

the works recommended by Members of Parliament and accord administrative and financial sanction within 45 days. (iii) Software for monitoring of the MPLADS works has been launched on 30.11.2004 for adoption by the District Authorities.

Functioning of MPLADS

836. DR. VIJAY MALLYA:
SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA:

Will the MINISTER OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that functioning of Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS) has not been satisfactory;

(b) whether any study by any Parliamentary Committee has been undertaken to assess the extent and the reasons for unsatisfactory implementation of the scheme;

(c) if so, the States which are affected; and

(d) what action Government propose to rectify this situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) No, Sir, MPLADS implementation is generally satisfactory.

(b) and (c) No Sir. There was no Parliamentary Committee exclusively to assess the extent and the reasons for unsatisfactory implementation of MPLADS. Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha MPLADS Committee have visited some States.

(d) Reports received from the MPLADS Committee are acted upon and necessary advice are issued to the State Government and District Authorities.

Utilisation of MPLADS Fund

837. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR: Will the MINISTER OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government released Rs. 5.018 crores

during the period 1993-2000 for the Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS) for development projects in Member's constituencies, but of this, the MPs utilized only Rs. 3.221 crores, a mere 64 per cent;

(b) whether it is a fact that the balance Rs. 1.795 crores lies either unspent or in the category status not known; and

(c) if so, the reason therefor and the action Government propose to take to improve the implementation of scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) Yes Sir, during the period from December 1993 to March 2000, Rs. 5017.80 crore were released to the Heads of Districts of States for execution of the works recommended by the Members of Parliament. As on 31.3.2000, the District Administration reported utilization of Rs. 3221.43 crore. The percentage utilization over fund release was 64.2.

(b) The balance fund of Rs. 1796.37 crore were available for works execution recommended by MPs.

(c) Rs. 12906.30 crore has been released by the Government of India to the districts upto 30.11.2004 under MPLADS, out of which Rs. 11182.26 crore has been utilised. As a result of the steps taken by the Government, the position of utilization of fund has improved from 64.2% in March 2000 to 86.64% in November, 2004. The position will improve further with the adoption of the software of monitoring of MPLADS works by all District Administrations.

Time and Cost Overrun Projects

838. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the MINISTER OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that a majority of infrastructure projects in highways, railways and shipping are delayed;

(b) if so, which are top five projects in terms of time and cost overruns each;