

RURAL ROADS INFRASTRUCTURE UNDER PMGSY IN INDIA AND WEST BENGAL

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ABSTRACT

A huge proportion of the India's poor reside in rural areas, where high expenses and lack of connection impede economic activity. By giving access to facilities such as education, health, and marketing, rural road infrastructure becomes an important component in the socioeconomic development of rural populations. However, the country's rural road network has developed in an unbalanced manner. With this in mind, the Government of India introduced the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana in 2000 to offer connection to disconnected eligible habitations and upgrade select existing roads to standard. This paper attempts to explain the advances in infrastructure under a big rural road-building programme known as PMGSY in several states of India, particularly in West Bengal, using two key indicators: rural road density and rural road availability on basic road infrastructure.

KEYWORDS: *Rural Road, PMGSY, Road Density, Road Availability.*

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