GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1244 ANSWERED ON 30/07/2024

UNCONNECTED HABITATIONS UNDER PMGSY IN TAMIL NADU

1244 Dr. KalanidhiVeeraswamy:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENTbe pleased to state:

- (a) the salient features of the Pradhan Mantri Gram SadakYojana (PMGSY);
- (b) the details of the funds sanctioned, allocated and utilized under this yojana within TamilNadu so far;
- (c) the details of the number of unconnected habitations which have been identified under thisyojana within Tamil Nadu so far;
- (d) the details of the eligible unconnected habitations which have been connected under thisyojana within Tamil Nadu so far;
- (e) the details of the road lengths which have been constructed under this yojana in TamilNadu so far; and
- (f) the steps being taken by the Government with regard to bringing in transparency and citizen engagement in registering of complaints regarding quality of construction and pace of construction?

ANSWER

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

(a) Pradhan Mantri Gram SadakYojana (PMGSY) was launched 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 as per 2001 census) in the core network for uplifting the socio-economic condition of the rural population. Relaxation was provided to the Tribal (Schedule V) areas and Selected Tribal and Backward

Districts (as identified by the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) and Planning Commission) and unconnected habitations in these areas with a population of 250 persons and above, in the Core Network as per Census 2001, for eligibility under the scheme. In the critical Left Wing Extremism affected blocks (as identified by Ministry of Home Affairs), additional relaxation has been given to connect habitations with population 100 persons and above as per 2001 census.

The mandate of PMGSY has been subsequently widened to include new interventions. PMGSY-II was launched in the year 2013, with a target to upgrade 50,000 Kms of the existing rural road network to improve its overall efficiency as a provider of transportation services for people, goods and services.

Road Connectivity Project for Left Wing Extremism Affected Areas (RCPLWEA) was launched in the year 2016 for construction/upgradation of strategically important roads chosen in the 44 worst affected LWE districts and adjoining districts in the 9 Andhra States of Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Uttar Telangana and Pradesh.

PMGSY-III was launched in the year 2019 for consolidation of 1,25,000 Km Through Routes and Major Rural Links connecting habitations, interalia, to Gramin Agricultural Markets (GrAMs), Higher Secondary Schools and Hospitals.

The main features of PMGSY are decentralized and evidence based planning, standards and specifications as per Indian Road Congress (IRC) and Rural Roads Manual, dedicated implementation mechanism at Central, State and district level, scrutiny of Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) at multiple levels, strong IT backbone for monitoring and implementation of the programme, three-tier quality management system, unbroken flow of funds, inbuilt mechanism for consultation with public representatives in planning, selection and monitoring of works, etc.

(b) A total of Rs.6,493.71Crore has been sanctioned/released to the State of Tamil Nadu as on date since inception. The State has reported an expenditure of Rs.8,606.40crore (including State Share) since inception (upto 24th July, 2024). During current financial year 2024-25, the state has been released Rs.195.75 crore under PMGSY and the expenditure incurred by the State is Rs.169.44 crore.

- (c) to (d) Since inception under PMGSY (upto 24th July, 2024), a total of 1985 habitations were found eligible for connecting under PMGSY and all 1985 habitations have been connected with roads.
- (e) A total of 26,578 Km road length has been sanctioned under various ongoing interventions/verticals of PMGSY to the State of Tamil Nadu, out of which 23,449 Km road length has already been completed and 2,950 Km road length are at various stages of execution. The intervention/vertical wise physical achievements under PMGSY since inception till 24.07.2024 are given below:

(Road length in Km)

Name of	Sanctioned	Completed	Balance*
intervention/vertical			
PMGSY-I	16320	16168	0
PMGSY-II	2940	2937	0
PMGSY III	7318	4344	2,950
Total:	26,578	23,449	2,950

^{*} Balance road length is less than the difference of sanctioned and completed length due to the reasons that some projects were completed with less than the sanctioned length due to reduction in road length, change in alignment, construction of part length by other agencies, etc.

(f) PMGSY envisages a three tier Quality Assurance Mechanism viz. Programme Implementing Units (PIUs), State Quality Monitors (SQMs) and National Quality Monitors (NQMs) to ensure quality of road works during construction. The abstract of inspection reports of the NQMs and SQMs are uploaded on PMGSY programme management & monitoring website i.e. OMMAS, to facilitate public viewing of quality of road works being executed under the programme.

Ministry has also launched "MeriSadak" Mobile App for citizens to enable them to submit their feedback/ grievances related to PMGSY roads. Further, to promote transparency and effective monitoring, the PMGSY guidelines have provivisions for joint inspection of works by Engineering Staff and the public representatives.