

P017(28)/1/2019/P-III
National Rural Infrastructure Development Agency
(Ministry of Rural Development)
5th Floor, 15 Bhikaji Cama Place,
New Delhi

Date 6th November, 2020

To,

1. Additional Chief Secretaries / Principal Secretaries / Secretaries of the nodal department implementing PMGSY & RCPLWE Projects in all States/UTs.
2. Chief Executive Officers of All States / UTs
3. Engineer-in Chief /Chief Engineer of All States / UTs
4. State Quality Coordinators of All States / UTs

Subject: Inspection of PMGSY projects by State Quality Monitors (SQMs), considering road section length and enhanced number of SQM visits to long span bridges.

Madam/ Sir,

Comprehensive guidelines for quality monitoring under Second Tier of Quality Mechanism under PMGSY were issued on 11th August 2010. State Quality Monitors (SQMs) are using these guidelines for carrying out inspection of PMGSY works. In each inspection, a section of 3 kms length is selected by the SQM, irrespective of total length of the road and generally 03 test pits are taken, to ascertain the quality of work. This selection of a 3 km segment was thought to be sufficient as average length of roads under PMGSY-I was about 3 km. However, in PMGSY II & PMGSY III, which are programmes for upgradation of Through Routes (TRs) and Major Rural Links (MRLs), it has been observed that average length of such roads is substantially more than 3 kms and in many cases the road lengths are even more than 10 km. Thus, taking only a 3 km section of a particular road leaves substantial length of road uninspected by SQMs. This point has been raised by some of the States during meetings as a feedback for improvement in quality monitoring system.

2. To improve the credibility and quality of inspections, it is required that substantial length of road should be available for inspection. Thus, it has been decided that any particular road shall be divided into sections of not more than 5 km and each such section will be taken up for inspection separately. The previous practice of taking only

one 3 km section of a particular road (irrespective of the road length) is hereby discontinued.

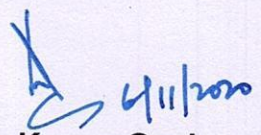
3. For roads between 5-10 km, two sections will be made. Similarly for roads of length 10-15 km, three sections, for roads of length 15-20 km four sections (and so on), will be made. All sections such made for a particular road should be of approximately equal length. For example, for road of 13 km length, sections of 4.3, 4.3 and 4.4 km may be made.

4. For each such section of 5 Km (or shorter) to be inspected, three test pits approximately 1 km apart from each other, shall be made. Such test / inspection will be done at three stages of construction as defined in PMGSY Operation Manual.

5. It is also clarified that each such section of a road shall be inspected by a different SQM for a particular stage of inspection. Further, it should be ensured that the same SQM does not inspect the same section of the road in subsequent stages of inspection / construction. Rotation of SQMs should be done so as to ensure that different sections of a particular road are inspected by different SQMs in any stage of construction (or round of inspection) and that in subsequent stages of construction / round of inspection different set of SQMs inspect a particular road / section.

6. A large number of long span bridges are also being constructed under PMGSY. The quality of bridges needs more emphasis and three inspections by SQMs per bridge for long span bridges may not be sufficient. This frequency need to be increased so as to ensure more quality in construction of bridges. Hence, it has been decided that bridges with spans up to 75 m will be inspected three times by SQMs as per the existing provisions and bridges having span more than 75 m will be inspected five times by SQMs at various stages of construction and once more on completion.

7. These changes may please be brought to the notice of all concerned and SQMs inspection plan should be modified accordingly. At the same time, sufficient number of SQMs need to be empanelled to carry out the increased number of inspections.


Dr. Ashish Kumar Goel
Director General, NRIDA