

Truck drivers get familiar with toll gate rules

Truckers are required to pay at least Dh100, each time they cross the toll gate, with effect from May 1.

- By Ashfaq Ahmed, Chief Reporter
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Sharjah :During the trial run for the truck toll gates at Sharjah, which started yesterday, drivers were advised to carry the required toll fee in cash to be allowed to cross the gates.

Truckers are required to pay at least Dh100, each time they cross the toll gate, with effect from May 1.

The authorities were not taking any toll fee during the trial run, as this was part of a move to educate truck drivers about toll gates.

Additionally, information brochures in English, Urdu, Arabic and Malayalam were also being handed out to familiarise truck drivers with the toll gates.

"Truck drivers should carry the specified toll fee otherwise they will not be allowed to pass through the toll gates," an official at the Sharjah Public Works Department said.

Last week, Sharjah announced it would start charging a toll fee from truck drivers using the Sharjah-Al Dhaid bypass road also known as the 'truck road'.

Mandatory

It is mandatory for all truck drivers using Sharjah-Al Dhaid Road to divert to this particular road and pay a toll of Dh100.

It was announced that a toll fee of Dh100 would be levied on every truck whose weight does not exceed 49 tonnes, with an additional Dh10 to be levied for each extra tonne.

However, an official said that trucks would have to pay a flat fee of Dh100 until the authorities build a truck-weighing station to determine the exact load of the trucks.

He added that the authorities would soon announce the maximum load for trucks, to avoid damaging the road network.

Additionally, new services — including petrol and service stations and parking facilities for truckers — are to be introduced.

Linked

The toll controlled 'truck road' is linked to the Sharjah-Al Dhaid highway on one side and the Sharjah-Masafi Road and Ras Al Khaimah-Manama road on the other side.

According to the announcement of the Department of Public Works in Sharjah, trailers without containers would be charged Dh25 for each trip.

The main objective of levying the toll system was to collect revenue to repair and maintain roads badly damaged by heavy traffic.

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