

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:467
ANSWERED ON:13.12.2010
SPECIAL COMMITTEE UNDER PMGSY
Choudhary Shri Bhudeo;Singh Shri Radha Mohan

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken note of the delay and the poor quality of construction of roads under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY);
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to constitute a special Committee so as to monitor the quality of works and timely completion of projects under the scheme;
- (d) whether the Government is aware that the roads built under the PMGSY have in many cases gave in within four months of construction;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the corrective action taken/proposed to be taken by the Union/State Governments including repair of the roads which gave in prematurely at the cost of the contractors and or blacklist and cancellation of such contractors` licences?

Answer

MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DR. C. P. JOSHI)

(a)to (f): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to part (a) to (f) of the Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 467 due for reply on 13.12.2010

(a)&(b): Rural Road is a State subject and Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) is a one-time special intervention of Central Government to improve the Rural Infrastructure through construction of roads. The rural roads under PMGSY are constructed, maintained and owned by the respective State Governments. As such, the responsibility of timely completion of these roads and ensuring quality thereof lies with the State Governments. As per the prescribed criteria for completion of works under PMGSY, projects sanctioned under the scheme are required to be completed within the period stipulated. In case of the delay, the relevant provisions of the Standard Bidding Document call for levying of liquidated damages and in case of persistent delay, the termination of contract. Any escalation in cost due to time overrun is to be borne by the State Government. Further, in the inspections carried out by NQMs after 1st April, 2009, if any works upon completion have been graded as `Unsatisfactory` by NQM and if defects in works are of non-rectifiable nature, these works are treated as works with non- rectifiable defects. The cost of such works is deductible against the future release to the State Governments concerned.

(c): No, Sir. However, the issue of timely completion of works is taken up with the State Governments in periodic reviews including Performance Review Committee (PRC), Regional reviews and State specific reviews. In addition, National Quality Monitors (NQMs) are also deputed to check the quality of completed and ongoing works on random basis.

(d)to(f): As per provisions of the Standard Bidding Document (SBD), the roads constructed under PMGSY are covered by 5-year maintenance contract to be entered into alongwith the construction contract with the same contractor and executed by the State Governments. The State Government is required to take steps for crediting stipulated funds for maintenance to State Rural Roads Development Agency (SRRDA). On the part of the Ministry, budgeting of maintenance fund by the State Government has been linked with the release of funds under the programme. Since, the responsibility of execution of road works and their maintenance under PMGSY is of the State Governments who are the implementing authorities therefore, action on the contractors, including their blacklisting is to be taken by the concerned State Government.