

RAJYA SABHA

Wednesday, 1st December, 2010/10 Agrahayana, 1932 (Saka)

The House met at eleven of the clock,

MR. CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

RE: DEMAND FOR CONSTITUTION OF JPC

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question No. 301...*(Interruptions)*... Question No. 301, please
...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI PAUL MANOJ PANDIAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, we want JPC. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House is adjourned till 12.00 hours.

The House then adjourned at one minutes past eleven of the clock.

The House re-assembled at twelve of the clock,

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN in the Chair

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Implementation of Toll Rules, 1977

*301. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the All India Motor Transport Congress has demanded implementation of the Toll Rules, 1977 pertaining to vehicles category and toll rates on National Highways;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that they have threatened to go on strike from December 5, 2010 on their demands not being met; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) to (d) The All India Motor Transport Congress (AIMTC) has raised certain toll related demands which *inter alia* include levy of user fee as per the category specified under National Highways Fee Rules, 1997. The Government has already initiated necessary process to address the issues

raised by them. A Statement indicating point-wise reply to the Question is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) The All India Motor Transport Congress (AIMTC) has raised various toll related demands which *inter alia* include levy of user fee on the basis of the categories as specified under National Highway Fee Rules, 1997. Other toll related demands of AIMTC are abolition of the provision for collection of toll in perpetuity, de-linking Wholesale Price Index (WPI) for the purpose of increase in user fee rate etc.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The core demand of the All India Motor Transport Congress (AIMTC) regarding merger of user fee rate of 3-axle vehicles with that of 2-axle trucks/buses has already been considered by the Government. The Government is engaged in continuous negotiations with the representatives of AIMTC to make them understand the position of the Government and not to resort to nation-wide strike.

**Restrictive laws in European countries on export of
non-patented medicines**

†*302. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are restrictive laws in European countries on non-patented medicines being exported from the country;

(b) if so, the facts in this regard;

(c) the value of medicines exported by India which have been left in the lurch under this law; and

(d) whether European countries have now assured to remove this restriction; if so, by when the assurance will be effective?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ANAND SHARMA): (a) to (d) Generic medicines in India are being exported to several countries where they are off patent and treated as generic. There have been instances of seizures of consignments of generic medicines at some ports in the European Union particularly in the Netherlands while they were in transit, to non-European countries from India. No exact information on the precise value of the medicines is available.

These seizures were carried out in implementation of EU regulation 1383/2003. None of the medicines involved in the seizures had patents either in India or in destination countries.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.