GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PLANNING

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1671
TO BE ANSWERED ON 09.05.2016

Development of Infrastructure and connectivity

1671. SHRI K.C.TYAGI:
SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL:
SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE:

Will the **Minister of PLANNING** be pleased to state:

(a) Whether Government is aware that the development of infrastructure and connectivity is the single most important factor to remove regional disparities;

(b) Whether Government has formulated any specific anti-poverty programmes with focus on development of infrastructure and connectivity; and

(c) If so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE FOR DEFENCE

(RAO INDERJIT SINGH)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) & (c) Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) a Centrally Sponsored Scheme was launched in December, 2000 as a special intervention of the Government of India with the broad objective of ensuring sustainable poverty reduction. PMGSY aims to provide good quality all-weather single connectivity to every eligible habitation. Since the beginning of the programme till March, 2016 a total of 1,16,310 habitations have been connected against the target of 1,78,000 across the country and a total length of 4,72,627 kms of roads has been constructed.

The Ministry of Road Transport & Highways has initiated mega road development programme in North East with name "Special accelerated Road Development Programme in North East (SARDP-NE)". The scope of the programme has been enlarged from time to time, since September, 2005. As on date Government has given approval for 2/4 laning of 6418 km of various categories of roads under Phase 'A' and Arunachal Package of SARDP-NE in entire North East at an estimated investment of about Rs.33,750 crore.

In addition, all the state capitals of the North East Region will be connected by broad gauge rail network by the year 2020. Rail connectivity has the impact on poverty alleviation. It will bring down prices of essential commodities particularly food grains.

During February 2009 the Government had approved a special programme for development of roads in Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected areas including Tribal Sub-Plan in the country spread over 34 districts in 8 States of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha and Uttar Pradesh. The Programme envisages development of 5,477 Km Roads (1,126 Km National Highways and 4351 km State Roads) to 2 lane standards at an estimated cost of Rs.7300 crore. An outlay of Rs.700 crore has been proposed for this programme for the year 2016-17.

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