

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to impose a uniform road tax throughout the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI TUSHAR BHAI CHAUDHARY) : (a) As per the Constitution of India, taxation of motor vehicles including cars is a State subject. A Group constituted under Task Force of Transport Development Council, which also includes representatives of some of the State Governments, has recommended one time tax in all States with a floor rate of 6% of the sale price of cars, with flexibility to the States, to charge higher rate of tax in general or on specific models.

(b) The issue regarding harmonisation of motor vehicle taxes was considered in the 34th meeting of the Transport Development Council held on 13.02.2012 and the Council recommended for referring the issue to an Empowered Group of Ministers of States after agreeing on a broad framework for arriving at a consensus.

#### **Poor Connectivity in NE States**

1785. SHRIMATI NAZNIN FARUQUE : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the connectivity of roads is very poor in North East States;
- (b) if so, whether Government has requested to the State Government to improve connectivity of roads to ensure the industrial development;
- (c) if so, the response of the States in this regard; and
- (d) the steps Government proposes to take to provide assistance to North East States to improve connectivity of roads?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA) : (a) to (c) No, Sir. The Ministry is primarily responsible for development & maintenance of National Highways. The National Highways are being maintained in traffic worthy condition depending upon inter-se-priority and availability of funds.

(d) The Ministry has formulated the Special Accelerated Road Development Programme for North-East (SARDP-NE), for upgradation of 10141 km road stretches of National Highways and State roads, which is in various stage of implementation, for enhancing the road connectivity in the North East States.

#### **Companies Assigned Work by NHAI in Assam**

1786. SHRIMATI NAZNIN FARUQUE : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

- (a) the number of companies assigned work in Assam by National Highways Authority of India (NHAI), name-wise;



- (b) the procedure and mechanism of awarding such contracts;
- (c) the names of companies listed as poor performers during the last three years and the current year; and
- (d) the company-wise amount of penalty imposed and number of those against whom legal action has been initiated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA) : (a) Yes, Sir. The names of companies assigned work in Assam by National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) are M/s Gayatri-ECI (JV), M/s Progressive Construction Ltd., M/s Punj Lloyd Ltd., M/s KMC Constructions Ltd., M/s DRA-BLA-BCL (JV), M/s Gammon India, M/s TCIL-MBL (JV), M/s Maytas Infra Pvt. Ltd., M/s Madhucon Projects Ltd., M/s Patel-KNR (JV), M/s Simplex Infrastructure Project Ltd., M/s NKC Projects Pvt. Ltd., M/s HCC Ltd., and M/s NKC-JKM (JV).

- (b) The work is being awarded through international bidding process.
- (c) and (d) Nil

#### **Toll Bridges in Rajasthan**

1787. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

- (a) the toll bridges on National Highways in Rajasthan;
- (b) the cost of each such bridges on Highways in Rajasthan;
- (c) whether the Toll Collected so far has far exceeded the cost;
- (d) if so, whether it is not a exploitation of the poor public; and
- (e) above statistics for whole country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA) : (a) to (c) The details are given in Statement I (see below).

(d) As per the NH (Fee) Rules, 1997 and NH (Fee) Rules, 2008 the collection of Toll was on perpetuity basis. However, with the amendment vide GSR 15(E) dated 12.01.2011 and GSR 756(E) dated 12.10.2011 on all the bridges in which fee were being collected as per NH (Fee) Rules notified before 05.12.2008, in respect of a public funded project, the fee livable would be reduced to 40% in cases where the cost has been recovered. Further the transitional plan amendment vide GSR 756 (E) dated 12.10.2011 shall also be applied restricting the annual increase to 25% while applying the NH Fee Rules 2008 to the Bridges, National Highways notified before 05.12.2008.

- (e) The information of NHAI is given in Statement II.