



Government of Sikkim  
Rural Management and Development Department  
Tashiling, Gangtok-737103 Sikkim

Memo No:- 1016/RMDD/PMGSY/2014-15 /SI

Dated:-22/07/2016.

To,

Shri Rajesh Bhushan,  
JS(RC) & DG, NRRDA,  
Ministry of Rural Development,  
5th Floor, 15-NBCC Tower,  
Bhikaji Cama Place,  
New Delhi-110066.

**Subject: Maintenance Policy in the State of Sikkim.**

Sir,

With reference to letter no # P-17029/01/2006/WB/ILO/Pt dated 18th July 2016, regarding State Policy on Maintenance of Rural Roads received from Secretary, MoRD, Government of India, I am to inform you that the Maintenance Policy in the State of Sikkim has been notified in the Government Gazette vide letter no: 42(A)/PMGSY/RM&DD/16-17 dated 21/06/2016 and a copy of the same is enclosed with this letter.

Submitted for kind information please.

Thanking You,

Yours faithfully,

(D.R. Nepal)  
Secretary

Copy for information to,

- 1) Shri Manoj Kumar, Director(RC), MoRD.
- 2) Shri I.K. Pateriya, Director(Tech), NRRDA.
- 3) Office Copy.

Ok

(D.R. Nepal)  
Secretary.

# SIKKIM



## GOVERNMENT

## GAZETTE

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**GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM  
RURAL MANAGEMENT & DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT**

No. 42(A)/PMGSY/RM&DD/16-17

Dated: 21/06/2016

### NOTIFICATION

The Governor of Sikkim is hereby pleased to notify the '**Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana**' (**PMGSY**) Maintenance Policy in the State of Sikkim. The policy formulated by Rural Management & Development Department is also vetted by the Roads & Bridges Department and the Law and Parliamentary Affairs Department, Government of Sikkim. The objectives of the policy are enumerated below:

- 1) Maintaining an efficient road network to facilitate sustainable and well balanced Socio-Economic Development.
- 2) Maintenance of rural roads would provide employment opportunities.
- 3) Well maintained roads shall facilitate the villagers to transport the village agriculture/ dairy produce to the market places in a proper and effective manner.

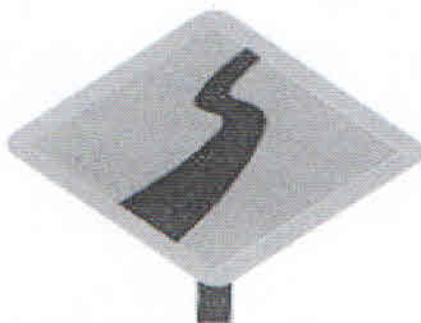
The maintenance of rural roads shall involve:

- a) Routine maintenance
- b) Periodic maintenance
- c) Emergency maintenance and
- d) Special repairs.

**BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR.**

**D.R Nepal  
Secretary  
Rural Management & Development Department**

# Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana ( PMGSY) Maintenance Policy



## Policy on Maintenance of Rural Roads in the state of Sikkim

March 2016



# Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana ( PMGSY) Maintenance Policy

## INTRODUCTION:-

The road network plays a very important role in the hilly state of Sikkim due to absence of air, rail & water transport system in the State. To provide connectivity to the inaccessible villages in the State, a concerted effort is being made by the Government. After the inception of Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana, the State has been able to construct approximately 1422.32 kms of rural roads. The road connectivity to rural & far flung areas has helped in achieving positive changes in the State leading to upliftment in education facilities, better trade avenues for farmers and improved medical facilities leading to overall enhancement in socio-economic status of the rural mass.

The asset so created needs to be maintained to ensure road worthiness for convenience of the fellow travellers. Poor maintenance of roads owing to fund constraint results in disruption of traffic, posing obstacle to the economic growth and increase in wear and tear cost of the vehicles. For better utilization of road assets timely maintenance is a must. The main objective of road maintenance is to keep the roads trafficable throughout the year. Proper upkeep of the road would ensure smooth flow of vehicles riding in faster movement leading to reduction in maintenance cost of the vehicle. Maintenance for rural roads would provide employment opportunities besides the other benefits.

