

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 379
ANSWERED ON 19TH MARCH, 2020

HARASSMENT OF TRUCK DRIVERS AND FLEET OWNERS

*379. SHRI SYED IMTIAZ JALEEL:
SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

सड़क परिवहन और राजमार्ग मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that truck drivers and fleet owners are harassed by many Government agencies like traffic or highway police and personnel of tax and transport departments;
- (b) whether truck drivers and fleet owners have to pay nearly Rs. 48,000 crore annually as bribe as reported in the Times of India dated 29 February, 2020;
- (c) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (d) the number of such cases reported during the last three years and the current year so far, State- wise;
- (e) whether the Government has issued any instructions to these agencies to not to harass truck drivers and fleet owners;
- (f) if so, the details thereof; and
- (g) the other corrective steps taken/being taken by the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

(SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI)

(a) to (g) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (g) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 379 ANSWERED ON 19.03.2020 ASKED BY SHRI SYED IMTIAZ JALEEL AND OTHERS REGARDING **HARASSMENT OF TRUCK DRIVERS AND FLEET OWNERS**

(a) Some incidents have come to notice where they faced inconvenience and harassment when being asked to produce certificates of registration, insurance, fitness and permit, the driving licence and any other relevant documents on demand by any police officer in uniform or any other authorised by the State Government.

(b) to (d) No such information is available with the Ministry.

(e) to (g) The Parliament has recently passed the Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Act, 2019. For ensuring greater compliance and checking irregularities/corruption and for providing facilitation and convenience to citizens the new provisions have been added such as “electronic monitoring and enforcement of road safety” which provides for usage of speed cameras, closed-circuit television cameras, speed guns, body wearable cameras and such other technology for enforcement.

Further, the Ministry vide G.S.R. 1081(E) dated 2nd November, 2018 has omitted the mandatory colour scheme for inscribing the words "National Permit". It has been allowed that the transporters may paint the words in any colour as long as it is prominent. The minimum requirement of having two drivers has also been removed. It is also mandated to have mandatory fitment of FASTag in all vehicles with National Permit and vehicle tracking device. Furthermore, the certificate of fitness for transport vehicle shall be valid for two years for vehicles up to eight years old and one year for vehicles older than eight years. The driver or conductor of a motor vehicle shall produce documents of registration, insurance, fitness and permit, the driving licence certificate for Pollution Under Check and any other relevant documents in physical or electronic form, as available on or downloaded from the DigiLocker application or mParivahan application, on demand by any police officer in uniform or any other officer authorised by the State Government.
