[RAJYA SABHA]

Implementation of TOT model

1707. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is considering to offer smaller bundles of road projects under the Toll-Operate-Transfer (TOT) model as a part of its asset monetisation plan in a bid to attract smaller investors as well as to generate more self-employment avenues in the country; and
 - (b) if so, the details thereof and by when it will commence?

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI): (a) and (b) Sir, funds generated from asset monetization are utilized for development/ construction of highways in the Country which result into employment generation. NHAI has invited first Bundle of TOT with a length of 680 km and received bids on 22.02.2018 with quoted bid concession fee of ₹ 9681.5 crore. Bid for TOT Bundle-3 has been invited on 13.06.2019 with due date of 11.09.2019 and Initial Estimated Concession Value (IECV) of ₹ 4995.48 crore.

Traffic jams on toll plazas

 \dagger 1708. SHRI RAM NARAIN DUDI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware of long traffic jams on toll plazas situated on National Highways;
- (b) if so, the details of the efforts made by Government to get rid of these traffic jams on toll plazas; and
- (c) whether Government is considering to free private cars from toll tax, if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI): (a) and (b) In order to facilitate smooth movement of traffic and reduce congestion on fee plazas, the Government has rolled out a cashless payment mechanism *i.e.* FASTag by implementation of Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) based Electronic Fee Collection (EFC) system on National Highways.

[†]Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.