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PMGSY: Rural Roads Development in India

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PMGSY: Rural Roads Development in India

Practice: 6 MCQs
Many Indian villages once lost their road link every monsoon.

This lesson covers **what PMGSY is**, **who qualifies**, **its phases**, **how it is funded**, **its progress** and **its effect on villages**.

- **Launched:** 25 December 2000.
- **Type:** Centrally Sponsored Scheme.
- **Phase IV:** ₹70,125 crore, 2024-25 to 2028-29.
- **Progress:** about 95% of sanctioned roads done by December 2025.
- **Funding:** 60:40 in most States, 90:10 in hill States.

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2. Which habitations qualify
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1. What is PMGSY?

The Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) was launched on 25 December 2000. It aims to give all-weather road links to villages that had none.

1.1 Who pays for it?

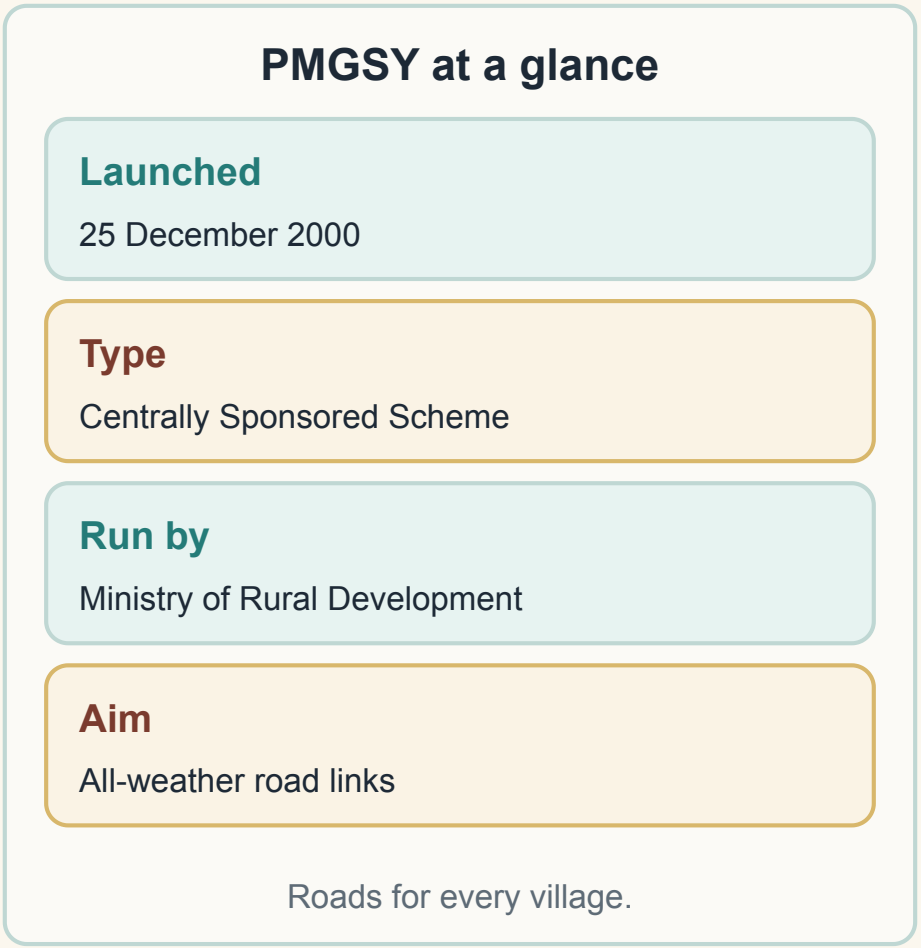
PMGSY is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme. The Centre and States share the cost.

1.2 What exactly does it provide?

It provides a single all-weather road to each eligible unconnected habitation.

1.3 Who runs it?

The Ministry of Rural Development runs the scheme. The National Rural Infrastructure Development Agency (NRIDA) and State agencies help carry it out.



The basics. Original explanatory diagram.

