

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 381
ANSWERED ON 22ND MARCH, 2018

Women Toll Collecting Staff

*381. SHRI A. ANWHAR RAAJHAA:
DR. SUNIL BALIRAM GAIKWAD:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

सड़क परिवहन और राजमार्ग मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of permanent and contract workers in different toll plazas of the country, State/UT-wise;
- (b) whether the National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) had decided to deploy all women toll collecting staff in day shift on at least one toll plaza close to the city area in every State and UT on International Women's Day, if so, the details thereof along with number of women deployed at each toll plaza, the objectives behind this initiative and the result thereof;
- (c) whether NHAI is considering to deploy all women staff across all toll plazas under their operation within the next three months and if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken by NHAI in this regard;
- (d) the utilisation of men staff who have already been posted in toll plazas under operation of NHAI; and
- (e) whether NHAI is also considering construction of Highway Nest (Mini) at toll plazas for the benefit of commuters, if so, the details thereof along with the basic amenities likely to be provided in all toll plazas for the benefit of customers and the time by which the plazas will be ranked on the basis of amenities?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

(SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (A) TO (E) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. *381 ANSWERED ON 22ND MARCH, 2018 ASKED BY SHRI A. ANWHAR RAAJHAA AND DR. SUNIL BALIRAM GAIKWAD REGARDING 'WOMEN TOLL COLLECTING STAFF'

(a) As on 31.12.2017, there are 422 fee/ toll plazas situated on NH stretches. Out of these, 270 toll plazas are situated on road projects executed under PPP mode, where the respective Operation & Maintenance of toll plazas, including selection/ deployment of manpower rests with the private concessionaires. The remaining 152 toll plazas are located on public funded road projects, which are operated through Tolling contractors selected through competitive bidding. Therefore, NHAI does not sanction or deploy any manpower directly at the toll plazas.

(b) to (d) On International Women's Day, NHAI vide Circular dated 22.02.2018 instructed its Regional Officers to explore the possibility of deployment of all women toll fee collection staff in day shift on at least one toll plaza near city area under their jurisdiction. As per the circular, the toll plaza was to be selected keeping in mind women safety issues. While this move is to be tried on pilot basis, the male staff shall continue to be deployed by their employer at toll plazas for collection of fee from NH users. Since this is a new initiative and introduced less than a month ago, the relevant data is not readily available.

(e) NHAI has launched an ambitious project of "HIGHWAY NEST (MINI)" for convenience of highway users for their safe and comfortable journey by facilitating them with drinking water, tea/coffee, packaged food and eatables on upside and downside of the National Highways at all the 372 toll plazas under operation by NHAI. Nearly 35 numbers of Toll Plazas have been covered with Highway Nest (Mini) by 28.02.2018 and it is proposed to cover a total of 50 toll plazas by the end of March 2018.
