

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

**LOK SABHA**  
**STARRED QUESTION NO. 397**  
ANSWERED ON 28/03/2023

**DELAY IN COMPLETION OF ROADS BY CONTRACTORS UNDER PMGSY**

\*397. SHRI PRINCE RAJ:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has any policy to restrict private players who quote 'abnormally low bid' for construction of roads under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), delaying the projects after getting them awarded and also compromising with the quality of work and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether there is any other mechanism to check such cases as blacklisting the contractors is not a proper solution to this problem and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the number of such cases registered in Samastipur and Darbhanga districts of Bihar along with their current status?

**ANSWER**  
MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
(SHRI GIRIRAJ SINGH)

(a) to (c)      A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**Statement referred to in reply to Parts (a) to (c) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 397 due for answer on 28.03.2023**

(a) &(b) Rural Road is a State subject and Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) is a one-time special intervention of Central Government to improve the Rural Infrastructure through construction of roads for providing connectivity to eligible habitations. The rural roads under PMGSY are constructed, maintained and owned by the respective State Governments. As such, the responsibility to ensure various aspects of implementation of the programme viz. quality, timely completion of these roads etc. lies with the State Governments.

In order to bring uniformity in award of works sanctioned under PMGSY, National Rural Infrastructure Development Agency, a technical arm of the Ministry has developed Standard Bidding Document (SBD). States are required to follow the various provisions of SBD in the matter of award of works sanctioned under PMGSY. To address the issue arising out of bidders quoting Abnormally Low Bids (ALBs), provisions of taking the additional performance security from the contractor have been made in the SBD. All the states have been advised to deal with cases of ALBs as per SBD provisions.

Besides a three-tiered Quality Control mechanism is in place under PMGSY for ensuring construction of quality road works and durability of road assets under PMGSY including the works undertaken by sub-contractors. Under the first tier, the Programme Implementation Units (PIUs) are required to ensure process control through mandatory tests on material and workmanship at the 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, intermediate stage and final stage of the construction. Under the third tier, which is at the national level, 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.

States have also been asked to make provision for additional inspections by State Quality Monitors on the PMGSY works which have been quoted at 15% or below price. NQM inspections are also being conducted on such works by NRIDA on a random basis.

(c) The award of works sanctioned by the Ministry under PMGSY is done by the State Government and blacklisting of contractors for any lapse in implementation of the programme is also done by the respective State Government. No centralized data is maintained in this regard by the Ministry. As per information received from the state of Bihar, no contractor has been blacklisted for bad quality of roads in the districts of Samastipur and Darbhanga. However, 1 contractor has been blacklisted due to uploading of forged audit report for tender works in Darbhanga district.

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