

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2858
ANSWERED ON 19.03.2021

ROADS COMPLETED UNDER PMGSY

2858 SHRI K.J. ALPHONS:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the total length of rural roads completed under PMGSY during the last five years;
- (b) the length of PMGSY roads completed from 2009-2014; and
- (c) the steps taken to ensure better quality of roads?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
(SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI)

- (a) Under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), during the last five years & current year till 15.03.2021, 2,34,612 km road length has been completed as per details given below:

Sl. No.	Year	Roads Completed (in Km.)
1	2015-16	35,150
2	2016-17	47,426
3	2017-18	48,670
4	2018-19	48,094
5	2019-20	27,301
	Total	2,06,641

- (b) During 2009-2014, 1,88,807 km road length has been completed under PMGSY as per details given below:

Sl. No.	Year	Roads Completed (in Km.)
1	2009-10	55,259
2	2010-11	46,784
3	2011-12	31,615
4	2012-13	27,792
5	2013-14	27,357
	Total	1,88,807

- (c) PMGSY envisages a **three tier Quality Assurance Mechanism** to ensure quality of road works during construction. The first two tiers of the structure are the responsibility of the respective State Governments and under the third tier, NRIDA engages independent National Quality Monitors (NQMs) for inspections at random, of the road works under the programme.

NRIDA has issued general guidelines and prescribed quality assurance hand books to regulate the quality control process at works level. Guidelines have also been issued for inspections of works by independent monitors under the second and third tier of the quality assurance mechanism. To make the inspections trustworthy, it is being ensured that independent monitors at the second and the third tier take at least 10 digital photographs including one of the field laboratories, for each work and upload it on **Online Monitoring, Management and Accounting System (OMMAS)** website to facilitate public viewing of quality of road works executed under the programme. Based on the experience gained, these guidelines have been reviewed and revised from time to time. A synopsis of the work carried out at each level of monitoring mechanism is detailed below:

Under the **1st tier of quality control** mechanism, the quality standards are enforced through in-house mechanism by establishing field laboratories and carrying out mandatory tests. In addition, to augment the field laboratories for non-frequent tests, state and district laboratories have been promoted in all States. As per the Programme Guidelines, a site quality control laboratory has to be set up by the contractor for each package. Payments are not made to the contractors unless quality control laboratory has been set up.

Under the **second tier**, independent monitoring of quality at the State level has been prescribed under the control of SRRDA. The SRRDA is required to monitor the quality of works by deploying State Quality Monitors (SQMs), independent of the implementing units and upload the abstract of quality grading along with photographs in OMMAS. These quality monitors check the establishment of field laboratories also. As per guidelines, each road work is inspected by the State Quality Monitors at three different stages. The first two inspections of every work should be carried out during the execution of work spaced at least three months apart and the last inspection should be carried out on the completion of every work, as soon as possible but preferably within 4 months of completion of the work.

The **third tier** of the quality mechanism is an independent monitoring system at the central level. Under this tier, retired senior engineers termed as National Quality Monitors (NQMs) are engaged for inspections of road works. Works for inspection are selected at random. The basic objective of this tier is to identify generic issues in quality assurance mechanism of the State. Also these provide on-site guidance to field staff for better understanding of specifications and good construction practices.

The NQM grades the work inspected in three categories viz. Satisfactory(S), Satisfactory Requiring Improvement (SRI) and Unsatisfactory (U). The States are required to send Action Taken Reports (ATRs) in respect of works graded as ‘Satisfactory Requiring Improvement’ and ‘Unsatisfactory’ by the NQMs during their field inspections. These ATRs are further processed at NRIDA and a decision about grade improvement is taken based on documentary proof including photographs of road work and recommendation of the SRRDA. The entire exercise of submission of ATRs by the States and taking of action on these ATRs has now been facilitated in the form of an “online process” on OMMAS.

Besides, in order to bring transparency & accountability in the maintenance of roads under Defect Liability Period (DLP), e-MARG has been implemented and all the States are on board e-MARG as on date. e-MARG is a GIS-based Enterprise e-Governance solution to aid and assist the officials, Contractors, Banks and general public. It is an end-to-end solution, which provides role-based access via internet. e-MARG focuses on upkeep of PMGSY roads in all circumstances, hence entails performance based evaluation of roads for making maintenance related payments of PMGSY roads that are under DLP.
