

the central share for projects undertaken under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) in their States;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether those State Governments have pleaded before the Central Government for release of the same so that the pace of implementation of the works under the said programmes does not slacken; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by Government to clear the above dues to the State Governments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SUDARSHAN BHAGAT) : (a) to (d) Yes Sir. The year-wise details of funds demanded by the Ministry, Budget Estimate, Revised Estimate and funds released under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) are as under:

(₹ in crore)

	Funds demanded by the Ministry	Budget Estimate (BE)	Revised Estimate (RE)	Funds released including repayment of NABARD loan
2013-14	20,000	21,700	12,750	12,855
2014-15	22,000	14,391	14,200	14,188
2015-16	24,800	14,291		

The Ministry has requested the Finance Ministry for suitable enhancement of allocation to PMGSY to ensure that the tempo of implementation of PMGSY, a major rural infrastructure scheme of the Government, is maintained.

#### **Employment opportunities for rural people**

398. SHRI RAM KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether over 60-70 per cent population in the country is living in rural areas which neither have adequate land holdings nor alternate service opportunities to produce or procure food, clothing, shelter, fuel and fodder for their livestock and in the absence of adequate employment opportunities, the rural people are unable to generate enough wage to sustain their livelihood;

(b) if so, the measures taken to provide adequate employment opportunities to such people; and

(c) what is the definition of poor and the total number of families in the rural India which are poor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SUDARSHAN BHAGAT) : (a) and (b) The Ministry of Rural Development, *inter alia*, is implementing Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), National Rural Livelihoods Mission (NRLM), Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY) and Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP) in rural areas of the country, through State Governments and UT Administrations. The objective of these programmes is to bring about overall improvement in the quality of life in rural areas through employment generation, development of rural infrastructure and provision of other basic amenities which help in alleviation of rural poverty directly and indirectly.

The MGNREGA provides a legal guarantee for 100 days of employment in a financial year to every rural household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work. National Rural Livelihoods Mission (NRLM) provides for training and capacity building of interested members to take up micro enterprises for enhancing their incomes. The Ministry also implements a placement linked skill development programme named as Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana, a sub scheme of NRLM, for skilling of rural poor youth to improve their employability.

(c) The erstwhile Planning Commission estimated poverty on the basis of monthly per capita consumption expenditure (MPCE) as criteria for defining poverty line that separates poor from the non poor. The poverty lines and poverty ratios for 2011-12 have been computed following the extant Tendulkar methodology according to which the national poverty line is estimated as ₹ 816 per capita per month for rural areas. The number of persons living below poverty line in 2011-12 has been estimated as 21.65 crore in rural areas.

#### **Roads constructed under PMGSY/NABARD schemes in shimla**

399. SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the names of roads and the amount sanctioned for each road during 2014-15 in District Shimla, Himachal Pradesh which would be constructed under PMGSY/NABARD assisted scheme;

(b) whether tender process has been completed for construction of roads;