Sources:

- PIB: PMGSY progress, year-end review (Dec 2025)
- PIB: PMGSY guidelines and phases
- PIB: PMGSY review and FY 2026-27 targets

True or false: PMGSY was launched on 25 December 2000.

2. Which habitations qualify?

The original rule used the 2001 census. Plain areas needed 500 or more people. North-Eastern and Himalayan States and UTs needed 250 or more.

2.1 Are there special cases?

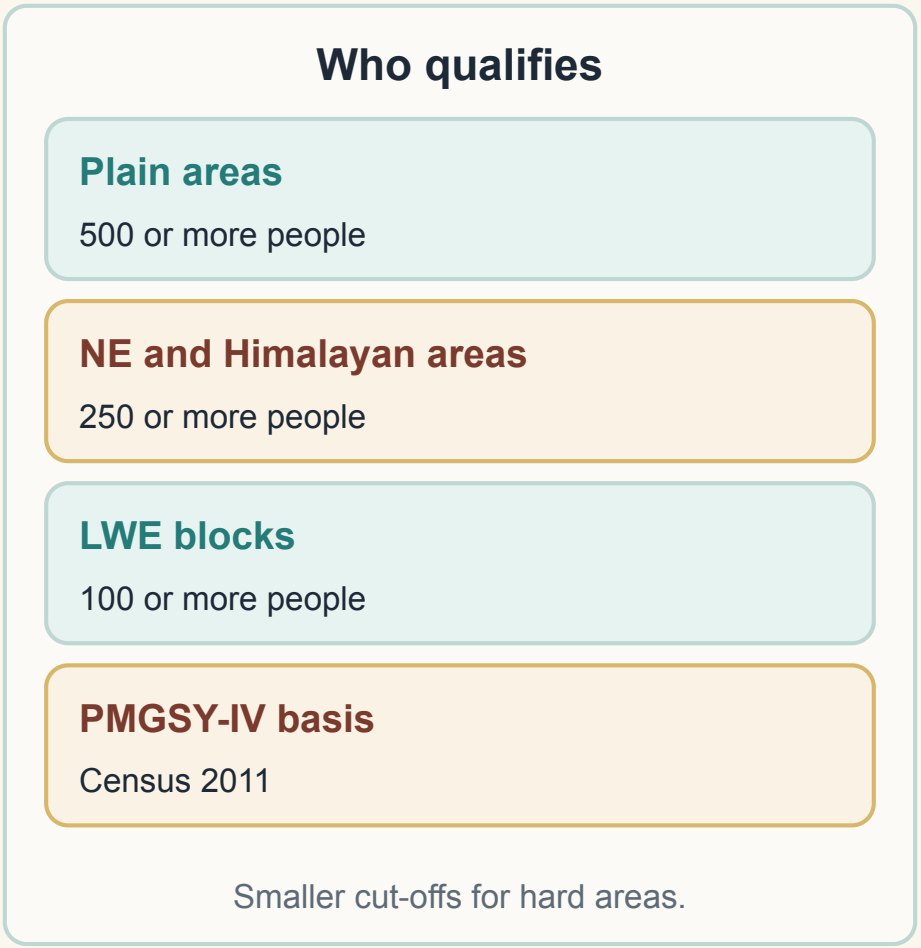
In critical Left Wing Extremism affected blocks, habitations of 100 or more people also qualify.

2.2 Has the rule changed since?

PMGSY-IV uses Census 2011 numbers instead. The 500 and 250 cut-offs stay the same.

2.3 Are tribal groups covered?

PM-JANMAN covers eligible habitations of Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs). Habitations with 100 or more people qualify.



The rules. Original explanatory diagram.

Sources:

- PIB: PMGSY guidelines and phases (section 2)
- PIB: PMGSY progress, year-end review (Dec 2025) (section 2)
- PIB: PMGSY funding, quality and e-MARG

True or false: In plain areas under the original rule, habitations needed at least 250 people.

Think it through: why use a lower population cut-off in hills?

Hill villages are small and spread out. A high cut-off would leave many without a road. This is our reading of the design.

