

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2838
ANSWERED ON 18/03/2025**

WORK STUDY UNDER PMGSY

2838. SMT. BHARTI PARDHI:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has conducted any study in respect of Pradhan Mantri Gramin Sadak Yojana (PMGSY);**
- (b) if so, the extent to which the PMGSY has been effective in improving rural connectivity particularly in Balaghat district of Madhya Pradesh, State and district-wise;**
- (c) the details of challenges faced in this regard;**
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to address these challenges to achieve the target;**
- (e) whether there has been inordinate delay in achieving the targets under the first and second phases of PMGSY; and**
- (f) if so, the reasons therefor and the corrective steps being proposed for the construction and completion of the remaining length of roads under these two phases?**

ANSWER

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

(a) &(b): Impact evaluation studies of Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) have been conducted by many agencies viz. NITI Aayog, International Labour Organization (ILO), Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad (IIM-A) and the World Bank. These studies have concluded that the scheme has improved access to education and health care facilities, facilitated employment generation in both farm and non-farm sectors and has helped farmers in getting better farm prices etc. The latest evaluation has been done by the NITI Aayog, in the year 2020, which has made the following observations about the scheme:

- i. Scheme is well aligned with India's International Goals and contributes to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), as it addresses the issues of poverty, hunger and infrastructure for growth;**
- ii. Roads constructed under PMGSY have been observed to create a positive impact both at the level of the household and the community;**
- iii. The roads have been observed to increase access to market and livelihood opportunities, health and education facilities; and**
- iv. PMGSY is noted to build the foundations for long-lasting poverty reduction in rural India. Improved rural connectivity provides a long-term and sustained boost in the living standards of rural population as it allows households to accumulate wealth and human capital.**

Under the various interventions/verticals of PMGSY, a total of 89,725 km of road length and 1,413 bridges have been completed and 17,539 habitations have been provided connectivity in the State of Madhya Pradesh. In the district of Balaghat, a total of 2,712 km of road length and 121 bridges have been completed and 423 habitations have been provided connectivity under PMGSY.

(c) & (d): While implementing the scheme, the State had to face many challenges, such as difficult and hilly terrain, security related issues, inadequate contracting capacity, disruptions in working season, land availability and forest clearance issues, etc.

The progress of implementation of rural roads under PMGSY is regularly reviewed by way of Regional Review Meetings (RRMs), Performance Review Committee (PRC) Meetings, Pre-Empowered/Empowered Committee Meetings with the States. At District level, the District Development Coordination and Monitoring Committee (DISHA) monitors the implementation of various Central schemes including PMGSY. In addition to this, special review meetings/monthly review meetings are also held by Secretary/Additional Secretary/Joint Secretary, Ministry of Rural

Development with Chief Secretaries/Principal Secretaries of the States for review of progress under PMGSY.

(e) & (f): The sunset date of PMGSY-I was March 2019 and for PMGSY-II it was March 2020. The timeline was extended due to the various reasons, such as due to the disruption caused by the COVID-19, adverse weather conditions, law and order issues, land availability, pending clearances etc. The current timeline of PMGSY-I, II, III & RCPLWEA is March 2025. Almost all the works have been completed by the State of Madhya Pradesh under PMGSY-I&II except 15 km under PMGSY-I & 7 km under PMGSY-II.

The Ministry of Rural Development has taken the following initiatives to ensure completion of the sanctioned PMGSY Projects within the time-line prescribed in the programme guidelines:

(i) The Operational Manual of the PMGSY has been amended to ensure that all works sanctioned under the scheme commence on the ground within 72 days from the date of sanction.

(ii) States have been requested to augment executing capacity and contracting capacity and their compliance in this regard is regularly reviewed.

(iii) Bidding document provisions have been rationalized.

(iv) Training is being imparted to field engineers and contractors as well as their staff for capacity building.

(v) The Ministry has engaged Central Public Sector Undertakings (CPSUs) in some of the States to augment execution capacity of the States.

(vi) The Ministry has also conducted a number of Contractor's Outreach Programmes in the States to attract the Contractors in the implementation of the programme.

(vii) Information Technology is being utilized for monitoring of the progress of works.
