

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5620
ANSWERED ON:10.05.2012
FOREST CLEARANCE UNDER PMGSY
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Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether one has to pass through the forest for reaching many villages in several States;
- (b) if so, whether the Government proposes to give relaxations in forest clearance rules for providing road connectivity to these villages under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

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

- (a): The implementation of the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) lies with the State Governments. In some of the States, PMGSY roads pass through the forest areas.
- (b) to (d): The Ministry of Environment and Forests has accorded General approval under Section 2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of forest land for certain activities to be carried out by the Government Departments, including Rural Roads, involving not more than 2.00 ha of forest land . However, in the case of Selected Tribal and Backward Districts under Integrated Action Plan (IAP), diversion of up to 5 ha is permissible.