

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3551
ANSWERED ON 17/12/2024**

INVESTMENT ON RURAL ROADS

**3551. SHRI ARVIND GANPAT SAWANT:
SHRI SHRIRANG APPA CHANDU BARNE:**

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether investment on rural roads has a vital role to play in waging war against rural poverty, if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) whether rural road planning in the country needs to be strengthened and modified as per the present-day needs;**
- (c) whether there is a proposal to build 62,500 km. rural roads by 2029;**
- (d) if so, the details of rural road planned to be built State/District-wise particularly in Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh including Balaghat district;**
- (e) the details of the road constructed under PMGSY in Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh during the last ten years along with the share of the Government of Maharashtra thereon; and**
- (f) the details of steps taken by the Government for improving infrastructure and connectivity across rural areas, particularly in Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh?**

ANSWER

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

(a) to (f): Pradhan Mantri gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) is a one-time special intervention of Government of India to provide rural connectivity, by way of a single all-weather road, to the eligible unconnected habitations in the core network. It was launched in the year 2000 as a poverty alleviation measure in rural areas by ensuring access of rural population to basic services through good quality roads. The programme covered unconnected habitations with a population of 500+ in the plain areas and 250+ in the hilly and

North Eastern States, desert areas and identified backward districts. Later on the programme was extended to habitations having population of 100 or more in Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected blocks.

PMGSY-II was launched in May, 2013 and envisages consolidation 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 with an aim to improve the road connectivity in 44 worst affected LWE districts and some adjoining districts in 9 States, viz. Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Telangana and Uttar Pradesh. The scheme has twin objectives of enabling smooth and seamless anti-LWE operations by the security forces and also ensuring socio-economic development of the area.

The Government approved PMGSY-III in July, 2019 for consolidation of 1,25,000 Km Through Routes and Major Rural Links connecting habitations, inter-alia to Gramin Agricultural Markets (GrAMs), Higher Secondary Schools and Hospitals.

Recently, Government of India has approved phase IV of PMGSY in September 2024 to provide all-weather connectivity to 25,000 unconnected habitations of population size 500+ in plains, 250+ in NE & Hill States/UTs, special category areas (Tribal Schedule V, Aspirational Districts/Blocks, Desert areas) and 100+ in LWE affected districts, as per Census 2011. The timeline for completion of PMGSY-IV is March 2029. The survey for eligible unconnected habitations is being carried out by the States with the use of Gram Sadak Survey App. The Ministry is coordinating closely with the State Governments and providing the required assistance.

During last ten years, the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) has led to significant infrastructure development in Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh. In Maharashtra, 1,160 roads spanning 8,192 kilometers and 815 Long Span Bridges (LSBs) have been constructed. Meanwhile, in Madhya Pradesh, a total of 8,154 roads covering 38,848 kilometers and 1,337 LSBs have been constructed.
