

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 777
TO BE ANSWERED ON 25/07/2025

RURAL CONNECTIVITY UNDER PMGSY-III IN HILL STATES

777 Shri Rameswar Teli:

Will the Minister of Rural Development be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of infrastructure projects recently approved under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana-III (PMGSY-III) for improving rural connectivity in the States of Manipur, Mizoram, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand;
- (b) the manner in which these projects would strengthen access to education, health services and markets in remote areas;
- (c) whether these projects are being implemented in accordance with sustainable development keeping in view the sensitive ecology of hill areas; and
- (d) whether the enhanced connectivity under PMGSY-III would help in promoting trade, commerce and inter-State movement in the North Eastern region?

ANSWER

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

(a): The details of roads and bridges sanctioned under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana-III (PMGSY-III) in the States of Manipur, Mizoram, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand are as below:

State	No. of roads sanctioned	Road length sanctioned (in Km)	No of bridges sanctioned
Manipur	97	783.209	0
Mizoram	17	487.504	7
Himachal Pradesh	299	3,123.117	43
Uttarakhand	212	2,287.948	9

(b): PMGSY-III aims to consolidate the existing Rural Road Network by upgradation of existing Through Routes and Major Rural Links that connect habitations to Gramin Agricultural Markets (GrAMs), Higher Secondary Schools and Hospitals. The upgradation of existing Through Routes and Major Rural Links is based on priority of the proposed work in connecting critical facilities like the rural markets and education & health facilities.

Various independent evaluation studies, conducted by NITI Aayog, Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad (IIM-A), World Bank and International Labour Organization (ILO), Birla Institute of Technology & Science (BITS), Pilani etc. on PMGSY have concluded that it 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 girl child to continue their education beyond the elementary school level. Health facilities are being accessible to people. Women have been the major beneficiary, with most of the child birth taking place in government hospitals and also their participation in financial decisions has increased and it is reflected in their market accessibility. This scheme also addresses the various Sustainable Development Goals on poverty alleviation.

(c): PMGSY has promoted the use of local, non-conventional and green technologies in rural roads construction. Environment-friendly green technologies such as Cold Mix Technology, Waste Plastics, Full Depth Reclamation (FDR), Cell-filled Concrete, Panelled Cement Concrete etc. are being used in the construction of roads under PMGSY-III. These technologies not only reduce the depletion of good quality conventional materials but also minimize the damage to environment from emission of green house gases and heavy suspended particles in the air.

The standards for construction of roads under PMGSY are based on as per site conditions. The rural roads under PMGSY-III are constructed as per technical specifications and geometric design standards given in Ministry of Rural Development Specifications for Rural Roads, Rural Roads Manual IRC SP: 20: 2002, IRC SP : 72: 2015 and also where required, the Hill Roads Manual IRC SP: 48 and other IRC Codes/ guidelines.

(d): Yes. Improved rural road network contributes to strengthening rural economies by facilitating easier transport of goods to markets. Enhanced connectivity will foster economic growth & trade, generate employment opportunities through construction and maintenance jobs and also facilitate tourism in the North Eastern Region of the country.
