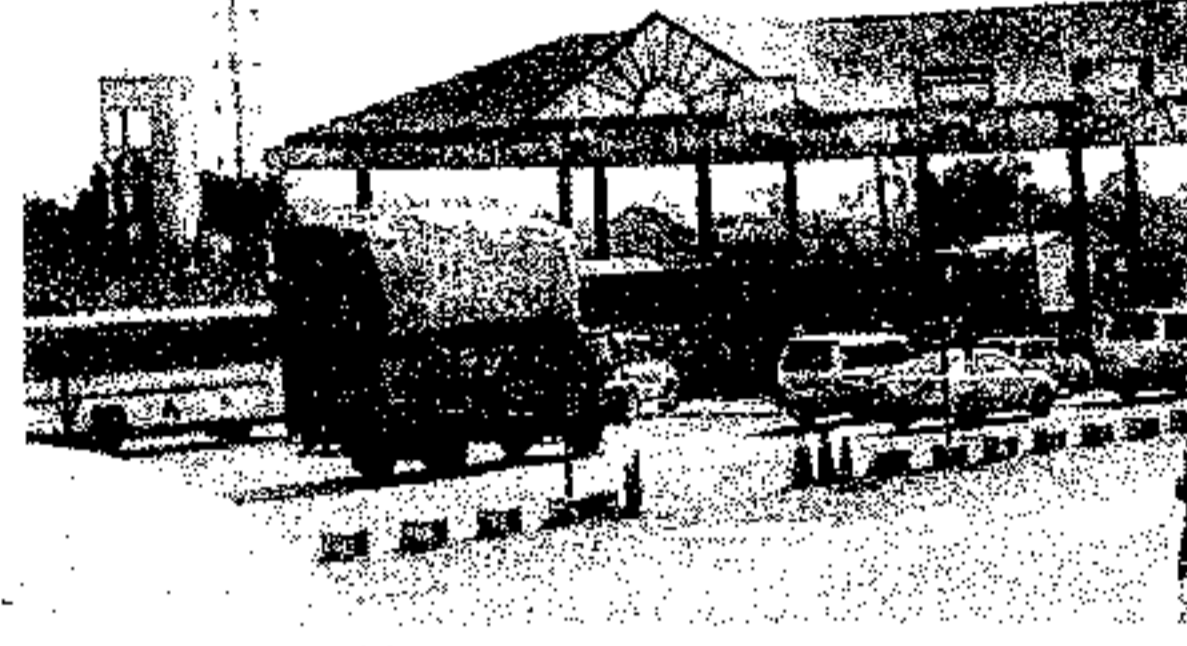


टोलनाक्यांविरोधात बेमुदत 'चक्का जाम'

म. टा. खास प्रतिनिधी, मुंबई

देशभरातील टोलनाके बंद
करण्याची मागणी करत रस्ते
मालवाहतूकदारांनी १
ऑक्टोबरपासून बेमुदत
चक्का जाम आंदोलन
करण्याचा इशारा दिला
आहे. या आंदोलनात
सुमारे ७५ लाख ट्रक,
अवजड वाहने सहभागी
होणार असून, आंदोलन
झाल्यास देशातील मालवाहतूक बंद
राहण्याचा दावा केला जात आहे.

देशभरात असलेल्या टोलनाक्यांवर
वाहनांच्या रांगा लागतात. त्यामुळे
इंधन, वेळेचा अपव्यय होत
असल्याचे 'ऑल इंडिया मोटार
ट्रान्सपोर्ट काँग्रेस'चे अमृतलाल मदान
यांनी सांगितले. मालवाहतूकदारांनी
टोलमाफीची मागणी केलेली नसून,
त्याउलट, मालवाहतूकदार टोलची



रक्कम सरकारला
आगाऊ पद्धतीने तयार
आहेत. मात्र, केंद्र
सरकारला टोलनाके
बंद करायचे नसून त्यात,
राजकारण्यांचे आर्थिक
हितसंबंध गुंतले आहेत, असा दावा
मदान यांनी केला.

या आंदोलनानंतरही सरकारने
प्रतिसाद न दिल्यास अत्यावश्यक
वस्तूंचे वाहतूकदार या आंदोलनात
सहभागी होतील, असा इशारा दिला
आहे. टोलनाके आणि तपासणी
नाक्यांमुळे दरवर्षी ८७ हजार कोटी
रुपयांचे नुकसान होत असल्याचे मोटार
ट्रान्सपोर्ट काँग्रेसने म्हटले आहे.

Transporters want toll-free roads, to strike from October 1

HT Correspondent

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MUMBAI: Calling the time spent at toll plazas across the state a waste of time and fuel, 75 lakh transporters, including eight lakh from the state, have threatened to go off roads starting October 1.

Their demands, they said, are abolition of TDS (tax deducted at source) for the transport sector and toll-free highways.

The transportation of essential commodities such as milk, vegetables, fuel and medicines will not be affected in the initial stages of the protest, said Amrit Lal Madan, vice-president, All India Motor Transport Congress (AIMTC), west zone.

However, he said truckers' associations across the country will participate, until their demands are met.

The workers will also discuss the issue with the government, said AIMTC sources, adding, the transporters did not want to go on a strike, as it could lead to daily losses of up to Rs50,000 crore.

Clarifying their objection was not about paying tax, but about the time wasted at toll plazas, AIMTC said the transporters want the government to work out a formula that will compensate the loss from toll not being col-

THEIR DEMANDS

The transporters want abolition of TDS (tax deducted at source) for the transport sector and toll-free highways

The union said their objection is not to paying tax, but to the time wasted at toll plazas

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lected – this is around Rs14,000 crore.

“We are not against the government earning revenue and we do not want them suffer losses by scrapping toll. We just want an alternative,” said Madan, adding that a system similar to a national permit – where transporters pay an advance amount – or a cess on diesel will help the government make up for the losses.

Madan said vehicles get stuck at toll plazas for at least 15-20 minutes, leading to some Rs88,000 crore worth of fuel being wasted a year.

Transporters: Abolish toll, take ₹14K cr

Mumbai: The All India Motor Transport Congress (AIMTC) has petitioned the Prime Minister's Office and demanded the abolition of toll nakas across the country, declaring a nationwide chakka jam on October 1.

“Transporters have offered to pay more than Rs 14,000 crore annually as ‘indirect tax’ to compensate for toll collected at the 75 lakh check points across the country,” said AIMTC vice-president Amrit Lal Madan on Thursday. “We lose Rs 88,000 crore worth diesel annually with half-an-hour waits at toll booths daily. If toll nakas are abolished, we will save such a huge amount, so paying Rs 14,000 crore to the government treasury (by transporters) will not be a burden.” —Somit Sen