

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2929  
ANSWERED ON:08.12.2009  
REDUCTION OF TOLL TAX  
Jeyadurai Shri S. R.

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

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- (a) whether the Government has received representation from the Road Safety Forum to reduce the number of toll booths and the toll rates for short distances;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has taken any action on the said representation; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT & HIGHWAYS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH)

(a) to (d) Government regularly receives feed back from all the stakeholders including the Road Safety Forum. The President, Road Safety Forum in his letter of 19th November, 2009 has mentioned about high tollage for short distances, reduction of number of toll booths, training for toll booth attendants and public amenities along the highways, especially the National Highway NH-5. Factual status has been conveyed to the Road Safety Forum vide enclosure at Annexure- I.

ANNEXURE-I

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) to (d) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2929 FOR ANSWER ON 08TH DECEMBER, 2009 ASKED BY SHRI S.R. JEYADURAI REGARDING REDUCTION OF TOLL TAX.

Government of India

Ministry of Road Transport & Highways

Transport Bhawan, 1, Parliament Street, New Delhi - 110 001

No.RW/NH-25011/17/2009-P&P

December 07, 2009

To,  
The President,  
Road Safety Forum,  
Polavaram, West Godavari District,  
Andhra Pradesh-53415

Sub: Reduction in toll tax number of toll plazas etc.

I am directed to refer to your letter No. 'Nil' dated 19.11.2009 regarding reduction in toll tax , number of toll plazas etc. The concern expressed by you has been examined and the factual status is given below:-

The user fee (Toll) rates for any stretch are fixed based on the length of the tollable section and the capping rates provided in the National Highways (Rates of Fee) Rules, 1997 and as prescribed in National Highway (Determination of Fee) Rules 2008, for the projects (both public as well as private funded) completed after their notification on 05 December 2008.

As per section 7(2) of National Highways (Rates of fee) Rules, 1997 the distance between two plazas can be around 80 Km. This distance is specified in Section 8(2) of new National Highways (Determination of Fee) Rules, 2008 as 60 kms. Further, the locations of toll plazas are decided on the basis of various factors which include availability of Government land, sufficient distance from existing fee plaza if any, clear site for accelerating and decelerating zone, minimum loops available for avoidance of fee, away from habitation as far as possible, not on bypass, away from other check barriers etc. The variation from specified distance is sometimes due to above reasons also.

There are eighteen toll booths on NH-5. As per the conditions specified in the contract between National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) and the collection agencies, which are the Ex-Service-man (ESM) agencies sponsored ;by the Directorate General of Resettlement, the collection agencies have to train the staff before deploying them for collection at Toll booths. NHAI implements this provision whenever any such lapse is noticed.

A mandatory provision has been included in the Bid Documents of the projects undertaken on Build Operate & Transfer (BOT) basis that rest area will be provided at identified locations including toilets, a telephone and a cafeteria. It is not correct to say that NHAI does not care for public. National Highways developed by NHAI are being used by each and every section of public.

This issues with the approval of competent authority.

Sd/-

( S. Narendra )

Director (PPP)