3. What are the phases of PMGSY?

PMGSY-II began in 2013. It aimed to upgrade 50,000 km of existing rural roads.

3.1 What is RCPLWEA?

The Road Connectivity Project for LWE Affected Areas began in 2016. It covers 44 worst-affected districts and some nearby districts.

3.2 What came next?

PMGSY-III upgraded existing links to markets, schools and hospitals. By December 2025, 1,22,393 km were sanctioned and 1,01,623 km were built.

3.3 Was PMGSY-III extended?

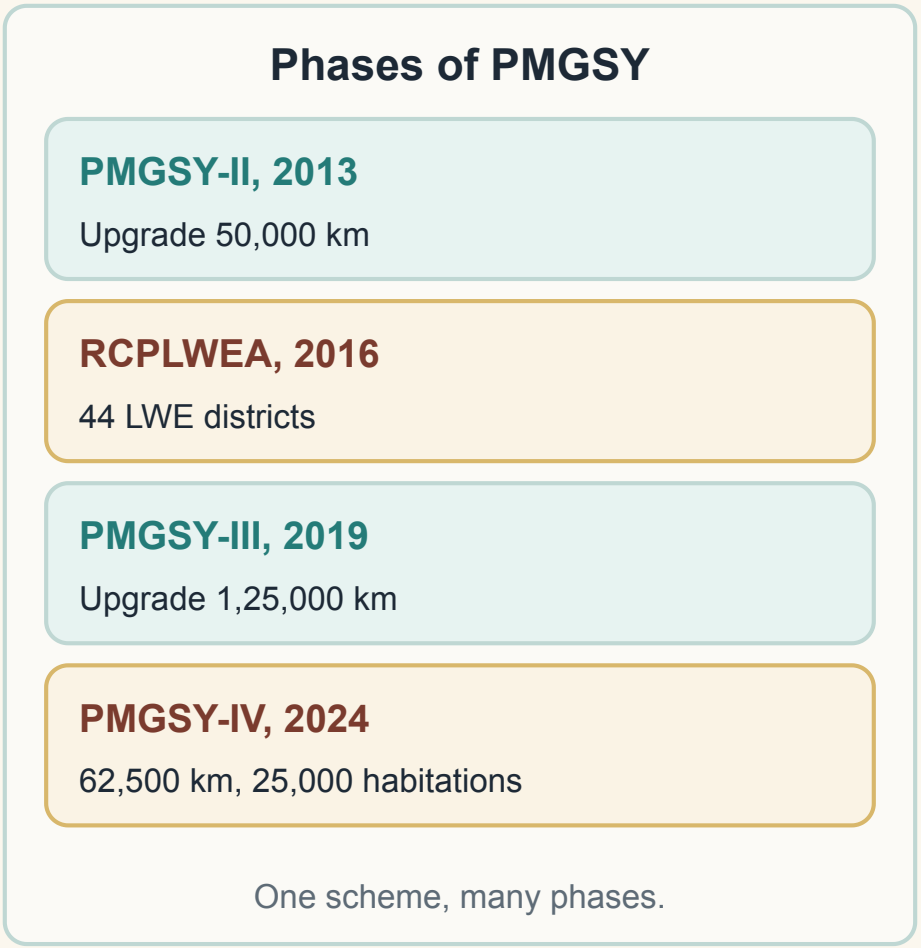
The Cabinet continued PMGSY-III up to March 2028. The revised outlay is ₹83,977 crore, up from ₹80,250 crore.

3.4 What is PMGSY-IV?

The Government approved PMGSY-IV on 11 September 2024. It aims to connect 25,000 habitations through 62,500 km of roads.

3.5 How much does it cost?

PMGSY-IV has an outlay of ₹70,125 crore. It runs from 2024-25 to 2028-29.



The phases. Original explanatory diagram.

Sources:

- PIB: PMGSY guidelines and phases (section 3)
- DoRD: PMGSY factsheet
- PIB: PMGSY progress, year-end review (Dec 2025) (section 3)
- PIB: Cabinet continues PMGSY-III
- PIB: PMGSY-IV and green technologies (Sep 2025)

True or false: PMGSY-IV was approved on 11 September 2024.

