

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1575
ANSWERED ON 13TH FEBRUARY, 2025**

THOOTHUKUDI-TIRUNELVELI NH-138

1575. SMT. KANIMOZHI KARUNANIDHI:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

सड़क परिवहन और राजमार्ग मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the problems caused by poor maintenance of the Thoothukudi-Tirunelveli National Highway (NH) -138 by the NHAI, despite hundred per cent toll fee collection at the Vagaikulam Toll Plaza and if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) the measures taken by the Government to address the said issue, prevent an unfair user fee system and ensure proper maintenance of the road;**
- (c) the capital cost incurred for the development of NH-138 and the total amount collected so far at the Vagaikulam Toll Plaza; and**
- (d) the time frame within which the Vagaikulam Toll Plaza is expected to continue its operations?**

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

(SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI)

(a) Major maintenance of the stretch by providing 50mm DBM & 30mm BC has been completed in August, 2024. Further, Routine maintenance activities, including provision of incident management, are being carried out through the O&M agency and Thoothukudi –Tirunelveli section of NH-138 is maintained in traffic worthy condition.

(b) and (d) User fee for Thoothukudi –Tirunelveli section of NH-138 is being collected as per the provisions of National Highway Fee Rule, 2008, as amended from time to time.

(c) The capital cost incurred towards development and maintenance of Tirunelveli-Thoothukudi section of NH-138 and the amount collected towards user-fee at Vagaikulam Fee Plaza are as under:

Total Capital Cost incurred towards development and maintenance	Total Amount (Rs. in Cr.)	Remarks
	568.14	This does not include interest on borrowings made towards capital cost for construction of NH.
Total Amount collected towards user-fee	219.00	
