

2(2)(b) of the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013, land can be acquired for private companies only for public purposes, provided the land acquiring companies obtain prior consent of at least eighty per cent of "affected families" at the stage of conduct of "Social Impact Assessment" study.

Further, Section 10 of the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013 contains special provisions to safeguard food security and includes prescription of limits on quantum/ extent of agricultural land that can be acquired.

Policy for maintenance of rural roads under PMGSY

†822. CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:

SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether steps have been taken to hand over the maintenance of roads built under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) to the States after five years from the time of their construction;

(b) if so, the names of States that have given their consent and made rules for maintenance of roads and are acting thereon; and

(c) the details of steps taken with regard to those States that have not framed such policies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV): (a) to (c) All Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) roads are covered by a 5-year maintenance contract, entered into along with construction contract, with the same contractor, in accordance with the Standard Bidding Document (SBD) prescribed under PMGSY by the Ministry of Rural Development. Maintenance funds to service the contract are budgeted by the State Governments. On expiry of 5-year post-construction maintenance, the State Governments are required to make necessary budget provision to place such roads under zonal maintenance contracts.

National Rural Roads Development Agency (NRRDA) and the Ministry of Rural Development, in partnership with International Labour Organization and World Bank

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

has extended support to the States in the maintenance management of rural roads. Accordingly, a Model Policy Framework for Maintenance of Rural Roads along with a Guidance note for the States has been finalized in close consultation with the States. Based on these documents, the States are required to formulate State Rural Road Maintenance Policies to suit State specific needs. 13 States i.e. Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Rajasthan, Bihar, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Tamil Nadu, Assam, Meghalaya and West Bengal have formulated their State Rural Roads Maintenance Policy. Balance States are being regularly requested during Regional Review Meetings and Empowered Committee Meetings to formulate and notify Maintenance Policy.

Renovation of ponds under MGNREGA

†823. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is seriously contemplating to undertake renovation of ponds situated in different parts of the country under MGNREGA;
- (b) if so, whether Government has taken any steps in this regard; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV): (a) to (c) As per Schedule-1, 4. (1), I, (iv) of the Mahatma Gandhi NREGA, "Renovation of traditional water bodies including desilting of irrigation tanks and other water bodies", is permissible work under MGNREGA.

As per the Act "District Programme Coordinator shall ensure that at least 60% of the works to be taken up in a district in terms of cost, shall be for creation of productive assets directly linked to agriculture and allied activities through development of land, water and trees" which includes the renovation of ponds.

Increase in demand for work under MGNREGA

824. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the demand for work under MGNREGA has sharply increased by upto 50 per cent during 2016-17 in comparison to the last financial year due to drought situations in the country;

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