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The Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana was launched on 25 December, 2000 by the then NDA Government led by the Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee.

A fully funded Centrally Sponsored Scheme in the beginning

The primary objective of the PMGSY is to provide all-weather road connectivity to all eligible unconnected habitations.
'American roads are not good because America is rich, but America is rich because America has good roads.'

Recent update -
The Government has brought forward the target date by three years from 2022 to 2019 to achieve complete rural connectivity through all-weather roads under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana, PMGSY.
Which of the following statements is/are correct about PMGSY?

1. The target date is reduced by three years from 2022 to 2019.
2. It is under authority of the Ministry of Rural Development.
3. PMGSY was launched in year 2000 as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme with the objective to provide single all-weather road connectivity to all eligible unconnected rural habitations.

a. 1 and 2 are correct
b. 2 and 3 are correct
c. All are correct
d. None

Answer - C
The primary objective of the PMGSY is to provide all-weather road connectivity to all eligible unconnected habitations in the rural areas having population of 500 persons and above.

In respect of Hill States (North-East, Sikkim, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Uttarakhand), Desert Areas (as identified in the Desert Development Programme) and Tribal (Schedule V) areas, habitations of population of 250 persons and above were considered eligible for providing all weather connectivity.
Which one of the following statements is/are correct about the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY)?

1. It provides connectivity to all the unconnected habitations of more than 1000 persons in the rural areas by good quality all-weather roads

2. It provides connectivity to all unconnected habitations of more than 250 persons in the hilly and desert areas by good quality all-weather roads

A. Only 1  
B. Only 2  
C. Both  
D. None  
Answer - B
PMGSY has made it possible for producers of perishable produce such as milk, fish and vegetables to sell these to a wider base of consumers.

Accountability in the construction of roads
Who is the Minister of Rural Development?
The central government has set a target of building 44 Lakh homes under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana – Gramin by the end of December 2017.

According to the statistics released by Ministry of Rural Development, about 22 Lakh houses have been constructed in rural areas under PMAY-G till 28th January.

Launched – 20 November 2016 (Agra)
Pradhan Mantri Gramin Awaas Yojana (PMGAY), previously Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY)

Indira Awaas Yojana was launched by Rajiv Gandhi
Which of the following statement / s is / are correct with regards to Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana?

1. Each MP (From Rajya Sabha as well as Lok Sabha) is obligated to develop three villages by 2019 and a total of 8 villages each by 2024
2. Central government will provide the funds for the scheme

A. 1 is true
B. 2 is true
C. Both are true
D. Both are false

Answer A
Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana (SAGY) was launched on 11th October, 2014 (the birth anniversary of Lok Nayak Jaya Prakash Narayan ji) with the aim to translate the comprehensive vision of Mahatma Gandhi about an ideal Indian village into a reality, keeping in view the present context.

Under SAGY, each Member of Parliament adopts a Gram Panchayat and guides its holistic progress giving importance for social development at par with infrastructure. The ‘Adarsh Grams’ are to become schools of local development and governance, inspiring other Gram Panchayats.
Key objectives of the Yojana include:

The development of model villages, called Adarsh Grams, through the implementation of existing schemes, and certain new initiatives to be designed for the local context, which may vary from village to village.

Creating models of local development which can be replicated in other villages.
Progress so far

Under the scheme, Narendra Modi has adopted Nagepur village his constituency Varanasi in Uttar Pradesh.

Sonia Gandhi adopted Udwa village in her constituency Rae Bareli in Uttar Pradesh.
Rahul Gandhi adopted Deeh village in his constituency Amethi in Uttar Pradesh.
‘Jai Kisan Jai Vigyan’ Week from 23 December to 29 December - on the birth anniversary of former **Prime Ministers Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee** and **Late Shri Chaudhary Charan Singh**.
National Panchayati Raj Day

Observed on 24th April, 2017

14th finance commission, Centre will be releasing more than 2 lakh crore rupees to Gram panchayats for 5 years to undertake physical and social infrastructure projects in the villages.

