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Title: Regarding Prime Minister's Gram Sadak Yojana.

DR. K.S. MANOJ (ALLEPPEY): India is the world's second populous country. The density of population in our country is 274 per square kilometer. Out of 28 States and seven Union Territories, Kerala is the most densely populated State. Kerala has one per cent of country's area, but 3.44 per cent of total population. The density of population in Kerala is 819 per square kilometer. That is almost thrice that of the national average.

Sir, my district Allappuzha is the most densely populated district in the country with a density of 1496 per square kilometer. It is almost six times that of national average.

The guideline put forward by PMGSY is that land width is eight meters for the PMGSY road. In a densely populated State like Kerala, this criterion is not consistent with the ground realities, viz, physical and geographical features of the State. So, the funds could not be utilized.

Hence, the Government of Kerala has requested for relaxation of the land width from eight meters to six meters for PMGSY roads. So, I urge upon the Government to relax this criterion from eight kilometers to six kilometers so that the funds can be properly utilized to provide all weather-proof roads to the rural poor.