

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2583
ANSWERED ON 16/12/2025**

BASIC AMENITIES IN BACKWARD AREAS

2583. Shri Babu Singh Kushwaha:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a comprehensive assessment has been conducted to identify the most backward areas for providing basic amenities like drinking water, toilets, roads, electricity and housing in Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe (SC/ST) settlements in the country;**
- (b) if so, the current status of preparing the list of most backward areas based on the lack of infrastructure in these SC/ST settlements along with the time by which this list is likely to be released;**
- (c) whether the Government has prepared a roadmap to establish a specific development plan, targeted financial provision and time-bound implementation mechanism for these settlements, if so, the key components thereof; and**
- (d) whether any independent social audit or third party evaluation process is being adopted to verify the data received from State Governments and local bodies, if so, the details thereof?**

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d): Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD) is implementing a number of welfare schemes/programmes such as Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana-Gramin (PMAYG), Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana - National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM), Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (DDUGKY), Rural Self Employment Training

Institutes(RSETIs), National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP) and Watershed Development Component (WDC) of the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (WDC-PMKSY) for overall development of rural areas of the country including in habitations with significant Scheduled Caste (SC) and Scheduled Tribe (ST) populations. The Ministry extends assistance to all eligible rural areas, including those dominated by SC/ST populations, as per the guidelines of each scheme.

In accordance with the framework for implementation of PMAY-G, a minimum 60% of the target at national level is earmarked for SC/ST households, subject to availability of eligible households in the Permanent Wait List. Further the earmarking only define the minimum limit that should be achieved and if the States/UTs so desire they may add to target under those categories to ensure saturation.

Further, Dharti Aaba Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan and Pradhan Mantri Anusuchit Jaati Abhyuday Yojana (PM-AJAY) are also being implemented in convergence with PMGSY-IV.

In addition to the above, road connectivity component of Pradhan Mantri Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan (PM-JANMAN) is also being implemented as a separate vertical under PMGSY. A total of 8000 Km of road length are to be constructed under the scheme to provide connectivity to the habitations of Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups(PVTG) .

Improved road connectivity has enhanced access to markets, enabling better prices for tribal produce and forest goods, healthcare, reducing travel time and increasing institutional deliveries, education, by improving access to schools and hostels, Government services, including banking, social security and e-governance.

Several independent impact evaluations have concluded that PMGSY has led to improved rural incomes and employment opportunities, greater mobility and integration of tribal communities and enhanced women's participation in education and markets.

MoRD accords emphasis for targeted implementation of its schemes/projects. The programme wise factors affecting performance are analyzed and tailored actions are taken accordingly. Some of the measures are as follows: -

- i. The Programme implementation is monitored not only electronically, but also through community participation (Social**

- Audit), Members of Parliament (DISHA Committee), Central and State Government officials, National Level Monitors, etc.**
- ii. The guidelines of PMAY-G mandate that Officials at the Block level should inspect as far as possible 10% of the houses during construction and District level officials should inspect 2% of the houses during construction.**
 - iii. The Area Officer app, which was being used by MGNREGA, is also being used under PMAY-G for monitoring visits performed by officials to monitor progress of PMAY-G at ground level and for easier documentation of the analysis. The App is being used for inspecting the quality of the houses constructed under PMAY-G.**
 - iv. In addition to existing mechanism of grievance redressal, the services of Ombudsman appointed under MGNREGA, and the State Level Appellate Authority have also been availed for receiving grievances, enquiring, and passing awards as per PMAY-G guidelines.**
 - v. The guidelines also mandate Social Audit to ensure achievement of public accountability in PMAY-G implementation. This is an ongoing process involving public vigilance and verification and is to be conducted in every Gram Panchayat at least once in a year involving a mandatory review of all aspects.**
