

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6844
ANSWERED ON:07.05.2015
RURAL ROADS MANUAL SPECIFICATIONS
Hemamalini Smt.

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether rural roads manual specifications being followed under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) are too old and do not follow the latest technology;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the efforts being made by the Government to adopt the latest technology and methods in construction of rural roads?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) Scheme was launched in December, 2000. At that time there was no Manual on Rural Roads, hence a Rural Roads Manual SP-20-2002 and Book of Specifications for Rural Roads- 2004 was prepared by the Ministry in consultation with Indian Road Congress (IRC) which covers all the aspects of rural road construction using conventional and time tested technologies. The first revision of the Book of Specifications for Rural Roads-2014 has been issued recently incorporating the changes required based on field experiences as well as new technologies and non-conventional materials, which have emerged in the last 14 years.

(c): In order to promote cost-effective, environment friendly and fast construction technologies in respect of rural roads, using new materials / waste materials / locally available materials, National Rural Road Development Agency (NRRDA) has issued 'Guidelines on Technology Initiatives' in May 2013 for all the States. The States have been advised to propose at least 10% of the length of annual proposals using any of the new technologies, for which specifications of Indian Roads Congress (IRC) are already available and an additional length of 5% of annual proposals with any of the new technologies for which specifications of Indian Roads Congress are not available, including materials accredited by IRC. States are being encouraged to propose technology demonstration projects using Jute and Coir geo textiles, Cold Mix Technology using Cold Emulsions, Fly Ash, Iron and Copper Slag, Lime and Cement as Stabilizers, use of plastic waste in pre-mix carpet, roller compacted cement concrete, IRC accredited new materials etc. in construction of rural roads.