GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 523 ANSWERED ON 28TH NOVEMBER, 2024

IMPLEMENTATION OF NATIONAL HIGHWAYS FEE(DETERMINATION OF RATES AND COLLECTION) AMENDMENT RULES,2024

523. SHRI VIJAYAKUMAR ALIAS VIJAY VASANTH:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

सड़क परिवहन और राजमार्ग मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the implementation timeline and operational aspects of the National Highways Fee (Determination of Rates and Collection) Amendment Rules, 2024 which introduces allowing a toll-free passage for private vehicles travelling up to 20 km. per day on National Highway (NH);

(b) the measures that are being taken to integrate the Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS)-based toll collection system with the existing FASTag system and the manner in which the technical or operational challenges would be addressed during the transition;

(c) the details of provisions related to imposing a fee for vehicles entering exclusive lanes without a valid GNSS On-Board Unit and the manner in which this regulation would be enforced and communicated to vehicle owners;

(d) the expected financial burden of the toll-free passage on the Private vehicles' owners and the manner in which the Government would evaluate its effectiveness in reducing congestion; and

(e) the impact of this policy on toll revenue, road maintenance budgets and plans to adjust toll rates and the manner in which this would be monitored?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

(SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI)

(a) to (b) The Government has initiated the implementation of barrier free tolling using available Technology based Electronic Toll Collection (ETC) System as an added facility along with FASTag.

(c) Presently, Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) based tolling system is not operational anywhere on National Highways. However, amendment to the 3rd proviso of sub-rule (3) of Rule 6 of NH Fee Rules, 2008 [amended by GSR 556(E), dated 9th Sep 2024] has been made to enable GNSS based tolling system through On-Board Unit (OBU) and users of vehicles not fitted with a valid, functional Global Navigation Satellite System On-Board Unit, shall have to pay a fee equivalent to two times of the user fee applicable for that category of vehicle at that fee plaza in case GNSS based tolling is made operational.

(d) & (e) In the Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) based user fee collection system, fee shall be levied based on the actual distance travelled by a vehicle, on a National Highway or expressway in term of NH Fee Rules, 2008 and amendment thereof. Whereas, at present, the User Fee is collected at the Fee plaza depending on project influence length of respective Fee plaza.

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