

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1737
TO BE ANSWERED ON 13/02/2026

ROAD CONNECTIVITY TO TRIBAL AREAS

1737 Shri Mallikarjun Kharge:

Will the Minister of Rural Development be pleased to state:

- (a) number of road projects sanctioned, and total length of roads constructed in tribal dominated areas under various schemes, including Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), during the last five years, year-wise and State-wise;
- (b) status of incomplete or ongoing road works in tribal regions, including reasons for delays, if any;
- (c) whether the Ministry has assessed quality and durability of such roads, particularly their ability to withstand monsoons, hilly terrain, and other challenging local conditions; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and whether any steps have been taken to improve design standards, maintenance, or all-weather resilience of roads in tribal areas?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b): Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) is an area-development initiative providing all-weather connectivity to eligible habitations based on population criteria, which is relaxed to 250+ in Tribal Schedule-V areas and 100+ in Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected blocks. Since its inception, 8,48,025 km of road length has been sanctioned, and 7,89,652 km has been completed. Specific interventions for tribal areas include the Dharti Aaba Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan (DA-JGUA) under which 2,751 km road length has been sanctioned in FY 2025-26. Additionally, the PM-JANMAN vertical targets areas inhabited by Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs), with 7,324 km sanctioned and 1,675 km completed till date. The state-wise details of the number of road projects sanctioned and total length of roads constructed in tribal dominated areas under PMGSY may be seen at <https://pmgsy.dord.gov.in=>ProgressMonitoring=>State MPR Abstract Report>.

Details of projects sanctioned and completed under PM-JANMAN during the last five years State-wise and year-wise may be seen at <https://pmgsy.dord.gov.in=>ProgressMonitoring=>Financial Year-wise Achievement>.

MGNREGS also facilitates construction of internal village roads, details of which are given in the **Annexure**.

Delays in ongoing works in tribal regions are primarily due to difficult hilly terrain, forest clearance requirements, limited local availability of construction materials, and localised law and order challenges.

(c) & (d): To ensure the quality and durability of these roads in challenging conditions, all projects are designed as per Indian Roads Congress (IRC) standards, including specific manuals for Rural and Hill Roads. The Ministry implements a rigorous three-tier Quality Assurance Mechanism comprising in-house control by Project Implementation Units, independent state-level monitoring and random central-level inspections by National Quality Monitors who upload geotagged reports to the OMMAS portal. Durability is further guaranteed by a mandatory five-year post-construction maintenance contract with the original contractor, followed by state-funded zonal maintenance. To enhance resilience and transparency, the Ministry has also institutionalized periodic joint field inspections involving Hon'ble Members of Parliament, MLAs and local Panchayat representatives.

To optimize resources and ensure the durability of assets under MGNREGA, road construction must adhere to systematic technical norms covering site selection, design and execution. The scheme focuses exclusively on providing new connectivity to village roads and other district roads (ODR) in habitations with populations below 500 in plains and 250 in special category states, as identified via a "P-Net" map approved by the Gram Sabha and District Planning Committee. High priority is accorded to roads leading to Sansad Adarsh Gram Yojana (SAGY) villages. Technical specifications are tailored to local conditions, with inter-habitation roads utilizing gravel or thin bituminous sealing based on subgrade strength (CBR values), while internal village roads utilize cement concrete or fly ash blocks with integrated drainage.

Implementation is decentralized, with Gram Panchayats executing local farm-net roads and higher-level bodies managing inter-habitation links, all while adhering to PMGSY's quality assurance protocols and Standard Operating Procedures. To prevent wasteful expenditure, the scheme strictly prohibits reconstruction on the same stretch for at least 10 years for concrete roads and 5 years for gravel roads, a condition that must be verified during the technical sanction process. Maintenance remains the responsibility of Gram Panchayats, utilizing Finance Commission funds to ensure the long-term productivity and reliability of the rural road network.

Annexure referred to in reply to parts (a) & (b) of Unstarred Question No. 1737 due for answer in the Rajya Sabha on 13.02.2026

State/UT-wise details of roads constructed and ongoing under the Rural Connectivity category during the last five years and the current year under MGNREGS (as on 10th February 2026)								
S No.	State	Number of works completed						Ongoing
		2025-2026	2024-2025	2023-2024	2022-2023	2021-2022	2020-2021	
1	Arunachal Pradesh	1,003	1,267	742	338	932	775	3,729
2	Assam	1,926	4,163	899	380	1,905	3,195	7,461
3	Bihar	12,185	41,690	40,993	20,843	41,905	36,586	91,105
4	Chhattisgarh	2,810	5,973	5,967	4,147	2,932	3,237	3,104
5	Goa	8	69	2	5	26	35	136
6	Gujarat	3,332	14,165	4,875	5,465	6,190	5,971	13,104
7	Haryana	1,359	3,865	1,333	1,353	5,618	4,673	7,148
8	Himachal Pradesh	9,546	15,289	11,948	13,827	11,420	11,448	22,106
9	Jammu & Kashmir	3,798	16,452	10,520	16,596	22,358	19,334	1,40,628
10	Jharkhand	854	2,551	2,207	1,988	1,751	1,720	7,353
11	Karnataka	14,538	43,590	32,761	34,335	19,725	20,144	50,579
12	Kerala	4,121	13,999	15,762	13,406	11,102	9,396	15,297
13	Ladakh	744	1,643	706	916	390	152	534
14	Maharashtra	10,528	7,571	4,565	4,780	4,171	3,777	48,854
15	Manipur	2,289	2,431	2,094	386	2,280	2,999	9,796
16	Meghalaya	3,016	8,503	4,548	2,836	2,826	6,182	24,873
17	Mizoram	1,265	1,880	1,986	1,714	1,822	1,928	461
18	Nagaland	516	902	1,105	218	720	1,006	2,095
19	Odisha	8,510	14,711	15,226	27,382	16,253	8,931	49,291
20	Punjab	5,179	14,861	15,854	13,717	14,423	10,964	20,143
21	Rajasthan	9,932	43,107	19,792	13,144	16,171	12,873	86,094
22	Sikkim	170	285	208	234	247	233	438
23	Tamil Nadu	6,135	14,092	17,210	17,734	11,986	5,337	24,856
24	Telangana	15,179	19,338	17,423	18,175	26,403	11,999	91,345
25	Tripura	1,161	3,237	3,114	3,690	3,522	5,259	3,274
26	Uttar Pradesh	54,314	78,645	67,376	86,313	46,527	50,121	1,67,146
27	Uttarakhand	3,367	5,888	6,476	9,652	4,321	6,450	10,529
28	West Bengal	1,850	117	469	6,913	40,144	35,690	23,079
29	Andaman & Nicobar	15	29	32	2	29	26	76
30	DN Haveli & DD	1	-	-	-	-	-	11
31	Lakshdweep	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
32	Puducherry	13	41	17	26	17	30	56
	Total	1,79,664	3,80,354	3,06,210	3,20,515	3,18,116	2,80,471	9,24,706
