

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1410
TO BE ANSWERED ON 02/08/2024

RURAL ROAD CONNECTIVITY

1410 DR. MEDHA VISHRAM KULKARNI:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the scheme to provide all-weather road connectivity to more than 1.5 lakh unconnected habitations in rural areas, including necessary culverts and cross-drainage structures, if so, details thereof, State-wise;
- (b) whether selection of proposed roads is based on criteria such as serving a population of over five hundred, access to markets and proximity to educational and medical facilities;
- (c) measures to ensure adequate funding for maintenance post the initial five-year period, the manner in which the eMARG system facilitates that; and
- (d) in what manner does the National Rural Infrastructure Development Agency (NRIDA) ensure quality assurance by independent National Quality Monitors (NQMs) for road works inspections?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
(SHRI KAMLESH PASWAN)

(a) & (b): Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana-I (PMGSY-I) was launched 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 and Himalayan Union Territories as per 2001 Census) in the core network for uplifting the socio-economic condition of the rural population. Relaxation has been provided to the Tribal (Schedule V) areas and selected Tribal and Backward Districts (as identified by the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) and the then Planning Commission) and unconnected habitations in these areas with a population of 250 persons and above in the Core Network as per 2001 Census for eligibility for connectivity under the scheme. 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 100 persons and above as per 2001 census. The scheme had also an element of upgradation where intermediate link roads, which were not upto the standards of all-weather roads, were taken up for upgradation to the prescribed standards.

Since inception, till 29.07.2024, in 250+ population category, 1,57,146 habitations have been sanctioned and 1,56,682 habitations have been provided connectivity in various states/ UTs. Under 100-249 population category in LWE areas, 6,245 habitations have been sanctioned and 6,045 habitations have been provided connectivity. The State-wise details of habitation provided

connectivity across various States/ UTs of the country are given at Annexure-I. These roads besides providing connectivity also provide access to other basic services like health, education and markets.

(c): All PMGSY road works are covered by initial five year (Defect Liability Period (DLP)) maintenance contracts to be entered into along with the construction contract, with the same contractor, as per the Standard Bidding Document of PMGSY. Maintenance funds to service the contract are required to be budgeted by the State Governments and placed at the disposal of the State Rural Roads Development Agencies (SRRDAs) in a separate maintenance account. On expiry of this 5 year post construction maintenance (post DLP period), PMGSY roads are required to be placed under Zonal maintenance contracts consisting of 5 year maintenance including renewal as per cycle, from time to time.

For IT based monitoring of maintenance of PMGSY roads in the DLP and post DLP phase, Electronic Maintenance of Rural Roads (eMARG) has been introduced. Payment to the contractor is to be made through eMARG which is based on the existing condition of road, its cross drainage works and traffic assets.

States have entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India for providing adequate funds for the DLP and post DLP period. The utilization of maintenance funds is reviewed in meetings held with the States at various levels.

(d): A three-tiered Quality Control mechanism is in place under PMGSY for ensuring construction of quality road works and durability of road assets under PMGSY including the works undertaken by sub-contractors. Under the third tier, independent National Quality Monitors (NQMs) are deployed by National Rural Infrastructure Development Agency (NRIDA) for random inspection of road and bridge works to monitor quality and also to provide guidance to the field functionaries. Based on the periodic monitoring of quality of roads, corrective measures, wherever necessary, are taken by the State Governments. NRIDA follow up with the Action Taken Report to be submitted by the various States/UTs based on the observations of the report of NQMs.

Annexure referred to in part (a) of reply of Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 1410 to be answered on 02.08.2024.

Sr. No.	States/UTs	Sanctioned		Connected		Balance	
		250+	100-249	250+	100-249	250+	100-249
1	A&N Islands	7	0	7	0	0	0
2	Andhra Pradesh	1,234	201	1,224	198	10	3
3	Arunachal Pradesh	641	0	609	0	32	0
4	Assam	13,721	0	13,717	0	4	0
5	Bihar	29,969	1,426	29,855	1,403	114	23
6	Chhattisgarh	9,736	1,188	9,592	1,022	144	166
7	Dadra And Nagar Haveli	0	0	0	0	0	0
8	Goa	0	0	0	0	0	0
9	Gujarat	3,048	0	3,048	0	0	0
10	Haryana	1	0	1	0	0	0
11	Himachal Pradesh	2,563	0	2,538	0	25	0
12	Jammu And Kashmir	2,140	0	2,129	0	11	0
13	Jharkhand	9,537	1,397	9,537	1,397	0	0
14	Karnataka	296	0	296	0	0	0
15	Kerala	404	0	402	0	2	0
16	Madhya Pradesh	17,529	12	17,527	9	2	3
17	Maharashtra	1,347	74	1,341	74	6	0
18	Manipur	652	0	622	0	30	0
19	Meghalaya	602	0	576	0	26	0
20	Mizoram	232	0	231	0	1	0
21	Nagaland	109	0	104	0	5	0
22	Odisha	15,313	1,688	15,307	1,684	6	4
23	Punjab	389	0	389	0	0	0
24	Rajasthan	15,976	0	15,976	0	0	0
25	Sikkim	350	0	350	0	0	0
26	Tamilnadu	1,985	0	1,985	0	0	0
27	Tripura	2,005	0	1,979	0	26	0
28	Uttar Pradesh	11,749	0	11,748	0	1	0
29	Uttarakhand	1,864	0	1,846	0	18	0
30	West Bengal	13,087	150	13,087	150	0	0
31	Telangana	595	109	595	108	0	1
32	Ladakh	65	0	64	0	1	0
Total		1,57,146	6,245	1,56,682	6,045	464	200
