

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:101
ANSWERED ON:22.11.2012
LINKING OF BORDER HABITATIONS
Pradhan Shri Nityananda

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has developed an action plan to link all border habitations in the tribal/border areas in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, inter-alia indicating the details of such road-stretches that have been earmarked for construction in the Odisha region, especially in the tribal districts of the region;
- (c) whether all these road-stretches would be centrally- funded;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the time frame within which all the border/tribal habitations would be linked in the Odisha region?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI LALCHAND KATARIA)

(a)to(d): Rural Roads is a State subject and the responsibility of the execution of works under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) is that of the State Government. However, PMGSY is a one-time special Central intervention and envisages connecting all eligible unconnected habitations by way of an All-weather Road (with necessary culverts and cross- drainage structures operable throughout the year) as per Core-Network with a population of 500 persons (as per 2001 census) and above in plain areas and 250 persons and above in Hill States, the Tribal (Schedule V) areas, the Desert areas (as identified in the Desert Development Programme) and in the 82 Selected Tribal and Backward Districts in 9 States under Integrated Action Plan (IAP), as identified by the Ministry of Home Affairs and Planning Commission. The 82 Selected Tribal and Backward Districts under IAP include 18 districts of the State of Odisha including districts bordering other States. Up-gradation of selected rural roads to provide full farm to market connectivity is also an objective of the scheme, though not central to it. The funds are provided for above by Central Government.

(e): Rural road is a State subject and as per programme guidelines, execution of rural roads under PMGSY is entrusted to the State Governments. The projects are sanctioned to the State, based on its institutional capacity to efficiently execute the PMGSY works with requisite attention to quality. State of Odisha is facing constraints like limited contracting capacity, non- availability of sufficient qualified technical personnel, limited working seasons and adverse climatic conditions, non-availability of land and clearance of the land falling in forest areas, law and order problem etc. in execution of PMGSY schemes.