OFFICE MEMORANDUM

March 16, 2010

You are aware that the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) is in its sixth year of implementation and it has already made a perceptible impact on the pace of overall development of the States. Benefits of the improved rural connectivity are getting reflected in the form of better access to healthcare and educational institutions, better availability of public services, higher levels of social interaction, increased land value, improved market access for the farmers, etc.

2. The responsibility for the implementation of the PMGSY rests with the State Governments. Ministry of Rural Development has issued detailed Guidelines to facilitate the States in its implementation. With a view to ensuring wider participation of the elected representatives at various levels of decision making, these Guidelines, inter alia, provide for consultation with the Members of Parliament for taking up road works under the programme. Some of the existing institutional arrangements, as outlined in the programme Guidelines are summarized in Annexure-I.

3. However, we continue to receive feedback from the Members of Parliament that these proposals are not being given due consideration. To obviate such complaints, it would be desirable that the State Level Standing Committee (SLSC), while finalizing proposals, should specifically verify this aspect and ensure that the proposals given by the Month MPs have been accorded due consideration as prescribed in the guidelines.

4. You are aware that guidelines for implementation of PMGSY have an embedded system for effective quality monitoring as well as for ensuring transparency in the execution of projects. Third party quality audit by independent State Level Monitors (SLMs) and National Quality Monitors (NQMs), provision for citizen Information Boards and placing all the details relating to the projects under execution in the citizens’ domain of CMMGS (website: www.cmmgs.nic.in) are some of the measures designed for ensuring transparency and accountability in programme implementation. These guidelines should be strictly adhered to.

5. Recently the State Governments have been asked to introduce a system of inviting public representatives for joint inspection of PMGSY projects. The arrangement for this interaction is summarized in Annexure-II.