

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI): (a) and (b) In July 2019, Government announced the FASTag mandate of declaring all lanes except one lane of National Highways fee plazas as "FASTag lane of Fee Plaza" *w.e.f.* 1st December 2019. In order to facilitate sufficient lead time to citizens to obtain FASTag, the mandate was shifted to 15th December 2019 and the system was implemented across the country. Considering the request of National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) and keeping in view inconvenience to citizens, Government decided that 25 per cent of the FASTag lanes may be temporarily converted to hybrid lanes with the approval of Regional Officer concerned for next 30 days from 15th December 2019. It was further decided to relax the conditions regarding declaration of FASTag fee lanes for 30 days from 15th January 2020 at only 65 fee plazas of NHAI so that citizens are not put into inconvenience. These 65 fee plazas have been allowed to operate up to 25 per cent of all fee lanes as hybrid (cash plus FASTag) lanes during this period. For rest of the fee plazas the system has been implemented as per mandate.

(c) As on 28.01.2020, more than 1.4 Crores FASTag has been issued. FASTag awareness program is being conducted through various platforms such as social media, print media, hoardings, advertisements, etc. Multiple channels and Point of Sale (PoS) are operating including e-commerce platforms for easy availability of FASTag to customers. In December 2019, Government has released TV awareness campaign on FASTag featuring a famous movie actor with an attempt to bring in awareness and behavioural change amongst users towards user fee payment.

#### **Implementation of Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Act**

124. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a few States have shown their inability to implement the punitive provisions under the Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Act passed by the Parliament recently saying that the amount of penalty fixed under them is too high;

(b) if so, the details in this regard, State-wise;

(c) the number of States where it has been implemented in letter and spirit and the number of States where it has been approved with amendments; and

- (d) whether Government has approved such amendments?

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI): (a) to (d) The Ministry has not received any information from any State that have not implemented the provisions of the Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Act, 2019. The Section 200 of the Motor vehicles Act, 1988 after the Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Act, 2019, recently passed by the Parliament, read as-"200 Composition of certain offences - (1) Any offence whether committed before or after the commencement of this Act punishable under section 177, section 178, section 179, section 180, section 181, section 182, sub-section (1) or sub-section (3) or sub-section (4) of section 182A, section 182B, sub-section (1) or sub-section (2) of section 183, section 184 only to the extent of use of handheld communication devices, section 186, section 189, sub-section (2) of section 190, section 192, section 192A, section 194, section 194A, section 194B, section 194C, section 194D, section 194E, section 194F, section 196, section 198, may either before or after the institution of the prosecution, be compounded by such officers or authorities and for such amount as the State Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, specify in this behalf."

#### **Construction of highways**

125. DR. ASHOK BAJPAI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number and length of highways constructed, State-wise during last five years; and

(b) the number and length of highways to be constructed, State-wise during next five years;

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI): (a) and (b) The State-wise targets for construction of NHs are fixed in the beginning of each financial year. Details of National Highways (NHs) constructed, State-wise, during last five years are given in Statement.