

above, 4,507 habitations having population of 500 to 999 persons and 1,319 habitations having population of 250 to 499 persons in Madhya Pradesh have been cleared by the Ministry under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY).

(b) 406 habitations have been connected in Madhya Pradesh under PMGSY till January, 2010 against the target of connecting 504 habitations during the year 2009-10.

(c) The allocations from Cess on diesel for Madhya Pradesh was Rs.440 crore for the year 2008-09 and Rs.375.77 crore for the year 2009-10.

(d) Length of roads constructed under PMGSY in Madhya Pradesh during last three years is as under:-

Year	Length (in km.)
2006-07	3788.50
2207-08	5231.45
2008-09	7893.72

Inquiry into siphoning of funds

2124. MS. MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether he is aware that large funds of MNREGA were siphoned off through NGO-bureaucratic nexus in Jharkhand;

(b) the reasons for no recovery of funds in the case despite bringing it to Government's knowledge; and

(c) whether the inquiry would be brought to its logical conclusion and punish the guilty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) No such cases have been brought to the notice of the Ministry.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

National waterways-III

2125. SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN:

SHRI K.E. ISMAIL:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the work on the National Waterways-III from Kollam to Kottappuram in Kerala has been progressing at a slow pace;

(b) if so, the details of the project and the work so far completed; and

(c) what are the problems standing in the way for the completion of the project at the end of the year 2010 and the steps being taken to clear the hurdles?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI MUKUL ROY): (a) to (c) Kottapuram to Kollam sector of West Coast Canal along with Udyogmandal and Champakara canals for a total length of 205 km was declared as National Waterway in 1993. The navigational channel with 2 m depth has been developed in Udyogmandal and Champakara canals as well as Kochi-Allapuzha sector (99 km). In Kottapuram - Kochi sector (30 km) out of 18.83 km of shoal length, 14.00 km has been dredged and only 4.83 km remains to be dredged. In Allapuzha-Kayamkulam (38 km) and Kayamkulam - Eddapallikota (21 km) stretches, out of total shoal length of 41.33 km, 24 km has been dredged and in the remaining stretch, capital dredging is in progress. In the remaining sector of Eddapallikota - Kollam (17 km) the tenders were invited for capital dredging including hard strata, but were cancelled due to poor response. Hence this work is being retendered.

Terminals have been constructed at seven locations namely Kottapuram, Aluva, Kayamkulam, Viakom, Tannermukham, Trikunapuzha and Maradu while eighth terminal at Kollam is under construction, work of construction of Jetties have been taken up at Bolgatty and Willington islands to streamline the cargo movement within Kochi town.

24 hours navigational aids have been provided in the entire waterway.

Hence, the progress is not slow. However, the land acquisition for widening of canals by the State Government as well as various other local issues, such as the problems in disposal of dredged materials, removal of fishing nets from the navigational channel, take considerable time. The handing over of Allapuzha terminal land by the State Government and delay in completion of works entrusted to State Government namely bank protection, and relaying of water line across waterway at Chavra have also taken time for which IWAI has taken up the matter with the State Government.

Expension of new ports

2126. SHRI KANJIBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that the New Policy on expansion of existing ports and initiation of new ports along the coastal line is causing delay, as long as two years, for clearance under Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) Notification and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification;

(b) whether the Chief Minister of Gujarat has requested the Hon'ble Prime Minister to make necessary modifications in the New Policy so that the development of ports is not affected; and

(c) if so, whether Government is considering the required modifications in the CRZ and EIA Notifications under the new policy?