

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:142
ANSWERED ON:16.12.2013
DELHI GURGAON EXPRESSWAY
Dhotre Shri Sanjay Shamrao;Joshi Dr. Murl Manohar

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

- (a) whether the commuters are facing difficulties due to traffic congestion on Delhi- Gurgaon expressway;
- (b) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to ease traffic congestion on the said expressway;
- (c) whether the Government has received any proposal to end toll collection on this expressway and if so, the details thereof along with the action taken thereon;
- (d) whether the National Highways Authority of India has requested the Government to allow it to take over the expressway and also to remove toll plazas on expressways from the municipal limits in public interest; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof along with the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES)

(a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of The House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) TO (e) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 142 ANSWERED ON 16TH DECEMBER, 2013 ASKED BY SHRI SANJAY DHOTRE AND DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI REGARDING 'DELHI-GURGAON EXPRESSWAY'

(a) to (e) Long queues at the toll plazas of Delhi - Gurgaon expressway have been observed. Concessionaire has failed to comply with the provision of expansion of toll plazas for which Termination Notice to the Concessionaire have been issued by the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) in February, 2012, which was challenged by the concessionaire in the court of law. Hon'ble Punjab & Haryana High Court had stopped the toll collection at Km.24 Toll Plaza w.e.f. 05.09.2012 (00.00 hrs) vide his order dated 04.09.2012 due to congestion and directed NHAI to devise ways and means to decongest the traffic at this toll plaza in consultation with the State Government of Haryana and the concessionaire. Accordingly, certain measures to decongest the traffic at Km.24 Toll Plaza were finalized in the meeting held on 19.09.2012 in consultation with the State Government of Haryana and the concessionaire. The State Government of Haryana had requested the Ministry of Road Transport & Highways for shifting of the two Toll Plazas, one at Km. 24 (entrance to the City of Gurgaon) on Delhi-Gurgaon Border and the second at Km. 42 near Kherki Daula on Delhi-Gurgaon Expressway, to km. 61 at Bilaspur on Delhi-Jaipur Highway as both the toll plazas are sources of great inconvenience and harassment to commuters besides obstructing the smooth flow of traffic and other business and economic activities of the area. However, the Government has observed that termination on account of the Concessionaire's default is the only option left before the NHAI to protect public interest and put an end to the misery of the road users at the toll plazas. Since the concessionaire has miserably failed to meet his due obligations, a Show Cause Notice for termination has been issued to the Concessionaire on 08.03.2013 by NHAI. The Concessionaire has filed another case in the Hon'ble Delhi High Court challenging the Show Cause Notice issued by NHAI. The State Government of Haryana has also filed an Impleadment Application on 30.05.2013 in the aforesaid case. NHAI has been directed to pursue the matter with the Hon'ble Delhi High Court so that it reaches its logical end at the earliest. The matter is presently subjudice.