

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-284
ANSWERED ON- 24/07/2024

ED RAID IN PALIYEKKARA TOLL PLAZA IN KERALA

284. SMT. JEBI MATHER HISHAM:

Will the Minister of Road Transport and Highways be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has noticed the Enforcement Directorate raid conducted in October 2023 in Paliyekkara Toll Plaza in Thrissur-Angamaly-Edappally (Kerala) section of National Highway – 544, if so, the details of the raid report;
- (b) whether Government will decide to close down the Paliyekkara Toll Plaza and take stringent action against the concerned Toll Company in the backdrop of massive financial irregularities;
- (c) whether Government will provide the details of toll collection in Paliyekkara Toll Plaza from the beginning; and
- (d) whether construction of service roads on Thrissur-Angamaly-Edappally NH has been completed, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

(SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI)

(a) Yes, Sir. Details are as under:

- (i) A search operation by Enforcement Directorate (ED) was conducted on 16th-17th October, 2023 at the M/s. Guruvayoor Infrastructure Pvt. Ltd (GIPL), KMC & BRNL. Two freezing orders were issued freezing properties worth Rs. 125.21 Crore of M/s. Guruvayoor Infrastructure Pvt. Ltd. and M/s. KMC Construction Ltd., Hyderabad, under the provisions of section 17(1-A) of the PMLA, 1999.
- (ii) The said orders were confirmed by the Adjudicating Authority for PMLA, New Delhi, in OA no. 1037 of 2024 vide order dated 6th March, 2024.

Matter is under investigation by ED.

(b) As per provision of NH Fee Rules, 2008, closure of user fee Plaza is not required in such cases. Further, 'Intention to Terminate' notice was issued to Concessionaire by National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) on 13th April, 2023. Concessionaire approached High Court and the Court reverted the matter to Arbitral Tribunal (AT) for adjudication. The matter is sub judice before Arbitral Tribunal.

(c) An amount of about Rs. 1,447 Crore has been collected from 9th December, 2012, i.e., date of start of Tolling till June 2024.

(d) Construction of Service Road has been completed. Service Road from Km. 280.250 to km. 280.400 has been descoped from the Concession Agreement.
