

MR. CHAIRMAN: Permission to remain absent is granted.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Uniform road tax for personal vehicles

*301. SHRI B. LINGALAH YADAV: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is making a renewed push to get States on board to levy a uniform road tax for personal vehicles;
- (b) if so, details thereof and progress made, State-wise
- (c) the details of steps being taken to bring relief to automobile buyers, while protecting revenue of States and progress made along with response received, State-wise; and
- (d) whether it is a fact that tinkering with revenue has been a contentious issue between States and Union Government, if so, the details thereof and corrective steps being taken?

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI): (a) to (c) State Governments prescribe and levy road tax on the motor vehicles in their State. Central Government, on the matter of harmonisation of motor vehicle taxes, has discussed the issue with the States in meetings of the Transport Development Council (TDC) held in 2012, 2013, 2014 and 2016 to arrive at a consensus. Further, in the year 2016, the Group of Ministers on Transport had discussed the issue of having uniform road tax and had recommended to all States/UTs to rationalize motor vehicle taxes and develop a system for seamless movement of vehicles across the country.

(d) Entry Number 57 of List II- State List of Schedule 7 of The Constitution of India provides for "taxes on vehicles, whether mechanically propelled or not, suitable for use on roads, including tramcars subject to the provisions of entry 35 of List III". Entry Number 35 of List III of Schedule 7 of The Constitution of India provides for "Mechanically propelled vehicles including the principles on which taxes on such vehicles are to be levied".