Non-completion of projects under PMGSY

1974. SHRI AVINASH PANDEY: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for non-completion of projects under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) within the stipulated time period during the last three years in the North-Eastern States; and

(b) whether the Ministry would consider relaxing the norms to ensure that the North- Eastern States benefit from PMGSY effectively?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI LALCHAND KATARIA): (a) and (d) Rural road is a State subject and the responsibility of execution of Rural Roads under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) is with the State Governments. It is the responsibility of the State to ensure timely completion of road works under the programme. Some of the reasons adversely affecting the timely implementation of the programme, as reported by the States are as under:

(i) Inadequate Institutional and contracting capacity.

(ii) Limited working seasons and adverse climatic conditions.

(iii) Non availability of land and forest clearance of the land falling in forest areas.

(iv) Geographically difficult terrain.

The Ministry has taken following major initiatives under PMGSY to address the special concerns of North-Eastern States:

(i) In the areas near international boundary in the hill States, a dispensation has been made to all Hill States including 7 NE States except Assam that all habitations within a path distance of 10 km in the blocks bordering international boundary in the Hill States (as identified by the Ministry of Home Affairs) may be treated as cluster for this purpose. A special dispensation has been given to Arunachal Pradesh for extending this facility to International Border districts.

(ii) Nomenclature for 'Hill States' under PMGSY has been changed to 'Special Category States' for the purpose of providing connectivity to unconnected

habitations of 250 to 499 persons (Census 2001) as per the Core Network, including left out habitations and thereby to include Assam on a par with other North-Eastern States.

Impact of rural job schemes on plantation sector

1975. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI:
SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN:
Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that rural job schemes are leading to dearth of labourers in plantation sector; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the corrective steps being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) and (b) No Sir. The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) provides unskilled manual work as per demand up to 100 days each year for each household. Most of the demand is received, and the works are taken up during the lean agricultural season. There is therefore no evidence of dearth of workers in rural areas due to works taken up under the Act.

Concerns on new land acquisition law

1976. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI:
SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN:
Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has allayed the industry concerns over the new land acquisition law;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI LALCHAND KATARIA): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. Sufficient provisions have been made in the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013 in this regard. Section 2 of the aforesaid Act *inter-alia* includes projects for industrial corridors or mining activities, national investment and manufacturing zones as designated in the National Manufacturing Policy etc.