

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3833
ANSWERED ON:19.03.2015
FOREST CLEARANCE TO PMGSY PROJECTS
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Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether certain projects are lying pending under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) in Kerala due to interference of Forest Department;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, projectwise; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Union Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SUDARSHAN BHAGAT)

- (a) & (b) As per the information furnished by the State Government, there are 21 road works, sanctioned for construction under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) in Kerala, lying incomplete due to want of requisite forest clearances.
- (c) As per programme guidelines, PMGSY does not provide funds for land acquisition. The State Governments are responsible to certify and ensure that lands are available for taking up the proposed road works under PMGSY. The State Governments are required to lay down guidelines for voluntary donation, exchange or other mechanisms to ensure availability of land for all proposed roads, including roads in forest areas. The issue of incomplete works due to want of forest clearance has been taken up by the Ministry with Chief Secretaries of the States advising them to convene a joint meeting of Principal Secretary/Secretary of Environment and forest Department and Principal Secretary of nodal Department for PMGSY to expedite such matters.