

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2700

ANSWERED ON:10.12.2012

TOLL POLICY

Biswal Shri Hemanand ;Vinay Kumar Alias Vinnu Shri

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

- (a) the criteria for setting up of toll plazas on National Highways of the country;
- (b) whether toll gates in Odisha are located within 60 kms length and also 10 kms radius of the cities which is against the toll policy;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government in this regard;
- (d) whether the Government has any proposal to collect toll tax even after the private road developer or the Government recovers the capital investment with interest for smooth operation and maintenance of the highway stretches in perpetuity; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

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 above mentioned 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.

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. 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.

(b) and (c) Details of fee plazas within the State of Odisha are enclosed at Annexure. The improvement/widening of these reaches initially was taken up prior to 05.12.2008 (i.e., before publication of Fee Rules 2008 and toll plazas were set up as per earlier Fee Rules, subsequently when these reaches are taken up under 6-laning projects, the already established Toll Plazas are continued as the people are accustomed, as new locations require fresh land acquisition, to avoid rate increase due to clubbing of toll plazas, etc.

(d) and (e) As per NH (Fee for the use of National Highways Sections and Permanent Bridge- Public Funded Projects) Rules, 1997, user fee is to be collected in perpetuity. However as per the National Highways Fee (Determination of Rates and Collection) Second Amendment Rules, 2008, rate of fee shall be reduced to 40% after recovery of Capital Cost or completion of concession period.