O.I.H.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 873
TO BE ANSWERED ON 11.02.2019

REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE OF PMGSY ROADS

873. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a mechanism has been established to ensure the quality of roads being constructed under Pradhan Mantri Gramin Sadak Yojana;
(b) the standards set for ensuring the repair and maintenance of these roads after their construction;
(c) the details of number of incidents of violation of set standards regarding construction and maintenance thereof for the last three years; and
(d) the number of such lapses reported especially in Bihar and the action taken thereon, details thereof?

ANSWER
MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
(SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV)

(a): Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) has a very well structured three-tiered Quality Control mechanism for ensuring construction of quality road works and durability of road assets under PMGSY. Under the first tier, the Programme Implementation Units (PIUs) are required to ensure process control through mandatory tests on material and workmanship at field laboratory. The second tier is a structured independent quality monitoring at the State level through State Quality Monitors (SQMs) to ensure that every work is inspected at initial stage, middle stage and final stage of the construction. Under the third tier, independent National Quality Monitors (NQMs) are deployed for random inspection of road works to monitor quality and also to provide guidance of senior professionals to the field functionaries. Based on the periodic monitoring of quality of roads under the 3-tier mechanism, corrective measures, wherever necessary, are taken by the State Governments.

(b): As per the programme guidelines, Maintenance of rural roads constructed under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) is the responsibility of the State Government. The State Governments are required to undertake the maintenance of the entire Core Network, particularly the road works constructed/upgraded under the PMGSY. All road works constructed under PMGSY are covered by initial five year maintenance contracts to be entered into along with the construction contract, with the same contractor, as per the Standard Bidding Document. During the routine maintenance period, the road is to be

maintained to the serviceable standards as defined in chapter 11 of the Rural Roads Manual SP 20 (2002) and as per the maintenance specifications contained in Ministry of Rural Development specifications for Rural roads 2014. On expiry of this 5 year post construction maintenance, 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.

(c): During the period of construction and maintenance of the road, the quality of work is checked by PIUS/ SQMs & NQMs and the same is notified to the executing agency. Based on the inspections carried out by NQMs, the total number of projects initially graded 'Unsatisfactory (U)', during last three years including the current year is indicated below:

Completed works		Ongoing works		Maintenance	
Total	U%	Total	U%	Total	U%
2308	7.27%	13730	8.59%	6460	27.11%

Defects indicated by NQM have been rectified in significant number of these projects and detailed Action Taken Report (ATR) has been furnished by the concerned PIU.

(d): The total number of projects reported to have unsatisfactory quality grading initially by NQMs during the last three years including current year in the State of Bihar is given below:

Completed works		Ongoing works		Maintenance	
Total	U%	Total	U%	Total	U%
543	12.89%	1768	14.59%	980	43.67%

The State has informed that punitive action has been taken against the concerned Engineers and Contractors responsible for these lapses. One Executive engineer has been dismissed, one Executive Engineer demoted, three Engineers punished by withholding two increments with metastatic effect and withholding promotion for three years. 106 Contractors have been blacklisted, 3682 suspended. 351 works were terminated and 242 certificate cases have been filed against the Contractor to recover the money.

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