Road safety measures under PMGSY

105. DR. CHANDAN MITRA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a)   whether road safety issues are taken care of while constructing rural roads under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY);

(b)   if so, the details thereof;

(c)   if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d)   the corrective steps taken by Government in this regard and to ensure road safety audits and check the specific requirements of rural roads during their construction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI UPENDRA KUSHWAHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Since rural roads are generally low traffic volume roads, safety issues relate mainly to design and construction features and road safety consciousness of local residents. To address design and construction features, PMGSY roads are designed as per IRCSP:20 and all Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) are verified by State Technical Agency (STA), to ensure that all road safety and mitigation measures are incorporated in the DPRs.

The programme guidelines of PMGSY stipulate that the State Government, as the implementing agency, shall ensure road safety audit of PMGSY works along with quality monitoring. It shall also ensure adequate involvement of Panchayati Raj institutions in road safety awareness programmes. Awareness rising activities include publication of pamphlets, audio-visuals, interactive programmes with local community, etc.

Revision of wages under MGNREGA

106. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a)   whether it is proposed to revise upward the wages of workers employed under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) in the country;

(b)   whether the above issue was considered by a certain panel appointed by Government;

(c)   if so, the salient recommendations in the matter made by this panel;

(d)   whether it is a one-time upward revision or there would be such revisions at regular intervals; and

(e)   if so, the details thereof?