

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1500

ANSWERED ON:24.11.2016

Collection of Toll Tax

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

- (a) whether there is a provision to collect/uniform toll tax on all National Highways in the country, if so, the details thereof, State-wise and if not, the reasons therefor and the basis on which the toll tax rate is fixed;
- (b) whether any complaint of unauthenticated and illegal tolls under harassment and overcharging of toll collectors on several routes reported upon, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has notified the scrapping of toll tax collections on small road stretches and bridges, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- d) whether the Government has given relaxation or exemption from Toll Booths on National Highways to some class of people or vehicle, if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the details and status of booth that have collected excess money than the construction cost of the roads;
- (f) the required spacing between two toll plazas on National Highways; and
- (g) whether the Government has rolled out FASTag system on National Highways, if so, the details thereof and its implications?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

(SHRI PON. RADHAKRISHNAN)

(a) Yes, Madam. 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; and the National Highways (Rate of fee) Rules, 1997 for those completed after the date of notification of these Rules. The user fee on a stretch of National Highways is collected as per the individual Notifications published in the Official Gazette by the Central Government. In case where a particular stretch of National Highway is entrusted to a State Government/UT, they comply with the Notification issued by the Central Government.

(b) Any such complaint received is attended by the executing agency for needful action as per the provision of contract/concession agreement/NH fee rules. The redressal of such complaints is an ongoing process. In the recent past, 24 such complaints have been received and attended by the executing agency.

(c) Yes, Madam. Ministry has issued notifications for discontinuation of user fee on following bridges for which residual recoverable project cost is less than 100 Crore, in the larger public interest-

S. No. State Name of project

1. Assam Kalia Bhomora Bridge (km 9.280 to km 12.295) of NH-37A with toll plaza location at km 7/100
2. Chhattisgarh Shiv Nath H.L. Bridge at Nandghat in Km. 66/2-8 of NH-200 (New NH-130)
3. Kerala NH-47 Akkulam Bridge Ch. 5750 to Ch. 6119 on Trivendram Bypass
4. Kerala Kundanoor Bridge on NH-47A connecting Wellington Island and Koshi
5. Kerala Varapuzha Bridge at Km. 431/500 and ROB at Edapally at Km 437.250 of NH-17
6. Kerala ROB Padannakkad (Kasaragod) District at Km. 90.695 (Design Ch. 88.780) from Km. 90.100 to Km. 91.300 of NH-17 (New NH-66)

(d) Yes, Madam. As per Rule 11 of the National Highways Fee (Determination of Rates and Collection) Rules, 2008, as amended, Government has given exemption from fee (toll) to certain categories of vehicles. Further, As per Rule 9 of the National Highways Fee (Rate of Collection and Determination) Rules, 2008, as amended, there is a provision of discount to vehicles used for multiple journeys & also for local users.

(e) The collection of user fee for the use of a section of National Highway is done as per the provisions in applicable Fee Rules and the Concession/Contract Agreement. The period of collection of user fee does not depend on the capital cost recovery in case of PPP Projects (BOT / OMT) and is continued for the entire concession period. After that, the fee is collected at reduced rates of 40%. Whereas, in case of a public funded project, the fee is reduced to 40% after recovery of capital cost of the project.

(f) As per the National Highways Fee (Determination of Rates and Collection) Rules, 2008, the desirable distance between two fee plazas on same section of National Highway and in same direction is 60 km. However, based on the site specific constraints, the executing authority may relax this criterion for reasons to be recorded in writing as provided in Rule 8.

(g) Yes, Madam. For seamless movement at Fee Plazas, a cashless payment mechanism (FASTag) has been rolled out. Electronic Fee Collection (EFC) system has been rolled out w.e.f. 18.04.2016. The use of FASTag shall reduce traffic congestion and increase user convenience in making payments without stoppage at fee plazas thus saving on time, money and fuel.
