

November 9, 2012

Truly unique - India's first and only all women toll plaza

Pimpalgaon Nashik Gonde Tollway Limited (PNGTL) - a SPV with majority shareholding belonging to L&T IDPL and which is the country's first and only toll plaza operated entirely by women has commenced its commercial operations on October 2nd, 2012 on the 60 km stretch of road connecting Pimpalgaon-Nashik-Gonde section of NH-3, in Maharashtra. The road connects the financial capital of India - Mumbai to states like UP, MP, West Bengal and Orissa.

This is the first and only toll plaza in the country operated by women with female staff exclusively handling toll collection round the clock. The 16-lane toll plaza's most noteworthy feature is the fact that from the Project Head to the office assistants, all the employees are women.

This all women toll plaza is an attempt by L&T IDPL to make the district's women folk financially stable since L&T IDPL is committed to empowering women in all spheres of life by creating equal opportunities.

As many as 108 women are on duty in shifts at the toll plaza in the capacity of Project Head, Plaza Manager, Route Operations Manager, Toll Collector, Lane Assistant, Toll Administration Clerk, Toll Supervisor, Toll Auditor, Cashier, Control Room Operators, Route Patrol Officers, housekeeping, office assistants and some as security guards.

L&T IDPL has employed women from towns and villages near the facility and some from Nashik city for its operations. A large number of women employed are from Pimpalgaon and Kokangaon areas which are in close proximity to the plaza. The staff has been given sufficient training for their respective roles.

The plaza is access controlled and is continuously monitored by Close Circuit Television cameras (CCTVs) with adequate security measures in place. All women employees have been provided with pick up and drop facility. The bus used for this service is tracked using GPS.

The drivers employed for this vehicle have their identities verified by the police as an additional security measure to ensure security of the women employees.

A crèche has also been developed at the plaza that ensures women working at the toll plaza can take care of their children and pay full attention to their duties during the working hours.