

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4832

ANSWERED ON:07.05.2012

HIKE IN TOLL TAX

Ganeshamurthi Shri A.; Sayeed Muhammed Hamdulla A. B.

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

- (a) whether there is any proposal to hike toll tax on National Highways across the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor and the time by which revised toll rates are likely to be implemented in the country;
- (c) whether the increase in toll tax will lead to further increase in the rates of essential commodities, and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether any study has also been conducted to abolish toll tax by widening the net of other taxes; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA)

- (a) & (b) A proposal for amendment of the National Highways Fee (Determination and Collection) Rules, 2008 for rationalising the fee structure is under consideration.
- (c) to (e) The amendment proposed will rationalize the user fee so that more stretches of highways can be constructed, improved, maintained and operated thereby reducing the overall cost of transportation. User fee is one of the sources of such inflow in addition to the Viability Gap Funding amount provided by the Government, to make a project viable. The justification is to plough back a portion of benefit occurs from the project by levying such fee on the road users.