

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4156
ANSWERED ON:25.08.2004
TOLL TAX
Patil Shri Shrinivas Dadasaheb

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

- (a) whether funds collected from toll tax on various National Highways remain unspent with National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) which are meant for maintenance of roads;
- (b) if so, the steps taken by the Government;
- (c) whether the toll tax would be reduced in view of this unspent balance with NHAI;
- (d) whether the toll tax has been over estimated; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA)

- (a) and (b) No, Sir. The toll is being collected by the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) on National Highways, which have been widened/ improved, as per the approval of the Government. The amount collected is being utilized for maintenance of National Highways as well as for payment of loan component of the assistance received from various lending agencies like World Bank, Asian Development Bank etc. and interest thereon. The toll collection would be just sufficient to meet these obligations.
- (c) Does not arise.
- (d) and (e) No, Sir. Government has not over-estimated the toll (user's fee) since the ceiling rate for the user's fee, for various categories of vehicles, has been fixed after giving due consideration to the savings accrued to users on vehicle operating cost, damage caused to the road and willingness to pay. The user's fee is being levied under the provisions of National Highway Act.