. Chandre; Ponnamm Shri Prabhakar; Rao Shri Sambasiva Rayapati; Reddy Shri Anantha Venkatarami

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken cognizance of the leakage in toll earnings on various toll plazas in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and NH-wise including Punjab alongwith the steps taken by the Government to plug this leakage;
- (c) whether the Government has allowed the relocation of certain toll plazas in order to improve revenue collection;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government also proposes to hike the toll rates on certain stretches/NHs; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (DR. TUSHAR A. CHAUDHARY)

(a) No, Madam. However to improve toll collection certain modification with system has been made. Till recently, there has been direct mode of tolling on toll plazas on stretches constructed through Public Funds. The collection was being effected through Directorate General Resettlement (DGR) agencies which proved to be an inefficient system of tolling and entailed excessive monitoring on part of National Highways Authority of India (NHAI). It was, therefore, decided to switch over to collect toll fee on plazas through private agencies selected through open competitive bidding system wherein the agency gives fixed monthly amount to NHAI. The system is now being followed till the stretch is handed over to Build, Operate and Transfer (BOT) (Toll) or Operation Maintenance and Transfer (OMT) concessionaires. The OMT projects on Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode have a concession period of 4 - 9 years where the concessionaire are allowed to collect toll fee right from the start and along with tolling, they carry out engineering maintenance along with incident management on the allotted stretches against payment of quoted sum to NHAI. The above steps have resulted into substantial reduction in monitoring in tolling and enhanced revenue collection and improved system of maintenance of National Highways.

Presently all the fee plazas in the State of Punjab are either with BOT concessionaire or NHAI is collecting toll through contractor engaged through competitive bidding.

- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) There is no case where NHAI has shifted the fee plaza to improve the revenue collection.
- (d) Does not arise.
- (e) No, Madam. However, as per the National Highways Fee (Determination of Rates & Collection) Rules, 2008, fee is to be revised every year based on the formula provided in the said rules.