

Relaxation in PMGSY scheme in Odisha

794. SHRI BHASKAR RAO NEKKANTI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry aims to provide all-weather connectivity to all unconnected habitations through PMGSY;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government would consider relaxing the norms of sanction for providing connectivity to 100 habitations and above for 18 Integrated Action Plan (IAP) districts and 250 habitations and above in 12 non-IAP districts of Odisha, as the tribal-dominated districts cover more than 40 per cent of total population of the State; and

(d) whether Government would consider to share funds towards the cost of post five year maintenance of PMGSY roads in Odisha, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) to (c) The Government launched Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) in December 2000, as a one-time special intervention to provide rural connectivity, by way of a single all-weather road, to the eligible unconnected habitations of designated population size (500+ in plain areas and 250+ in North-Eastern States, Himalayan States, Deserts and Tribal Areas as per 2001 census) in the core network for uplifting the socio-economic condition of the rural population. In the critical Left Wing Extremism affected blocks (as identified by Ministry of Home Affairs), additional relaxation has been given to connect habitations with population of 100 persons and above (2001 census). As on 4th February, 2020, out of the 3,78,184 eligible unconnected habitations of designated population size identified for coverage under PMGSY, 1,67,368 habitations have been connected through all-weather roads including 16,086 habitations connected by States out of their own resources, while 4,247 habitations are dropped or are non-feasible. In the State of Odisha, against 16,488 eligible unconnected habitations of population size 250 and above as per census, 2001, 16,020 habitations have been provided all-weather road connectivity, while 59 habitations have either been dropped or are not feasible. In case of 100-249 population size habitations in most intensive Integrated Action Plan blocks in Odisha, against 1,990 eligible habitations, 1,649

habitations have already been provided connectivity, including 273 habitations, which have been provided connectivity under State Scheme.

The State of Odisha has already been sanctioned its full entitlement under new connectivity component of PMGSY. No further sanctions are being given for habitation connectivity scheme under PMGSY. There is no proposal under consideration of the Ministry for relaxing the norms.

(d) Maintenance of roads constructed under the programme is the responsibility of the State Governments and all road works are covered by initial five year maintenance contracts to be entered into along with the construction contract, with the same contractor, as per the Standard Bidding Document. Maintenance funds are provided by the State Government. Maintenance of roads beyond 5 years is also done by the State Government.

Since 2016-17, financial incentives are given to top performing States, which show higher achievement in the year on the basis of set parameters to be used by the States specifically for periodic maintenance of roads. The State of Odisha was given financial incentives during the years 2016-17, 2017-18 and 2018-19 as given below:-

Year	Incentive sanctioned (₹ in crore)
2016-17	175.67
2017-18	109.61
2018-19	73.68

Release of funds under PMGSY to Andhra Pradesh

795. SHRI T.G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the funds released under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) to the State of Andhra Pradesh during the year 2019;

(b) whether these funds have been utilised by the State completely or left unutilised;