

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:572

ANSWERED ON:26.11.2012

TOLL TAX

Das Shri Khagen;Jaiswal Shri Gorakh Prasad ;Naranbhai Shri Kachhadia;Rama Devi Smt. ;Singh Shri Ijyaraj ;Singh Shri Ratan

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

- (a) the details of toll tax policy formulated by the Government with regard to collection of toll tax on National Highways (NHs);
- (b) the details of prescribed norms for distance between two toll centers and the number of times toll tax can be collected on a particular national highway;
- (c) whether the Government has received any complaints regarding charging of toll from highway users even before completion of construction works on NHs during the last three years and the current year;
- (d) if so, the details thereof State-wise and the action taken by the Government on these complaints;
- (e) whether the Government has also received complaints regarding overcharging of toll/violation of rules and regulation by toll operators during the same period; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof State-wise and the action taken by the Government against these toll operators/toll plazas along with the penalty imposed?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI SARVEY SATHYANARAYANA)

(a) Government has notified the National Highways Fee (Determination of Rates & Collection) Rules, 2008 on 5.12.2008, as amended from time to time, for the projects taken up on or after 05.12.2008. For the stretches completed before 5th December, 2008 the fee collection is as per the National Highways (collection of Fees by any person for the use of Section of National Highways/Permanent Bridge/Temporary Bridge on National Highways) Rules, 1997; the National Highways (Fees for the use of National Highways Section and Permanent Bridge – Public Funded Project) Rules, 1997; and the National Highways Rules, 1957 for those completed after the date of notification of these Rules. The abovementioned Rules have been notified under Section 7 of the National Highways Act, 1956. The user fee on a stretch of National Highway is collected as per the individual Notifications published in the Official Gazette by the Central Government. In cases where a particular stretch of National Highway is entrusted to a State Government/UT, they comply with the Notifications issued by the Central Government.

(b) The distance between two toll plazas is given in the Rule 8 of the National Highways Fee (Determination of Rates & collection) Rules, 2008, as amended from time to time. However in the NH (Fee) Rules, 1997 there is no provision regarding distance between two fee plazas. Further location of a fee plaza on any National Highways is finalized keeping in view the norms provisioned in the Fee Rules applicable at the time of establishing a particular plaza, optimum revenue accruals to Government, minimum hardship to road users and local residents. Availability of the land, highway geometry and diversions from the highway are also deciding factors in location of a fee plaza on any section of a National Highway.

The User fee is to be paid as per the applicable fee rules every time stretch of National Highways used.

(c) & (d) In case of 6 laning works, as per concession agreement, toll is allowed from the beginning as it was being tolled being a 4 lane facility. No such case has come to notice in case of 4 laning. However, list of projects where tolling is going on during construction period (under 6 laning) is enclosed as Annexure A.

(e) & (f) Yes Madam. Some complaint of overcharging is received. The details of the complaints are at Annexure B.