

nomination of Members of Parliament as member of State level VMCs were issued on 19th September 2014.

(c) The Vigilance and Monitoring Committees (VMC) are constituted at district and State levels to function as an important instrument for effective monitoring of implementation of the programmes of the Ministry of Rural Development with a crucial role for the Members of Parliament and elected representatives of people in State Legislatures in reviewing the implementation of the programmes of the Ministry of Rural Development. The primary responsibility of District level Vigilance & Monitoring Committee is to effectively monitor the implementation of the Schemes/ programmes of the Ministry of Rural Development as also cause to ensure that the funds are used for the purpose for which they are meant. The Vigilance and Monitoring Committee at State level should supervise, exercise vigilance and monitor the implementation of programmes of the Ministry of Rural Development. The Committee should monitor the flow of funds through various channels, including allocations, releases, utilization and unspent balances. As per the guidelines the district level VMC meeting should be held in every quarter on (i) Last Saturday of May; (ii) First Saturday of August; (iii) First Saturday of November; and (iv) First Saturday of February. The State level VMC meeting should be held in every quarter.

Use of jute and coir geo-textiles in PMGSY roads

1732. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has allowed the use of jute and coir geo-textiles in construction of rural roads under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY);
- (b) if so, the details of initial evaluation report in this regard; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government for promoting usages of geo-textiles in construction of roads and river or lake embankment in rural areas across the country?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHAUDHARY BIRENDER SINGH): (a) to (c) 'Rural Roads' is a State subject and Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) is a one-time special intervention of the Government of India to provide rural connectivity, by way of a single all-weather road, to the eligible unconnected habitations in the core network.

In order to promote cost-effective, environment friendly and fast construction

technologies and non-conventional materials in the construction of rural roads, the Ministry has issued "new technology initiatives guidelines" *vide* Ministry's circular dated 8.5.2013, wherein the States are permitted to use Indian Road Congress (IRC) accredited technologies and non-conventional materials, including jute and coir geo-textiles, in the construction of PMGSY roads. States have been advised to promote the use of geo-textiles such as Coir and Jute, in road pavements in areas where drainage is an issue, as well as in areas where the soil properties can be improved with geo-textiles/geo-synthetics. As per the aforesaid guidelines at least 15% length of annual proposal of a State, must include new and non conventional materials.

Under PMGSY, the performance of roads constructed using jute and coir geo-textiles have been evaluated by competent technical agencies and found to be satisfactory.

Targets of Aajeevika scheme under NRLM

1733. SHRI K.K. RAGESH:

DR. SANJAY SINH:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the targets fixed by Government in Aajeevika scheme under the National Rural Livelihood Mission, year-wise and State-wise;

(b) what is the progress of the achievement of these targets and the status of setting up of State missions, State-wise; and

(c) whether this scheme has failed in achieving its objectives?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHAUDHARY BIRENDER SINGH): (a) to (c) Since 1999, the Government was implementing Swarnjayanti Gram Swarajgar Yojana (SGSY) which has been restructured as National Rural Livelihoods Mission (NRLM). NRLM was launched on 3rd June, 2011. NRLM is to be implemented in a mission mode in all the States and union territories (except Delhi and Chandigarh). Upto 31.03.2013, both NRLM and Swarnjayanti Gram Swarajgar Yojana (SGSY) were being implemented simultaneously. From 1st April, 2013, SGSY has ceased to exist and NRLM is now completely under operation. To transit from SGSY to NRLM, the programme States and Union Territories were required to fulfill the following conditions:

- set up a society or designate an existing society as State Rural Livelihoods Mission (SRLM) and place a fulltime CEO to head the Mission; and