## Table 1:

The replacement value of rural roads assets in the state of Sikkim  
(Broad Assessment based as on March 2016)

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S No.	Category of Roads	Unit Cost Rs. Lakh/KM	Amount (Rs. lakh)
1	(i) Untarred Roads 1045 kms.	1.28	1337.60
	(ii) Tarred roads 172 kms	1.77	304.44
	Total 1217 kms		1642.04

Any inadequacy in funding and implementation on the ground will result in the erosion of the asset base. The state shall ensure adequate funds for maintenance of the entire rural road network within its jurisdiction. Under no circumstances, maintenance shall be regarded as a secondary issue.

The government of Sikkim intends to adopt a rural roads maintenance policy for the planning and execution of maintenance of rural roads under its jurisdiction and shall be called as the "Sikkim Rural Roads Maintenance Policy 2016".

The policy takes into consideration the government's commitment, funding, institutional reforms and implementation regarding maintenance of rural roads as under:-

1. Introduce a system of working out present asset value of the road network at the end of financial year. Box 1 provides indicative steps for assessing the replacement value of the network.

#### Box 1: Assessing Replacement Value of Rural Road Assets

- (i). Each Project Implementation Unit is required to provide the assessment in the month of July or August (lean period of execution) every year.
- (ii) Standard format for inventory and condition survey shall be specified by Sikkim Rural Roads Development Agency for collection of data.
- (iii) Each Project Implementation Unit works out the replacement value of roads within its jurisdiction as per illustration given in Table 1.

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(iv) The replacement value of the total rural road network is put in public domain by the SRRDA.

2. Constitute a state level committee to work out realistic norms for maintenance of rural roads covering Routine, Periodic, Emergency maintenance and Special Repairs. Box 2 and 3 provides major activities of maintenance.

## Box 2: Norms for Maintenance of Rural Roads

State Government shall constitute a Committee comprising of technical, administrative and finance senior level officers with technical officers not below the rank of Chief Engineer, and provide about three months' time to work out the norms. The committee shall comprise of the following officers namely,

1. Secretary (RM&DD),
2. Chief Engineer, SRRDA,
3. Finance Controller of SRRDA,
4. Representative of FRED,

The norms should cover requirements of routine, periodic, emergency maintenance and special repair under different terrain and domestic conditions relevant to the state.



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## Box 3: Major activities for incorporation in Maintenance Norms

### A. Routine Maintenance

- Pothole repairs
- Erosion control on shoulders, slopes
- Cleaning of drains, culverts, other waterways
- Bush clearing
- Cleaning and repair of road signs, parapets, guard stones etc.

### B. Periodic Maintenance

- Renewal of road surface
- Major repairs to Cross Drainage works

### C. Emergency Maintenance

- Clearing of landslides
- Reconstruction / repair of Cross Drainage works damaged due to floods, earthquakes
- Reconstruction / repair of road sections damaged due to washouts, floods, landslides, earthquakes

### D. Special Repairs

- Repair/Reconstruction of retaining/breast walls
- Repair/Reconstruction of damaged drains
- Repair/Reconstruction of Road damaged due to laying of Public service utilities.

3. Overall responsibility for efficient planning management and delivery of rural road maintenance shall be of Sikkim Rural Roads Development Agency including coordination with other departments handling the work of rural roads. A dedicated Planning, Budgeting and Monitoring (PBM) Unit, in the

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SRRDA to be headed by a Superintending Engineer shall be responsible for Planning, Budgeting and Monitoring of all maintenance works of the road network under PMGSY with the overall guidance of the Engineer in Chief, Sikkim Rural Roads Development Agency.

4. To ensure allocation of adequate and timely availability of funds needed for maintenance of rural roads as per Annual Maintenance Plans, prepared by the Sikkim Rural Road Agency, a dedicated maintenance fund shall be created on the basis of fund already created for maintenance of PMGSY roads.

