



25 Years of Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) | National Current Affairs | 02 Jan 2026

Why in News?

The **Government of India** is celebrating the **25th anniversary** of the [Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana \(PMGSY\)](#) in **2025**, marking a major milestone in **rural connectivity** and **infrastructure development**.

Key Points

- **Launched:** Launched on **25 December 2000**.
 - **Budgetary Support:** An allocation of around **₹19,000 crore** has been made in 2025-26, to sustain rural connectivity efforts.
 - **Objective:** Provide **all-weather road connectivity** to previously unconnected rural habitations.
 - **Funding:** Currently operates on a **cost-sharing ratio of 60:40** between the Center and States, with 90:10 for North-Eastern and Himalayan States.
 - **PMGSY-IV Plan:** Under **Phase IV (2024-29)**, **62,500 km** of roads will be constructed to connect **25,000 habitations**, with an estimated outlay of **₹70,125 crore**.
 - **Scale and Progress:** Since its launch in 2000, approximately 8,25,114 km of rural roads have been sanctioned, with **nearly 7,87,520 km (95-96%) completed** as of December 2025.
 - **Advanced Monitoring Systems:** Implementation is strengthened with **real-time monitoring** using **OMMAS** (Online Management, Monitoring and Accounting System), **e-MARG** (electronic Maintenance of Rural Roads under PMGSY), **GPS tracking**, and a **three-tier quality system** to ensure accountability and durability.
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India to get 3 new airlines | National Current Affairs | 02 Jan 2026

Why in News?

The Government of India has granted **No Objection Certificates (NOCs)** to **three new airlines** — **Shankh Air, AI Hind Air and FlyExpress** — to enter the Indian aviation sector.

Key Points

- **Regulatory Approval:** The **Ministry of Civil Aviation** has granted **NOCs** to **three new airlines**.
- **Clearance Stage:** After receiving **NOCs**, the airlines are in the process of securing the **Air Operator Certificate (AOC)** from the [Directorate General of Civil Aviation \(DGCA\)](#) to commence commercial operations.
- **Operational Timeline:** Commercial flight operations are expected to begin in **2026**.

- **Nature of Airlines:** These are proposed as **low-cost and regional airlines**.
- **Breaking the Duopoly:** The government is moving to reduce the **extreme market concentration** where **IndiGo (~65%) and Air India (~27%)** control over 90% of traffic.
- **Regional Connectivity:** The move aligns with the government's objective of improving **air connectivity to Tier-II and Tier-III cities**, in line with the broader goals of the [UDAN regional connectivity framework](#).

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