4. How is PMGSY paid for?

The Centre and States share the cost 60:40 in most States and UTs with legislatures. North-Eastern and Himalayan States are the exception.

4.1 What about the hill States?

For 8 North-Eastern States and 2 Himalayan States and a UT, the ratio is 90:10.

4.2 Who gets full funding?

UTs without a legislature get 100% central funding. These are Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Ladakh.

4.3 How is money released?

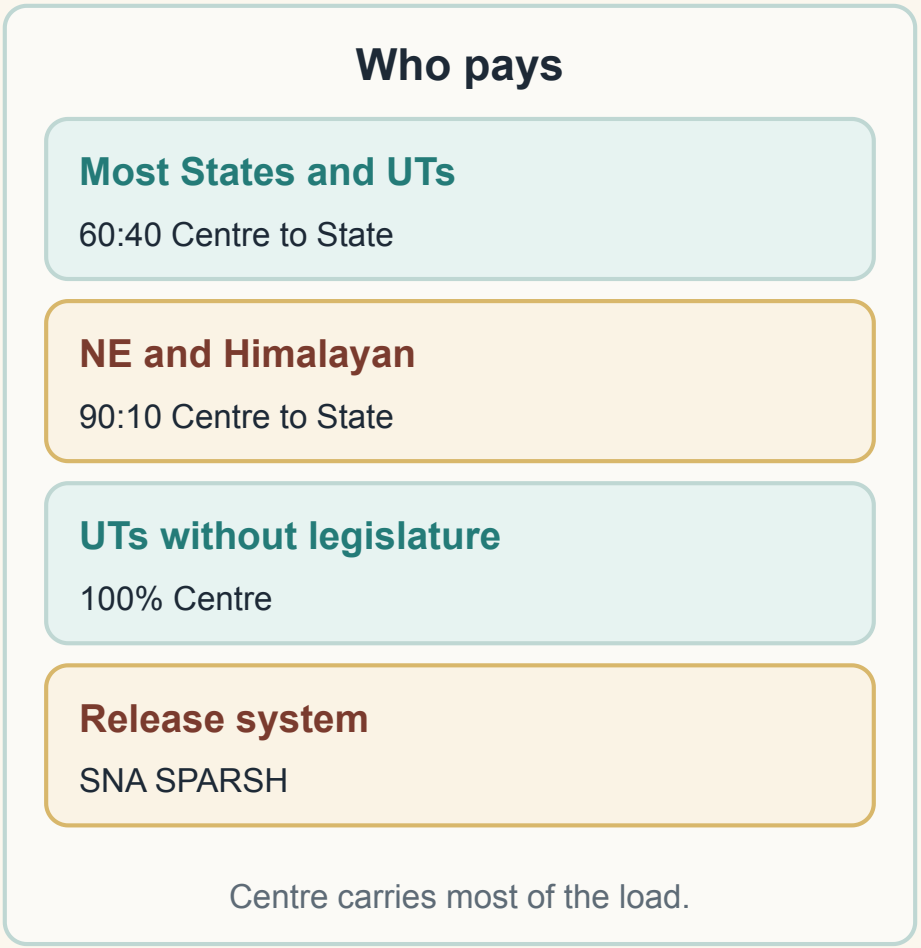
Funds are released through the SNA SPARSH system.

4.4 What is planned for FY 2026-27?

The target for FY 2026-27 is 26,474 km of roads and 1,375 bridges. It also aims to connect 2,400 habitations.

4.5 What money is set aside?

The Government earmarked ₹18,907 crore for FY 2026-27 for rural roads.



The funding. Original explanatory diagram.

Sources:

- PIB: PMGSY funding, quality and e-MARG (section 4)
- PIB: PMGSY review and FY 2026-27 targets (section 4)

True or false: UTs without a legislature get 90% central funding.

5. How far has PMGSY come, and how is quality checked?

As of December 2025, 8,25,114 km of rural roads were sanctioned. Of these, 7,87,520 km were done. That is about 95% physical progress.