5. The State Government shall constitute a standing Empowered Committee to decide on annual allocation of funds for maintenance of rural roads with reasonable share for rural roads based on the total road network. The Empowered Committee shall comprise of the following members namely,

(i) Development commissioner

(ii) Secretary Finance

(iii) Secretary (RM&DD)

(iv) Chief Engineer, SRRDA

(v) Finance Controller, SRRDA.

6. Formulate an Action Plan for time bound maintenance of the rural road network.

7. Sikkim Rural Roads Development Agency shall institute annual performance evaluation and reporting system about the delivery of maintenance and condition of the rural road network (in a format detailing fund allocation, requirement, coverage, shortfall etc).

8. Sikkim Rural Roads Development Agency shall simplify the existing Road Maintenance and Management System (RMMS) for rural roads to prepare Annual Maintenance Plans for each Project Implementation Unit based on scientific assessment of the road network condition.



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9. Set up Special District Task Forces in each District to deal with emergency situations arising due to natural disasters headed by concerned Superintending Engineer of the Circle and concerned Project Implementation Unit of the District as member.

10. The field units of Sikkim Rural Roads Development Agency shall collect or outsource the collection of road condition data and inventory data and capture the condition of roads through photographs or videography (having Longitude -latitude) of location and such details shall be uploaded suitably on the department website.

11. Some pilot works of maintenance shall be undertaken jointly by Project Implementation Unit of Sikkim Rural Roads Development Agency and relevant block or gram Panchayat or Local Community participation and steadily move towards devolving maintenance responsibility in respect of rural roads to Panchayati Raj Institutions.

12. Training shall form an integral part of Institutional strengthening of the Sikkim Rural Roads Development Agency. For this Sikkim Rural Roads Development Agency shall formulate a calendar of training programmes for its technical officers at various levels. These training Programmes shall include development and dissemination of training modules covering all aspects of road maintenance from planning to execution to monitoring of entire maintenance activities. An in house cadre of trainers shall be developed for imparting training to the staff. Training modules shall be developed for imparting both on site as well as off-site training to field staff. Training programmes shall also include study tours to national or international best practice examples.

13. SRRDA shall support in providing outreach programmes in enhancing the training facilities for Class C and Class D contractors in implementation of maintenance works. For this, the Contractors Association shall be associated to work out the details of training modules, training providers including on-the-job exposures in close association with the road agencies. Such modules could be in the form of booklets or hand-outs in various maintenance operations as also in audio-visual mode.



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14. The SRRDA shall identify and pilot innovative maintenance models and technologies. These innovations shall be in the form of piloting and adopting different models of outsourcing maintenance works which could be in the form of Performance Based Maintenance Contracting (PBMC), Community Contracting or a Hybrid system involving combination of PBMC and conventional Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC). The thrust on innovative technologies shall be on materials that can be used in all weather conditions, reduce time and manpower required for repairs thereby improving productivity. The technology shall be cost effective, easy to manage, off the shelf material for patch or pothole repair and application with simple tools with all maintenance items being accommodated in a small vehicle for speedy execution. Possibility of adopting new techniques for pothole repairs such as first time permanent repairs shall also be explored. Effort shall be on environment friendly technologies.

15. The SRRDA shall undertake road user satisfaction surveys every three years on its rural road network and put the result on the website.

16. Guidelines for execution of maintenance work shall be as follows:

The process to be followed is as hereunder:-

- (i) The annual maintenance shall be tendered or taken up departmentally sub division wise for roads falling within its jurisdiction.
- (ii) Special repairs and major works requiring stabilisation and related works shall be either tendered or taken up departmentally considering the need at site.
- (iii) On completion of the tendering process, final acceptance of the maintenance bid will be the prerogative of the Secretary, Rural Management and Development Department.
- (iv) The agreement shall be drawn by the respective PIU.



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## FUND:-

- a) Budgetary Provision shall be made by State Government for maintenance of PMGSY roads.
- b) The maintenance fund shall be provided in the Demand for Grants of Rural Management & Development Department as maintenance fund for PMGSY roads.

The maintenance strategy and methodology should go a long way in sustaining the asset created under PMGSY.

17. Necessary amendments shall be made in the provisions of the guidelines by the Sikkim Rural Roads Development Agency on the basis of experiences and on need basis.

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