Ministry of Panchayati Raj - It was created in May 2004. The ministry is now headed by Narendra Singh Tomar.

New Magazine Launched Gramoday Sankalp
Rashtriya Krishi Shiksha Divas is celebrated on

a. 11th May
b. 5th November
c. 3rd December
d. 12th June

Answer - C
Celebrated on 3rd December in remembrance of Dr. Rajendra Prasad.

It is also the Foundation day of DR. Rajendra Prasad Central Agricultural University, PUSA, Bihar.
**New Scheme**

**Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay Unnat Krishi Shiksha Scheme** launched in the year 2016 to promote agricultural education under which 100 centres being opened with a fund of Rs.5.35 crore

**Objectives:**
1. To build skilled Human Resource at village level relevant to national needs towards organic farming and sustainable agriculture.
2. Provide rural India with professional support in the field of Organic Farming/Natural Farming/Rural Economy/Sustainable Agriculture.
3. To extend other activities of Unnat Bharat Abhiyan at village level through these established centres.
Gram Uday Se Bharat Uday Abhiyan’ (Village Self Governance Campaign)

Launched by PM

It was launched on the occasion of 125th birth anniversary of Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar at his birthplace at Mhow, Madhya Pradesh.

The campaign aims to generate nation-wide efforts to strengthen Panchayati Raj, increase social harmony across villages, promote rural development and foster farmers’ welfare and livelihoods of the poor.

It was an eleven day campaign (from 14th April to 24th April 2016) will mainly focus on generating nationwide efforts on promoting above mentioned aim of the campaign.
MAHATMA GANDHI’S VISION OF A MODEL VILLAGE

Mahatma Gandhi’s concept of rural development revolves around creating model villages for transforming ‘swaraj’ into ‘su-raj’

His vision of an ideal village, in his own words:

An ideal Indian village will be so constructed as to lend itself to perfect sanitation. It will have cottages with sufficient light and ventilation built of a material obtainable within a radius of five miles of it. The village lanes and streets will be free of all avoidable dust. It will have wells according to its needs and accessible to all. It will have houses of worship for all; also a common meeting place, a village common for grazing its cattle, a co-operative dairy, primary and secondary schools in which industrial education will be the central fact, and it will have panchayats for settling disputes. It will produce its own grains, vegetables and fruit, and its own khadi. This is roughly my idea of a model village. (Harijan, 9-1-1937; Vol. 64; Pg. 217-18.)

That village may be regarded as reformed...where the largest possible number of village industries are flourishing, in which nobody is illiterate, where the roads are clean, there is a fixed place for evacuation, the wells are clean, there is harmony among the different communities, and untouchability is completely absent, in which everybody gets cow’s milk, ghee etc., in moderate quantities, in which nobody is without work, and which is free from quarrels and thefts... (Letter to Munnalal Shah, 4-4-1941; Vol. 73; Pg. 421)
"My idea of village swaraj is that it is a complete republic, independent of its neighbours for its own vital wants, and yet interdependent for many others in which dependence is a necessity. Thus every village’s first concern will be to grow its own food crops and cotton for its cloth. It should have a reserve for its cattle, recreation and playground for adults and children. Then if there is more land available, it will grow useful money crops, thus excluding ganja, tobacco, opium and the like. The village will maintain a village theatre, school and public hall. It will have its own waterworks, ensuring clean water supply. This can be done through controlled wells or tanks. Education will be compulsory up to the final basic course. As far as possible every activity will be conducted on the cooperative basis. There will be no castes such as we have today with their graded untouchability. (Harijan, 26-7-1942; Vol. 76*: Pg. 308-9.)

The task before every lover of the country is how to .. reconstruct the villages of India so that it may be as easy for any-one to live in them as it is supposed to be in the cities. Harijan, 7-3-1936