

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 438
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06/12/2023

COMPLETION OF DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES IN RURAL AREA

438 SHRI NARESH BANSAL:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Prime Minister has emphasized the need for new & time bound completion of development programmes in rural areas;
- (b) if so, the measures taken for speedier completion of development programmes in the last two years, especially for Uttarakhand and new programmes launched in this period for rural development; and
- (c) whether any new technology has been adopted for faster completion of projects without compromising the quality, if so, State-wise details for last two years?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b): Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD) accords emphasis for targeted implementation of its schemes/programmes throughout the country including the State of Uttarakhand. The programme-wise factors affecting performance are analysed and tailored actions are taken accordingly. Some of the major strategies in this regard are:

- i. In order to ensure that the schemes reach closure, the Ministry has evolved a comprehensive multi-level and multi-format system of monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of rural development schemes, including Performance Review Committee Meetings, District Development Co-ordination and Monitoring Committee (“DISHA”) meetings, National Level Monitors (NLMs), Area Officers Schemes, Common Review Mission, Concurrent Evaluation and Impact Assessment Studies. State specific reviews of States/UTs are also undertaken from time to time.
- ii. The schemes of the Rural Development have been brought upon end-to-end transaction based MIS, which enables all the stakeholders to monitor status of schemes in a real time basis. The works are photographed with geo-tags and time stamps. All the data of Rural Development schemes are available on public domain.
- iii. In addition to above, the Ministry has arranged for sufficient fund for completion of works and further, bottlenecks like forest clearance that require facilitation with Ministry of Environment and Forests or Banks are also arranged.
- iv. Social Audits are also conducted for some Schemes like Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (Mahatma Gandhi NREGS) and Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Gramin (PMAY-G). Appointment of Ombudsman is also made for attending to any grievances regarding Mahatma Gandhi NREGS works. In addition, grievance redressal is being given due attention in all schemes of the Rural Development.
- v. States are advised to recruit adequate staff for implementation of the programme. Norms have been laid for staffing. Funds are provided for supporting hiring of manpower and

other administrative expenditure. The training and orientation of programme manpower is also arranged from time to time.

- vi. Norms for administrative and technical oversight and audit have been laid down. Mobile application for inspection viz. Area Officer App has been developed. Similar apps have been developed or are under development in other areas too. The performance of officials are monitored against them.
- vii. Regular coordination with the State Govt. for preparation of the fund release proposals and documentation is made and timely advice is tendered to them in this regard. In cases of delay, the matter is escalated to higher levels for seeking release of funds.
- viii. Women networks, community based organisations and civil society organisations are mobilised for creating demand from below for proper implementation of the schemes.
- ix. Enhancement of cost norms for hilly and difficult areas, reduction of project period, effective convergence with similar schemes of the Central Government have been adopted under Watershed Development Component of the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana,

(c): The Ministry has adopted a number of technologies, ICT solutions including mobile apps, as well as guidelines for better implementation of the rural development for online monitoring of physical and financial progress, including:

(i) Under Mahatma Gandhi NREGS, Software for Estimate Calculation using rural Rates for Employment (SECURE) has been developed for work estimation and Technical/Administrative (Financial) approvals of works created under the scheme through NREGASoft. In coordination with Indian Space Research Organisation (National Remote Sensing Centre), a GIS based planning through online portal Yuktdhara has been developed by using remote/ space technology.

(ii) To promote cost-effective and fast construction, roads are being constructed using new materials, waste materials, locally available materials and introduction of green technologies which helps in fuel and bitumen savings such as cold mix technology, cement concrete block, cell filled concrete, panelled cement concrete and roller compacted concrete pavement, soil stabilization technologies like cement stabilization, terrazyme and zydex nano technology. The Ministry has also introduced one of the latest methodologies in the field of road construction called as Full Depth Reclamation (FDR). It is a sustainable technology for pavement rehabilitation, least cost alternative, and thinner surface course. It increases the structural capacity of new pavement by providing a stronger and more consistent base. Different New technologies being adopted for constructing rural roads through PMGSY plays an important role in Rural Development in India.

(iii) Under PMAY-G, the findings of the evaluation study “ Evaluation of CSS Scheme Rural Development Sector” in respect of PMAY-G by NITI Aayog has suggested that PMAY-G has been able to ensure efficient use of technology for smooth implementation of the scheme. With Geo-tagging of houses, house quality review module, tech-savvy financial modules the schemes is leveraging quite well on technology. The Ministry has recently introduced new IT initiatives which includes Liveliness Detection or Motion Detection Feature in Awaas app; a recommendation system, which uses image analytics for identification of house attributes and an eKYC app integrated with Aadhaar and bundled with AI-enabled face authentication technology to conduct verification of PMAY-G beneficiaries.
