

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3091
ANSWERED ON:29.11.2010
NORMS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF ROADS
Dubey Shri Nishikant

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any agency exists for checking of quality of Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) roads;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has fixed any set norms/standards for roads to be constructed under PMGSY;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the roads are not being constructed as per the set standard despite setting up of National Rural Roads Development Agency (NRRDA);
- (f) if so, the facts and the reasons therefor alongwith the action proposed to be taken by the Government to ensure the construction of these roads as per the set standards;
- (g) whether no action has so far been taken on the complaints of irregularities committed in construction of roads under PMGSY in various States including Bihar; and
- (h) if so, the reaction of the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN 'ADITYA')

(a)&(b): Yes, Sir. National Rural Roads Development Agency (NRRDA) has been set up to provide operational and management support to the Programme. The functions of the Agency include monitoring of quality of works executed under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY).

(c)&(d): As per the PMGSY Programme Guidelines, rural roads constructed under PMGSY shall meet technical specifications and geometric design standards given in Rural Road Manual and Hill Road Manual of Indian Roads Congress (IRC). The Guidelines also provide that detailed estimates will be based on State Schedule of Rates (SOR) prepared using the book of specifications and Standard Data Book prescribed by NRRDA.

(e)to(h): The roads under PMGSY are to be constructed as per set standards. Whenever, any complaint about roads not being constructed as per set standards are received by the States, appropriate action for rectification/removal of works is to be taken by the State Governments who are implementing agencies under PMGSY for complaints received by Government of India these are entrusted to the States or action like deputing an independent NQM is taken. In order to maintain the quality in works, PMGSY Programme Guidelines have the provision for three tiers Quality Control Mechanism. The first tier of Quality Control is at the level of executing agencies. The field laboratories are established and mandatory tests on the quality of material are conducted under the supervision of Programme Implementation Units (PIUs). The second tier quality control is monitored by independent State Quality Monitors (SQMs). Finally, the third tier of this mechanism consists of quality monitoring of works through random inspection by independent National Quality Monitors (NQMs).

A total of 400 complaints about violation of norms and irregularities committed in the construction of roads under PMGSY have been received since 2007. In 154 cases the complaints have been sent to the respective State Governments for enquiry and appropriate action. However, in 246 cases, independent NQMs were deputed for enquiry. Out of these, in 80 cases, irregularities were noticed and these reports have been sent to the States for rectification and appropriate action.