

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1300
TO BE ANSWERED ON 03.03.2016

ROAD CONSTRUCTION UNDER PMGSY

1300. SHRI ARJUN MEGHWAL:

Will the Minister of **RURAL DEVELOPMENT** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to make use of ordinary soil instead of gravel to construct roads under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) whether the said proposal is likely to have an adverse impact on the quality of the roads, if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
(SHRI SUDARSHAN BHAGAT)

(a): The soil having desired physical properties indicated in the Code of Indian Road Congress (IRC) SP:20, Ministry of Rural Development's (MoRD) Book of Specifications for Rural Roads published by IRC and other relevant IRC guidelines is used in PMGSY roads. IRC has published guidelines for Stabilization techniques using lime, Fly Ash etc which can be used for stabilization of locally available materials such as soil, gravel, murrumsetc leading to prescribed strength of proposed layer. IRC has also published 'Guidelines for the Design of Flexible Pavements for Low Volume Rural Roads' IRC:SP:72-2015, which provides a design chart for Cement Treated Bases and sub bases in which soil can be stabilized for rural roads.

(b) & (c): It has been prescribed in the Guidelines of the Ministry and the relevant IRC Codes that all rural roads should be designed for a minimum sub grade CBR of 5% (California Bearing Ratio or CBR is a measure of soil strength and quality). Where subgrade strength is less than 5%, various measures of sub grade soil stabilization can be adopted to improve the sub grade strength to 5% or more. MoRD Specifications already provide relaxation in respect of grading of materials for Granular sub base layer. The use of soil with acceptable properties would not affect the quality of rural roads.
