## GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS RAJYA SABHA

## UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-576

ANSWERED ON- 07/02/2024

## REMOVAL OF AGANAMPUDI TOLL PLAZA IN VISAKHAPATNAM

576. SHRI G.V.L. NARASIMHA RAO:

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

- (a) whether Government is aware that a toll plaza at Aganampudi in Visakhapatnam on National Highway-16 continues to operate even after the completion of the new 51 km NH-16 stretch from Anakapalli to Anandapuram;
- (b) reasons for not following the toll exemtion policy for residents within 20 kms of toll plazas in city limits in Aganampudi toll plaza, if followed, number of valid cards issued, charges levied etc.;
- (c) whether Government has received representations from Members of Parliament (MP) for removal of Aganampudi toll plaza, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether Aganampudi toll plaza will be removed, if so, by when and if not, reasons therefor?

## **ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

(SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI)

- (a) Yes, Sir.
- (b) As per the National Highway Fee (Determination of Rates and Collection) Rules, 2008, a person who owns a mechanical vehicle with valid functional FASTag, registered for non-commercial purposes and uses it as such for commuting on a section of national highway, permanent bridge, bypass or tunnel, may obtain a monthly pass to cross the Fee Plaza specified therein, at the rate Rs. 330 (Three hundred and thirty rupees only) per Calendar Month as applicable for Financial Year 2023-24. The above monthly rate is revised annually as stipulated in NH Fee Rules.

Provided that such pass shall be issued only if such driver, owner or person in-charge of such mechanical vehicle resides within a distance of twenty kilometers from a given Fee Plaza and its use does not extend beyond the next Fee Plaza from the same.

At present, 1294 number of local passes have been issued at Aganampudi Fee Plaza as per extant fee rules.

- (c) Yes, Sir. Requests have been received from the following Hon'ble Members of Parliament for removal of Aganampudi Fee Plaza:
- (i) Shri V. Vijaya Sai Reddy, Hon'ble Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha)

- (ii) Shri G.V.L.Narasimha Rao, Hon'ble Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha).
- (d) No, Sir. Aganampudi Fee Plaza has been established on Notified National Highway and as per NH Fee Rules, 2008, the Fee Plaza is under operation.

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