GOVERNMENT OF INDIA RURAL DEVELOPMENT LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5946 ANSWERED ON:02.05.2013 CONSTRUCTION OF RURAL ROADS IN BIHAR Singh Shri Radha Mohan

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of rural roads constructed along with the funds allocated by the Union Government in Bihar during the last three years and the current year;

(b) whether Government has received any complaints of using substandard material for the construction of said roads; and

(c) if so, the details thereof along with the action taken against the guilty in this regard?

Answer

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

(a): The details of roads constructed and the funds released under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) by the Union Government to the State of Bihar during the last three years is as under:

Year No. of roads Length of roads Funds Released to the State completed completed (in Km) of Bihar (Rs.in crore) 2010-11 734 2,515 3,366 2011-12 2,007 7,540 3,336 2012-13 1,703 6,342 1,278

The progress report for the month of April, 2013 is not yet due from the State and no funds have been released to the State during current financial year.

(b): Yes Sir. Rural Roads is a State subject and PMGSY is a one-time special intervention of the Central Government to improve the Rural Infrastructure through construction of roads. To bring execution of the Programme to the desired quality standards, a three tier quality management mechanism has been institutionalized under PMGSY. First-tier of this mechanism is in-house quality control at Programme Implementation Unit (PIU) level. Second-tier is structured as an independent quality monitoring at State level through State Quality Monitors (SQMs) in which provision of regular inspection of works has been envisaged. 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 at random.

Complaints about various irregularities in road construction works are received in the Ministry from the complainants in the States including from the State of Bihar from time to time. The complaints received in the Ministry are sent to the States for necessary action. Also, the Ministry directs National Rural Roads Development Agency (NRRDA) to depute National Quality Monitor(s) (NQMs) for enquiring into the matter and further processing is done on the basis of NQM reports.

(c): As per the records available in the Ministry, during the years 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13, NQMs were deputed to the State of Bihar for investigation in 51 complaints and out of these complaints, deficiencies were noticed in 27 cases. These reports have been sent to the State/Executing Agencies for rectification of defects and appropriate action.