

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4139

ANSWERED ON:07.08.2014

WORKS UNDER PMGSY

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Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union and State Governments have no role to play directly or indirectly in the construction works being carried out under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) and the same is being done under the supervision of private companies resulting in large scale corruption and sub-standard quality of work;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to bring quality changes into the same;

(d) if so, the time by which the same is likely to be done; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI UPENDRA KUSHWAHA)

(a) and (b) : No, Madam. The Union Government and State Government, both together, have specific roles to play in construction of rural roads under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) in the States. "Rural Roads" being a State subject, projects under PMGSY are executed by State / Union Territory Governments through their designated agencies i.e. State Rural Roads Development Agencies (SRRDAs) or Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) appointed by States with the consent of Government of India. The works are executed through contracts by the SRRDAs/PSUs. To monitor and control the quality in construction, a three tier quality control mechanism has been put in place. In the first tier, contractor, under supervision of the field supervisory unit of SRRDA, carries out in-house quality control of materials and workmanship in the construction of road works. In the second tier, the SRRDA deputed independent quality monitors to inspect the roads in detail and report on the quality of the works executed / under execution. These two tiers are the responsibility of the States implementing the programme. 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 by National Rural Roads Development Agency (NRRDA) for inspections of roads, selected at random. These inspections result in each work being graded under three categories namely, "Satisfactory" (S), "Satisfactory Requiring Improvement" (SRI) and "Unsatisfactory" (U). If quality of any work is graded as "Unsatisfactory" or "SRI", the Project Implementation Units (PIUs) are required to furnish Action Taken Reports (ATRs) in such cases. The ATRs are also monitored by NRRDA.

(c) to (e): The quality mechanism under PMGSY has been developed based on careful analysis and experience gathered from various stakeholders. The detailed guidelines both for process and product control have been prescribed under the quality control mechanism. The quality monitoring mechanism is such that the shortcomings noticed are analyzed from time to time and the system is modified accordingly.