

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2380**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 08/08/2025

**ROADS CONSTRUCTED UNDER PMGSY IN SIKKIM**

2380 Shri Dorjee Tshering Lepcha:

Will the Minister of Rural Development be pleased to state:

- (a) the total length of roads constructed under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) in the last five years in Sikkim, year-wise;
- (b) the budget allocated and spent on PMGSY in the current financial year;
- (c) the impact of PMGSY on rural connectivity and economic development, particularly in Sikkim; and
- (d) the measures taken to ensure the quality and durability of roads constructed under PMGSY?

**ANSWER**

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

(a): Under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), a total of 730.26 km of road length has been constructed by the State of Sikkim under the various verticals of the PMGSY during the last five years. The year-wise details are given below: -

FY	Length constructed (km)
2020-21	156.95
2021-22	141.12
2022-23	281.85
2023-24	94.43
2024-25	55.91
Total:	730.26

(b): The budget allocation is being made under the PMGSY based on the total number of projects in progress, the expenditure incurred, and the liabilities from previous years. This allocation may change depending on the new project approvals/ sanctions in the current financial year. The State of Sikkim has been allocated an amount of Rs 175 Crore in FY 2025-26. During the current financial year, a total of 50.62 crores of expenditure (including State share) has been incurred under PMGSY by the State of Sikkim.

(c): The State has informed that during the last 25 years a total of 4,757.00 kms of road length was constructed under PMGSY verticals in Sikkim. The roads constructed have connected the remote villages and habitations, including tourist destinations, as well as State and International border areas. Rural public has benefited from better road connectivity for transportation of

agricultural products, milk and dairy products, livestock etc. from villages to nearby markets, thereby resulting in economic development of rural areas. The tourist destinations that were isolated earlier were also connected with rural roads. More local youth have found employment in the tourism sector through travel agencies, home stays and hotels. Small to medium-scale business have also started flourishing.

Furthermore, various independent evaluation studies, conducted by NITI Aayog, Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad (IIM-A), World Bank and International Labour Organisation (ILO), Birla Institute of Technology & Science (BITS), Pilani etc., on PMGSY have concluded that PMGSY has improved access to education and health care facilities, facilitated employment generation in both farm and non-farm sectors, helped farmers in getting better farm prices etc. PMGSY roads have provided better education opportunities to the children, particularly the girl child, to continue their education beyond the elementary school level. Health facilities are accessible to people. Women have been the major beneficiary, with most of the childbirth taking place in government hospitals, and their participation in financial decisions has increased, and it is reflected in their market accessibility.

(d): To bring execution of the programme to the desired quality standards, a three-tier quality management mechanism has been institutionalised under PMGSY. First-tier of this mechanism is in-house quality control at the Programme Implementation Unit (PIU) level. The objective of this tier is process control through mandatory tests on material at the field laboratory and workmanship. Second-tier is structured as an independent quality monitoring at the State level through State Quality Monitors (SQMs), in which the provision of regular inspection of works has been envisaged for ensuring better quality. Under the Third-tier, independent National Quality Monitors (NQMs) are deployed by NRIDA for inspection of road works on a random sample basis, not only to monitor quality but also to provide guidance by senior professionals to the field functionaries. The observations of NQMs are sent for action to the State Governments, and Action Taken Reports (ATRs) are monitored at NRIDA. Roads under PMGSY are constructed following the Indian Roads Congress (IRC) standards and specifications to ensure high quality.

Under the PMGSY, roads are covered under a 5-year maintenance contract to be entered into along with a construction contract with the same contractor as per the Standard Bidding Document (SBD). Since the design life of PMGSY roads is ten years, the States have to undertake further five years of maintenance. The new connectivity under PMGSY-IV will be permitted to only those States/UTs who have demonstrated through electronic Maintenance of Rural Roads (eMARG) platform that the routine maintenance of PMGSY roads constructed in their State, post 5 years of construction of the road, has been carried out. The post five-year construction module of eMARG incorporates initial rehabilitation, renewal, pre- renewal routine maintenance, post-renewal maintenance and emergency repair works, as required.

Besides the above, several measures have been adopted to ensure the durability of the roads being constructed under the scheme. The details are as under:

- i. Roads under PMGSY are constructed following the Indian Roads Congress (IRC) standards and specifications to ensure high quality.
- ii. Innovative and sustainable construction techniques are increasingly adopted for roads in challenging terrains.
- iii. In light of climate change impacts, efforts are focused on designing roads that can withstand extreme weather conditions. This includes improved drainage systems, disaster-resilient structures, and alignment planning to minimize vulnerabilities.

iv. Training programs are organized for engineers and contractors to familiarize them with the latest technologies, materials

In addition to the above, implementation of PMGSY is regularly reviewed by the Ministry by way of Regional Review Meetings (RRMs), Performance Review Committee (PRC) Meetings, and Pre-Empowered/ Empowered Committee Meetings with the States. Special review meetings/monthly review meetings are also held by the Secretary/ Additional Secretary/ Joint Secretary, Ministry of Rural Development, with Chief Secretaries/Principal Secretaries of the States to take stock of the progress of the scheme, including quality and maintenance aspects. The implementation of all sanctioned works, including their maintenance, is regularly monitored through an online programme, Monitoring Information System named Online Management, Monitoring and Accounting System (OMMAS) on real real-time basis.

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