

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5013
ANSWERED ON 01/04/2025**

IMPROVEMENT OF RURAL ROAD CONNECTIVITY

5013. SMT. PRATIMA MONDAL:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of progress made under the Pradhan Mantri Gram SadakYojana (PMGSY) to improve rural road connectivity;**
- (b) the manner in which the Government plans to address gaps in coverage; and**
- (c) the details of specific steps taken to support rural artisans, self-help groups and smallscale entrepreneurs, ensuring a steady source of income?**

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b): Rural Connectivity is one of the key components in rural development and contributes crucially towards alleviating poverty. A good quality all-weather road contributes to the generation of additional agricultural incomes, productive employment, improved access to health, education, etc. Keeping that in view, the Government of India launched Pradhan Mantri Gram SadakYojana (PMGSY) (referred to as PMGSY-I) on 25th December 2000 with the primary objective of providing all-weather road connectivity to the eligible unconnected habitations in rural India (500 persons and above in plains & 250 persons and above in hilly and NE areas, special category areas as per the 2001 census).

Since its inception up to 28th March 2025, a total of 644,875 km of road length has been sanctioned out of which 624,804 km has been completed. 99.7 % of the eligible and feasible habitations have been provided connectivity.

Later on, the following verticals were launched under PMGSY for consolidation/upgradation of existing rural roads :

(i) PMGSY-II was launched in May 2013 for consolidation of 50,000 km of the existing Rural Road Network to improve its overall efficiency as a provider of transportation services for people, goods, and services. A total of 49,795 km road of length was sanctioned out of which 49,062 km has been completed as on date.

(ii) Road Connectivity Project for Left Wing Extremism Affected Areas (RCPLWEA) was launched in the year 2016 to improve the road connectivity in 44 worst affected Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected 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 the socio-economic development of the area. A total of 12,228 km of road length have been sanctioned under RCPLWEA, out of which 9,439 km has been completed.

(iii) PMGSY-III was launched 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. A total of 1,22,060 km of road length has been sanctioned as on 28.3.25 out of which 92,783 km has been completed.

(iv) The Union Cabinet has approved the launch of phase -IV of PradhanMantri Gram SadakYojana (PMGSY IV) on 11.9.24 for providing new connectivity to eligible 25,000 unconnected habitations and construction/upgradation of bridges A total of 62,500 Kms road for providing new connectivity to eligible 25,000 unconnected habitations are proposed to be constructed at a cost of Rs. 70,125 crore during the period of 2024-25 to 2028-29. The Ministry is working in close coordination with the States to facilitate submission of proposals for clearance.

Since inception of PMGSY till 28th March 2025, under all intervention/verticals of the programme, a total of 834,875 km road length has been sanctioned out of which 776,369 km has been completed at an expenditure of Rs. 3,95,874 crore (including State share). Through various interventions/verticals of PMGSY as well as many other initiatives taken by various State Governments to provide rural connectivity, there has been quantum improvement in the rural road network.

(c): The PMGSY recognizes the importance of supporting rural artisans, self-help groups, and small-scale entrepreneurs in achieving its objectives through the following measures:

(i) The PMGSY encourages the use of local materials for road construction, such as aggregates, sand, and cement. This not only reduces transportation costs but also provides a steady source of income for local suppliers, including rural artisans and small-scale entrepreneurs.

(ii) The PMGSY prioritizes contracting with local contractors and as per the Standard Bidding Document, 25% of the works can be subcontracted to the locally available small and marginal contractors which also enhances their capacity.

(iii) The PMGSY provides skill development and training programs to contractors and the personnel engaged in road constructions works. These programs help to enhance their skills and knowledge, making them more competitive and able to access new markets and opportunities.

(iv) The PMGSY catalyses the development of micro-enterprises in rural areas, including those involved in road maintenance and construction. This provides a steady source of income for rural entrepreneurs and helps to promote local economic development.
