

Regarding need for all weather road connectivity in rural areas of Kandhamal district, Odisha-laid

SHRI SUKANTA KUMAR PANIGRAHI (KANDHAMAL): I wish to raise the critical issue of inadequate road connectivity in Kandhamal district, Odisha, which predominantly affects the tribal communities living in remote and hilly areas. Poor road infrastructure has made access to essential services such as healthcare, education, and markets extremely difficult, further isolating these already marginalized communities. Despite the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) aiming to provide all-weather road connectivity to rural areas, the progress in Kandhamal has been slow. Several remote villages remain unconnected, hampering economic development and basic service delivery. I urge the Government to Prioritize Kandhamal district for additional funding under the PMGSY and other rural infrastructure schemes; expedite the construction of pending road projects, ensuring time-bound implementation; and deploy special provisions or task forces to address the unique challenges posed by Kandhamal's terrain and weather conditions. This intervention is vital to improve the socio-economic conditions of Kandhamal's tribal communities and ensure their inclusion in the nation's development journey.