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29th September 2011

**Aarey Road in pathetic condition
in spite of toll earning in crores**

Mumbai, Thursday: In spite of earning revenue of crores of rupees from the toll collected on Aarey Road; the Maharashtra Government is not ready to improve pathetic state of this road, criticized Shri Ram Naik, former Petroleum Minister & BJP leader in a statement issued today.

Shri Naik informed that the toll-contractor is daily depositing nearly Rs. 1.5 lakhs out of the toll collected in to the government exchequer. Besides the contractor's profit of crores of rupees the total revenue amounting to nearly Rs. 17 crore is earned by the state government in the last three years from the Aarey Road toll-nakas. The same profitable road is also costing lives as accidents are occurring in Aarey Colony due to the badly damaged state of the road. Shri Naik wondered why the government is not ready to undertake major repair works as the road stretches only up to 7.5 km. Shri Naik also revealed that the government have spent only Rs.36.80 lakhs last year and a meager amount of Rs. 10 lakhs in current year.

Shri Naik also pointed out that this toll is being directly deposited in the exchequer. The people are already fed up with pathetic condition of the road on the one hand and the Jeezia taxes in form of the toll. Shri Naik warned the government of dire consequences if the repair work is not initiated on the war-footing.

(Office Secretary)