GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2051 ANSWERED ON 01/08/2023

ROAD CONNECTIVITY TO FARMLANDS IN TELANGANA

2051. SHRI ANUMULA REVANTH REDDY:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the fact that road connectivity to farmlands is poor in the country due to which it is inconvenient to transport agriculture produce;
- (b) if so, the details of the funds allocated and utilized in this regard during the last five years and the current year, State and district-wise particularly for Telangana;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the Government has received any proposals from the State Government of Telangana regarding provisions to increase the road connectivity to farmlands in rural areas;
- (e) if so, the details thereof along with the action taken by the Government in this regard; and
- (f) the details of steps taken by the Government to increase road connectivity to farmlands during each of the last five years, State and district-wise particularly for Telangana?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI)

(a) to (f): 'Rural Roads' is a State subject. Pradhan Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) was launched in the year 2000 as a one-time special intervention to provide rural connectivity, by way of a single all-weather road, to the eligible unconnected habitations of designated population size (500+ in plain areas and 250+ in North-Eastern States, Himalayan States and Himalayan Union Territories, Deserts and Tribal Areas as per 2001 census) in the core network for uplifting the socio-economic condition of the rural population. The Government of India subsequently widened the ambit of the programme and launched PMGSY-II in 2013 for upgradation of the

existing network of rural roads to increase its efficiency and PMGSY-III in 2019 for consolidation of the existing rural road network by upgradation of existing Through Routes and Major Rural Links that connect habitations, *inter-alia*, to Gramin Agricultural Markets (GrAMs), Higher Secondary Schools and Hospitals.

Farmlands lying along the alignment of the PMGSY roads can benefit from increased access. Various independent impact evaluation studies on PMGSY roads have concluded, inter-alia, that the construction/ upgradation of PMGSY roads have increased the share of crops transported to markets for sale. Farmers selling food grains traveled farther after the PMGSY roads were built, for better price of their crops.

There is no scope under the PMGSY verticals for proposing road connectivity to access farmlands.

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