

**8.2 MILLION TRANSACTIONS IN JUNE**

# Toll Collection Helps Digital Payments Zip through Fast Lane

## Highway Rush

**8.2 million**

Digital payments at toll booths in June

5.3 lakh RFID TAGS ISSUED SO FAR

**25 billion**

Targeted digital transactions for the whole financial year

NO OF TRANSACTIONS

**8.1 million**  
**7.4 million**

In May In April



**360**

No of electronic toll booths operational

**15**

In the process of becoming electronic toll booths

**Pratik.Bhakta**  
@timesgroup.com

**Mumbai:** Toll collection, which is expected to lead the next round of growth for digital payments besides Unified Payments Interface and debit cards, has reached 8.2 million transactions in June.

According to data shared by National Payments Corporation of India, digital payments at toll booths rose to 8.2 million in June from 8.1 million in May and 7.4 million in April. These transactions will form a part of the entire target of 25 billion digital transactions for the whole financial year. National Highways Authority of India, which is implementing the project along with NPCI, the umbrella organisation for digital payments has implemented acceptance instruments at 360 of its 375 toll plazas.

"Around 360 toll plazas are already operational, the remaining 15 are also in the process of becoming part of the electronic toll collection system, we are discussing with the various state highways to digitise toll collection which will increase the numbers drastically," said AP Hota, managing director, NPCI.

ETC tag lanes are usually kept as designated lanes at toll plazas where cars carrying an RFID (Radio Frequency Identification) sticker are allowed to just zoom through without having to stop and make payments

through cash, wallets or card.

The RFID tags are distributed by various tag issuing banks and are connected either to a bank account or a digital wallet from where the toll amount gets auto debited once the vehicle crosses the booth.

"The total number of tags issued by banks stand at 5.3 lakh and we are seeing a daily transaction of 3 lakh on an average," said Hota. "A large chunk of these payments will be repeat payments as the vehicle travels along national highways crossing multiple toll booths."

Banks like State Bank of India, Axis Bank, ICICI Bank, IDFC Bank, Karur Vysya Bank, Equitas Small Finance Bank are the ones issuing RFID tags to any customer with a bank account.

Bankers say tags are being issued to commercial vehicle fleet operators, truck operators for whom digital payments at toll booths is very helpful as they get real time alerts on their vehicles' movement and tolls paid.

"We have issued more than 5,000 tags and are in the process of integrating our back end with fleet operators' systems to allow them to track toll payments and vehicle movement in real time," said PN Vasudevan, MD of Equitas Small Finance Bank.

**The toll amount gets auto debited once the vehicle, which has RFID tags, crosses the booth**