## 15,246-km rural roads laid in 4.5 years in Uttar Pradesh: Govt

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LUCKNOW: In the past 4.5 years, the state government claims to have constructed 15,246 km of rural roads. Moreover, a government spokesperson said, tehsil and development block headquarters are also being connected by two-lane wide roads.

"The government has worked to reduce the gap between the village and the city by connecting main roads with link roads to villages. This has reduced migration from villages and also improved employment and development in villages. Farmers have easier access to godowns as well," said the spokesperson.

Public works department data shows that about 1,557 revenue villages are getting a network of 1,763-km long roads at a cost of Rs 1,114 crore. More than 1,546 revenue villages have already been covered with 1,740.24 km

of roads. The government has also released Rs 1,407 crore to connect 2,275 habitations out of which 1,717 habitations have already been linked with 2,173.60 km of roads.

"Under the chief minister's Samagra Gram Vikas Yojana, work has been completed on a 29-km long road for 33 revenue villages at a cost of Rs 14.35 crore. There were 26 tehsil headquarters which were not connected by two-lane roads. To connect them, road length of 270 km has been built at a cost of Rs 387 crore," the spokesperson said.

At the same time, he said, Rs 2,088 crore is being spent to connect 144 development block headquarters with two-lane roads. Work has been completed in about 100 blocks.