

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4237
ANSWERED ON:06.12.2010
SUB-STANDARD CONSTRUCTION OF PMGSY
Gohain Shri Rajen

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government has any information of inferior quality of construction of road under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) in North Eastern Region including Assam;
- (b) if so, the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Union Government to improve quality of construction of PMGSY roads in the said region;
- (c) whether the Union Government is aware that time of completion of the PMGSY roads in NE region particularly in Assam varies from two to four years instead of twelve months of time in compliance of the provision/rule in this regard to speed up the implementation of PMGSY projects in the said region; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the action taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) From 2006-07 to October, 2010, 40 complaints relating, inter-alia, use of inferior quality of construction of roads under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) in North-Eastern States including Assam have been received. In 26 cases the complaints have been sent to the respective State Governments for enquiry and taking appropriate action as per Programme Guidelines. In 14 cases, independent National Quality Monitors (NQMs) were deputed for enquiry. Out of these, in 9 cases irregularities were noticed and these reports have been sent to the States for rectification and appropriate action.

(b) Ensuring the quality of the road works is the responsibility of the State Governments who are implementing the programme. A Three Tier Quality Mechanism has been put in place for ensuring the quality of road works under the programme. First tier is in-house quality control and second tier is independent monitoring at State level. These two tiers are the responsibility of the States implementing the programme. The third tier is envisaged as an independent monitoring mechanism at the central level. Under this tier, the independent National Quality Monitors (NQMs) are engaged for inspections of roads, selected a random. Immediately after the visit of the NQM is over, the inspection report is sent to the State Government concerned. If quality of any work is graded as `Unsatisfactory` the State Government shall ensure that the contractor replaces the material or rectifies the workmanship (as the case may be) within the time period stipulated. The State Governments are required to furnish action taken reports in such cases.

(c) & (d) As per the prescribed criteria for completion of work under PMGSY, projects sanctioned under the scheme are required to be completed within a period of 9 working months from the date of issue of the work order. The guidelines further provide that in case the period for execution is likely to be adversely affected by monsoon and other seasonal factors, the time period for execution is extended up to 12 calendar months. In respect of hilly states where the work is executed in two stages, this time period will apply separately in respect of each stage. The time limit up to 18 calendar months has been permitted for completion of Stage-I works of hill roads (in hill States) and time period of 18-24 months has been permitted for completion of cross drainage works exceeding 25 meter length, depending on site conditions. In case of the delay, the relevant provisions of the Standard Bidding Document (SBD) call for levying of liquidated damages and in case of persistent delay, the termination of contract.