

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1112

ANSWERED ON:07.03.2007

CORRUPTION IN TRANSPORT SECTOR

Malhotra Prof. Vijay Kumar;Pandey Dr. Laxminarayan;Rawale Shri Mohan;Tripathi Shri Chandramani

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

- (a) whether any survey has been conducted by the Transparency International (India) regarding the corruption prevalent in transport sector in India as reported in the Hindustan Times dated February 02,2007;
- (b) if so, the facts reported therein and the reaction of the Government thereto ;
- (c) the factors and practices responsible for prevalent corruption in transport sector ;
- (d) whether any suggestions have been made in this survey to check corruption in the transport sector;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the details of the efforts being made by the Government to bring transparency in the transport sector in order to check corruption?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNYAPPA)
(a) & (b) In a news item titled "Trucks roll on Rs.22000-cr 'grease' road" published in "The Hindustan Times" on 2nd February, 2007, it has been reported that the survey conducted by Indian chapter of Transparency International inter-alia pointed out that the efficiency of the trucks is going down by 40% largely as a result of being allowed to overload. It has been alleged that the truckers are paying bribes to the enforcement

authorities to overload their vehicles.It has also been alleged that the truck driver loses about 11 hours of travel time each day because of stoppages by RTO officials, police, sales tax officers and pays bribes to them.The details of the survey report are not available with this Department. The State Governments have been advised to take appropriate steps to eliminate alleged corruption in the Road Transport Sector on 28th February, 2007.

(c) Regulation of vehicular traffic on roads falls under the purview of the State Governments. The Central Government has no mechanism to assess the factors/practices being followed by the enforcement agencies responsible for corruption, if any, in road transport sector.

(d)& (e)It has been reported in the news item that the Transparency International has recommended various reform charter to weed out corruption stressing on e-truck transport, outsourcing of services and uniform rules across the country.

(f)The enforcement of the provisions of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 and Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989 is the responsibility of the State Governments.They have been advised to plug the loop holes in the enforcement mechanism so as to eliminate alleged corruption in the Road Transport Sector.They have also been advised to take steps to have single checking points for various authorities at inter-state border check-posts.