

- (c) the details of the additional outflow; and
- (d) the details of the beneficiaries from Andhra Pradesh during the last five years, year-wise and district-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI LALCHAND KATARIA) : (a) to (c) Government has lowered the age limit under Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme (IGNOAPS) from 65 years to 60 years *w.e.f.* 1.4.2011. As a result it is estimated that additional 72.32 lakh persons belonging to households living below poverty line (BPL) would benefit from the decision. The financial implication is Rs. 1736 crore @ Rs. 200/- p.m. per beneficiary.

(d) IGNOAPS is a component of National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP) which is under State Plan. Identification of beneficiaries, sanction and disbursement of benefits under NSAP are done by the State Governments. District-wise details of beneficiaries are not maintained by this Ministry. The number of IGNOAPS beneficiaries reported by Andhra Pradesh for the last five years and current year are 919230 (2007-08), 919230 (2008-09), 919230 (2009-10), 971709 (2010-11), 1386401 (2011-12) and 1587813 (2012-13) respectively.

Maintenance of rural roads in Madhya Pradesh

1820. SHRI RAGHUNANDAN SHARMA : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any proposal from the State Government of Madhya Pradesh regarding repair/renewal/upgradation of rural roads in the State is under Government's consideration;
- (b) if so, the considered view of Government in this regard; and
- (c) the quantum of funds provided by the Central Government to the State for the above purposes during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI LALCHAND KATARIA) : (a) and (b)

- (i) Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme with the objective to provide all-weather road connectivity to all eligible unconnected habitations, existing in the core-network, in rural areas of country. The programme envisages connecting all eligible unconnected habitations with a population of 500 persons and above in plain areas and 250 persons and above in Hill States, Tribal (Schedule V)

areas, the Desert Areas (as identified in Desert Development Programme) and in 82 Selected Tribal and Backward Districts under Integrated Action Plan (IAP) as identified by the Ministry of Home Affairs/Planning Commission. Upgradation of selected Rural Roads to provide full farm to market connectivity is also an objective of the scheme, though not central to it.

- (ii) In order to give priority to connectivity of eligible habitations, the Ministry was considering proposals only for new connectivity as per advisory issued on 12th June, 2009. However, above advisory was relaxed on 19th July, 2012. Accordingly, Ministry is considering proposals of upgradation in respect of States who have awarded at least 80% of the new connectivity road works for execution to connect the eligible unconnected habitations in the State and have completed all works awarded more than two years earlier.
- (iii) Further as per PMGSY Programme Guidelines, all sanctioned road works are covered by initial five years maintenance contracts to be entered into along with the construction contract with the same contractor as per the Standard Bidding Document. Maintenance fund to service the contract is to be budgeted by the State Government and placed at the disposal of State Rural Roads Development Agency (SRRDA) in a separate maintenance account. After initial five years maintenance period, the renewal/repair of these roads is the sole responsibility of the concerned State.
- (iv) At present, no proposal of upgradation is under consideration with the Ministry for the State of Madhya Pradesh.

(c) The amount of fund released to State of Madhya Pradesh during the last three financial years including for ongoing upgradation works, under PMGSY is as under:—

(Rs. in crore)

| Financial Year | Amount released |
|----------------|-----------------|
| 2009-2010 | 2,111 |
| 2010-2011 | 1,966 |
| 2011-2012 | 1,138 |