5.1 Does PMGSY use new technology?

By August 2025, 1,66,694 km were sanctioned using new and green technologies. Of these, 1,24,688 km were built.

5.2 How is quality checked?

Quality checks have three tiers. These are Programme Implementation Units, State Quality Monitors and National Quality Monitors.

5.3 What is e-MARG?

e-MARG is the Electronic Maintenance of Rural Roads platform. It supports planning, inspections and payments linked to performance.

5.4 What else tracks the work?

OMMAS, e-MARG and GPS tracking give real-time monitoring.

Sources:

- PIB: PMGSY progress, year-end review (Dec 2025) (section 5)
- PIB: PMGSY-IV and green technologies (Sep 2025) (section 5)
- PIB: PMGSY funding, quality and e-MARG (section 5)

True or false: About 95% of sanctioned road length had been completed by December 2025.

Think it through: why track roads by GPS and monitors?

Roads are built in remote places. Independent checks help catch weak work early. That is a fair way to read it.

6. What has PMGSY changed for villages?

Under PMGSY-III, 6.96 lakh facilities were connected. These include 1.38 lakh Gramin Agricultural Markets and 1.46 lakh education centres.

6.1 Has it been evaluated?

A 2020 evaluation by NITI Aayog's DMEO linked PMGSY to Sustainable Development Goals 2 and 9.

6.2 What did it conclude?

It found PMGSY builds the base for lasting poverty reduction in rural India.

Sources:

- DoRD: PMGSY factsheet (section 6)

True or false: The NITI Aayog evaluation linked PMGSY to SDGs 2 and 9.

Your understanding checks

Your 6 quick checks Answered 0 of 6 · Correct 0
This score resets when the page reloads.

Practice: 6 MCQs

Practice MCQs

1. On what date was PMGSY launched?

A. 2 October 2000

B. 25 December 2000

C. 26 January 2001

D. 15 August 2000

See answer ↓

2. Under the original PMGSY rule, what population did plain-area habitations need?

A. 500 or more

B. 100 or more

C. 250 or more

D. 1,000 or more

See answer ↓

3. How much is the outlay of PMGSY-IV?

A. ₹83,977 crore

B. ₹50,000 crore

C. ₹70,125 crore

D. ₹1,25,000 crore

See answer ↓

4. What share of cost does the Centre bear for UTs without a legislature?

A. 60%

B. 90%

C. 100%

D. 75%

See answer ↓

5. Through which system are PMGSY funds released?

A. BHIM

B. GeM

C. PFMS only

D. SNA SPARSH

See answer ↓

6. Roughly what share of sanctioned PMGSY road length was complete by December 2025?

A. About 65%

B. About 50%

C. About 80%

D. About 95%

See answer ↓

Answer Key

1. **B.** The answer is **25 December 2000**. It gives all-weather road links to unconnected villages. Why the others fail: they are not the launch date. Memory hook: Christmas Day 2000. ↑ Q1
2. **A.** The answer is **500 or more**. North-Eastern and Himalayan areas needed 250. Why the others fail: 100 applies only to LWE blocks. Memory hook: plains 500. ↑ Q2
3. **C.** The answer is **₹70,125 crore**. PMGSY-IV runs from 2024-25 to 2028-29. Why the others fail: ₹83,977 crore is PMGSY-III revised. Memory hook: seventy thousand for phase four. ↑ Q3
4. **C.** The answer is **100%**. Andaman and Nicobar and Ladakh are such UTs. Why the others fail: 90% applies to NE and Himalayan States. Memory hook: no legislature, full funding. ↑ Q4
5. **D.** The answer is **SNA SPARSH**. e-MARG is a different platform for maintenance. Why the others fail: they serve other purposes. Memory hook: SPARSH releases funds. ↑ Q5
6. **D.** The answer is **About 95%**. 7,87,520 km of 8,25,114 km were completed. Why the others fail: the real share is higher. Memory hook: nearly all done. ↑ Q6

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