

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2223
TO BE ANSWERED ON 13/12/2024

POOR QUALITY OF ROADS UNDER PMGSK

2223 SHRI PRAMOD TIWARI:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that poor quality roads and assets continue to be constructed under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSK) despite quality control mechanism;
- (b) if so, the details thereof during the last two years, State-wise; and
- (c) the action taken against those found guilty?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c) : As per programme guidelines of Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), ensuring the quality of road works is the responsibility of the respective State Governments who are implementing the programme. However, in order to monitor the quality of roads being constructed under the programme, a three tiered quality control mechanism, i.e. the Project Implementation Units as the first tier, State Quality Monitors(SQMs) as the second tier and National Quality Monitors(NQMs) as the third tier, is in place under PMGSY to ensure quality in construction of road works and the durability of road assets. Guidelines to regulate the quality control process have been issued to States from time to time.

Regular inspections of PMGSY works are being conducted under 2nd and 3rd tier of quality monitoring. The State Quality Coordinators (SQCs) of the respective States have been designated as Nodal Officer for receipt and handling the complaints. If a work is found unsatisfactory, on account of both structural or non-structural defects, the report is shared with the State Government highlighting the deficiencies and apprising the States to remove the defects. The contractor is required to rectify the defects on his own cost. The State submits the action taken report (ATR) after rectification.

A table indicating State-wise inspections conducted under 3rd tier of quality control mechanism viz-a-viz unsatisfactory (U) grading for the last two years is annexed as **Annexure**.

As regards the action taken against the contractors and field officials found guilty, it is done as per the policy of respective State.

To strengthen the quality check mechanism, the establishment of a geo-tagged field Lab has been made compulsory. Also, a new version of the Quality Monitoring System App has been developed to include e-forms and other initiatives that have strengthened quality monitoring systems. Consequent upon the introduction of e-Marg i.e. software module for maintenance payments to the contractor during the defect liability period, such payments have been made commensurate with the quality of roads through a performance-based contract management system. To ensure that people engaged in quality checks are adequately proficient and well trained, National Rural Infrastructure Development Agency(NRIDA) has been conducting mandatory proficiency tests of NQMs, and SQMs, The skills of NQMs, SQMs and PIUs are also being developed through training programmes, etc.

Further, to ensure that quality monitoring is being done properly on the ground, it has been made mandatory to set up a Quality Monitoring Cell under each State Rural Road Development Agency(SRRDA) and State Quality Coordinators (SQCs) have been entrusted with the task of scrutinizing all reports of SQMs and give a certificate to this effect to the Ministry. Concerned CEOs have also been asked to scrutinize the quality control registers periodically and submit a certificate to this effect to the Ministry while submitting proposals for fund release. The Action Taken Reports on observations by the NQMs are reviewed with the States for compliance. Performance of the NQMs as well as SQMs are also reviewed and such NQMs/SQMs are de-paneled whose performance is not found satisfactory or who give satisfactory inspection reports in majority of the cases without application of mind. The quality of PMGSY works is also reviewed regularly by the Ministry in various review meetings like the Performance Review Committee, Regional Review Meetings, and Empowered Committee. The Ministry has also strengthened the IT module for monitoring of quality of PMGSY works. In brief, the Ministry has taken up steps for monitoring and regulating the quality of PMGSY roads.

Annexure referred to in reply to parts (a) to (c) of Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2223, due for reply on 13th December, 2024

Number of NQM inspections viz-z-viz grading for the year 2023-2024 & 2024-2025 (upto 06.12.2024).

Sr.No.	State	Total No. of Inspections	Completed Works			Ongoing Works			Maintenance Works			Bridge Works		
			U	U%	Total	U	U%	Total	U	U%	Total	U	U%	Total
1	Andaman And Nicobar	29	0	0.00%	5	2	11.76%	17	2	28.57%	7	0	0.00%	0
2	Andhra Pradesh	278	0	0.00%	86	9	9.78%	92	8	13.33%	60	5	12.50%	40
3	Arunachal Pradesh	146	10	34.48%	29	13	22.03%	59	22	44.00%	50	7	87.50%	8
4	Assam	508	19	17.59%	108	17	8.81%	193	24	19.67%	122	14	16.47%	85
5	Bihar	654	14	11.86%	118	18	8.00%	225	21	14.29%	147	23	14.02%	164
6	Chhattisgarh	302	2	3.08%	65	2	3.33%	60	14	12.50%	112	9	13.85%	65
7	Gujarat	63	0	0.00%	32	2	7.69%	26	2	40.00%	5	0	0.00%	0
8	Haryana	96	6	16.67%	36	2	8.00%	25	6	17.14%	35	0	0.00%	0
9	Himachal Pradesh	204	8	13.11%	61	13	13.68%	95	19	40.43%	47	0	0.00%	1
10	Jammu And Kashmir	242	6	17.14%	35	13	13.00%	100	16	19.75%	81	9	34.62%	26
11	Jharkhand	538	14	15.91%	88	13	4.56%	285	19	22.89%	83	10	12.20%	82
12	Karnataka	264	8	10.81%	74	13	13.13%	99	12	14.12%	85	1	16.67%	6
13	Kerala	141	6	46.15%	13	12	14.46%	83	9	20.00%	45	0	0.00%	0
14	Ladakh	15	0	0.00%	3	0	0.00%	6	0	0.00%	6	0	0.00%	0
15	Madhya Pradesh	626	2	1.85%	108	11	5.05%	218	15	9.87%	152	27	18.24%	148
16	Maharashtra	489	5	7.81%	64	26	7.12%	365	16	34.04%	47	0	0.00%	13
17	Manipur	46	2	20.00%	10	4	25.00%	16	2	16.67%	12	0	0.00%	8
18	Meghalaya	229	6	8.70%	69	13	16.46%	79	16	23.19%	69	3	25.00%	12
19	Mizoram	74	6	19.35%	31	6	23.08%	26	7	41.18%	17	0	0.00%	0
20	Nagaland	65	8	61.54%	13	10	31.25%	32	14	70.00%	20	0	0.00%	0
21	Odisha	661	19	14.39%	132	30	10.45%	287	37	27.21%	136	16	15.09%	106
22	Punjab	229	5	9.43%	53	12	10.34%	116	7	11.67%	60	0	0.00%	0
23	Rajasthan	288	2	2.53%	79	3	2.86%	105	5	5.68%	88	0	0.00%	16
24	Sikkim	95	1	11.11%	9	5	16.67%	30	8	72.73%	11	13	28.89%	45
25	Tamil Nadu	315	1	1.56%	64	0	0.00%	129	3	2.73%	110	11	91.67%	12
26	Telangana	289	2	10.53%	19	17	11.41%	149	18	25.71%	70	4	7.84%	51
27	Tripura	100	1	3.45%	29	1	3.33%	30	13	31.71%	41	0	0.00%	0
28	Uttar Pradesh	761	16	8.21%	195	56	12.17%	460	21	19.81%	106	0	0.00%	0
29	Uttarakhand	291	12	21.05%	57	15	12.61%	119	34	50.75%	67	14	29.17%	48
30	West Bengal	241	7	15.22%	46	5	4.59%	109	26	30.23%	86	0	0.00%	0
	Total	8,279	188	10.86%	1,731	343	9.44%	3,635	416	21.04%	1,977	166	17.74%	936
