

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 184
ANSWERED ON- 17/12/2025

BLACKLISTING OF LOOSE FASTAGS

*184. DR. LAXMIKANT BAJPAYEE:

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

- (a) whether NHAI has directed the Toll Collection Agencies and Concessionaires to report loose FASTags that are commonly known as tag-in-hand and pose a challenge to the efficiency of Electronic Toll Collection operations;
- (b) if so, when was this decision implemented and the number of cases of loose FASTags reported so far and action taken thereon; and
- (c) the present status of proposal of Government for expanding the use of FASTag into a multi-utility payment tool, transforming it from a toll-only system into a comprehensive digital solution for various vehicle-related payments?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

(SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI)

- (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF THE RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 184 FOR ANSWER ON 17.12.2025 ASKED BY DR. LAXMIKANT BAJPAYEE REGARDING BLACKLISTING OF LOOSE FASTAGS.

(a) to (b) The Government through Indian Highways Management Company Limited (IHMCL) has progressively strengthened the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for detecting and blacklisting 'loose FASTags' or 'tag-in-hand'. As per the IHMCL's Policy Circular dated 19th August, 2019, fee plaza operators are required to report such violations to the concerned Acquirer Bank and National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI). The Issuer Bank verifies the case and blacklists the non-compliant FASTag, until the reported FASTag is affixed on the windscreen.

To streamline enforcement, the Circular dated 26th June, 2025 introduced a structured reporting format requiring fee collecting agencies to submit weekly data to etc.operations@ihmcl.com. Based on these reports, IHMCL co-ordinates with NPCI to initiate blacklisting of such loose FASTags.

Directives have been issued to all fee collecting agencies and concessionaires from time-to-time regarding 'loose FASTag' or 'Tag-in-hand'.

As on 10th December, 2025, a total of 6,725 cases of "Tag in Hand" have been reported.

(c) The Government is actively engaging stakeholders to expand the FASTag ecosystem. In this regard, a Fintech Workshop was organized on 25th June, 2025 bringing together stakeholders including banks, fintechs, NPCI, payment service providers, and tolling system operators to deliberate on expanding FASTag use cases and interoperability of FASTag across services.

The workshop discussions focused on broadening the utility of FASTag into areas such as fuel payments, EV charging, city entry and related mobility services. At present, parking is the only operational non-toll use case of FASTag.
