

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:248

ANSWERED ON:21.11.2000

INDIAN ROAD CONGRESS CONFERENCE

MADHAVRAO SCINDIA;RENUKA CHOWDHURY;SUSHIL KUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a Conference of the Indian Road Congress was held recently;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and the outcome thereof;
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to achieve road connectivity during the Ninth Five Year Plan; and
- (d) the number of such villages and habitations with over 1,000 population yet to be provided with road connectivity, State-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRIM. VENKAI AH NAIDU)

(a) & (b): The 61st Annual Session/ Conference of the Indian Roads Congress was held from 4th to 7th November 2000 at Calcutta. The following activities took place during the Conference:-

(i) A Meeting of the Highway Research Board was held in which the status of R&D schemes carried out during the year 2000 (in the field of Highways) was reviewed.

(ii) The Council approved the following documents for publication by the Indian Roads Congress :

- Revision of IRC:78 Standard Specifications and Code of Practice for Road Bridges Section-VII- Foundation and Substructure.
- IRC:6 Standard Specifications and Code of Practice for Road Bridges, Section-II- Loads and Stresses.
- Guidelines for Use of Flyash in Road Embankments.
- IRC:37 Guidelines for the Design and Flexible Pavements (Second Revision).
- `Road Development Plan Vision: 2021` for the period 2001 to 2021.

(iii) It was suggested to set up a Group/Committee to finalise `Norms for Road Asset Management`.

(iv) New norms for maintenance of roads, as accepted by Government, were released.

(c) : About 56.55% of the villages are estimated to have been connected at the end of 1996-97 under the Basic Minimum Services (Rural Roads). This Programme has now been replaced by the `Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya Yojana` (PMGY). The Union Finance Minister announced this Scheme in the Budget Speech on 29th February 2000 with the objective of undertaking a time - bound programme to fulfil the critical needs of the rural areas. An amount of Rs.2500 crore has been provided for Rural Roads under the Scheme in the Union Budget, 2000-2001 to commence a nation-wide Programme to construct Rural Roads and improve rural connectivity.

(d): There were reported to be 39,251 villages (upto 31.3.1997) of over 1000 population which were yet to be provided with road connectivity. The State-wise figures are at Annexure-I.

Annexure-I

STATEMENT IN RESPECT OF PART (D) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 248 ADMITTED FOR REPI
21.11.2000

Total number of villages	No. of villages	Balance
1991 Census 1000 & above	No. of villages estimated to have been connected up to 31.3.97	(Col 3-4)

Andhra Pradesh	26586	14,422	12878	1,544
Arunachal Pradesh	3649	116	100	16
Assam	23208	3,872	3807	65
Bihar	67546	17,467	11925	5,542
Goa	369	200	200	0
Gujarat	18028	9,507	9409	98
Haryana	6759	3,470	3469	1
Himachal Pradesh	16997	634	407	227
Jammu & Kashmir	6241	1,474	1217	257
Karnataka	27066	9,953	9951	2
Kerala	1731	1,719	1708	11
Madhya Pradesh	65526	8,935	5980	2,955
Maharashtra	39522	13,275	12615	660
Manipur	2180	346	282	64
Meghalaya	5484	144	109	35
Mizoram	785	102	102	0
Nagaland	1119	281	281	0
Orissa	50970	7173	5723	1,450
Punjab	12428	4978	4978	0
Rajasthan	37889	10766	9309	1,457
Sikkim	453	112	108	4
Tamil Nadu	50837	9705	9188	517
Tripura	7412	400	400	0
Uttar Pradesh	112803	37937	17105	20,832
West Bengal	38075	10429	6918	3,511

Total (States) 623663 167,417 128169 39,248

Union Territories

A&N Islands	504	56	55	1
Chandigarh	22	22	22	0
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	71	38	38	0
Daman & Diu	24	15	15	0
Delhi	171	160	160	0
Lakshadweep	4	2	0	2
Pondicherry	264	93	93	0

Total (UTs) 1060 386 383 3

Grand Total 624723 167803 128552 39251

(States & Union Territories)

Source : Planning Commission