

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (MS. AGATHA SANGMA): (a) and (b) Only in the year 2002-03, project proposals were obtained from the nodal agencies of States/UTs and cleared by Government of India under Swajaldhara scheme. Balance proposals which had been received in the Government of India and could not be considered in the year 2002-03, were returned to respective State Governments for consideration on priority as per the Swajaldhara Guidelines issued in June, 2003 within the allocated amount communicated to the State for the year 2003-04. All projects during 2003-04 and subsequent years were approved by the respective District Water and Sanitation Committee (DWSC)/State Water and Sanitation Mission (SWSM). As such, no application from district/State level, including Maharashtra has been submitted to the Central Government. No fund has also been released to Maharashtra for new proposals in the last three years.

Monitoring of works under PMGSY

3491. SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has entrusted any department or agency to monitor the quality of construction work and materials used on roads under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) in North Eastern States including Backward Districts as well as criteria fixed in this regard with specific target for completion of work;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether Government has any plan of repairing roads within 2-3 years of its completion constructed under PMGSY and damaged by floods and heavy traffic movement; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) and (b) In order to ensure that projects executed under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) conform to the prescribed quality standards programme guidelines envisage three tier quality monitoring mechanism. The first two tiers of the Quality Control Structure are overseen by the State Quality Coordinators, appointed by the State Governments. The first tier of quality monitoring mechanism is in-house quality control at the level of the executing agencies. Field laboratories are established by the Contractors and mandatory tests on the quality of material and workmanship are conducted under the supervision of Programme Implementation Units (PIUs). Quality Control Handbooks have been prescribed and test records are maintained by the PIUs in the prescribed Quality Control registers. The second tier provides for quality monitoring by the State Governments through independent State Quality Monitors (SQMs). SQMs are deployed for ensuring that quality related issues are properly being attended to by the first tier. The Third tier of this arrangement consists of quality monitoring of works through random inspections by independent National Quality Monitors (NQMs).

As per PMGSY Programme Guidelines, PMGSY projects are to be completed within a period of 9 working months from the date of issue of the work order. In case the period for execution is likely to be adversely affected by monsoon or other seasonal factors, the time period for execution may be extended but shall not exceed 12 calendar months. In respect of Hill States where the work is executed in two stages, the time limit upto 18 calendar months has been permitted for completion of Stage-I works and 9 to 12 months for Stage-II works. Time period of 18-24 months has been permitted for completion of cross drainage works exceeding 25 metre length, depending on site conditions.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e) As per PMGSY Programme guidelines, PMGSY projects are required to be covered by 5 year maintenance contracts, to be entered into along with the construction contract, with the same contractor in accordance with Standard Bidding Document for regular routine maintenance. Funds to service these contracts are to be budgeted and to be provided by the State Government. Special repairs necessitated on account of flood damages are, however, required to be carried out by the State Government with their own funds and the assistance that may be available under calamity relief and reconstruction.

Rural Employment Schemes in the country

3492. SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of rural employment schemes approved and being operated by the Central Government; and

(b) the details of targets and achievements pertaining to these schemes during the last three years, State-wise and scheme-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) The Ministry of Rural Development is implementing two major rural employment schemes, namely, National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA) for generating wage employment and Swarnajanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) for generating self employment.

(b) NREGA provides a legal guarantee of 100 days of wage employment in a financial year to every rural household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work. Number of days of employment availed by a household depends on the number of days of employment demanded by the household. The SGSY has been conceived as a holistic programme covering all aspects of self employment like organization of rural poor into Self-Help Groups (SHGs) and their capacity building, training, planning of activity clusters, infrastructure development, financial assistance through bank credit and subsidy, marketing support, etc.. NREGA is demand based and has no targets. State-wise achievements under NREGA during the last three years are given in Statement-I (See below). State-wise targets and achievements under SGSY during the last three years are given in Statement-II.