

[9 March, 2006]

RAJYA SABHA

(c) if so, Government's response to the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) Considerable progress is made under Chandrayaan-1 in the last two years. Spacecraft configuration as well as selection of core payloads from India and announcement of opportunity payloads from abroad have been finalised. The Preliminary Design Reviews of Chandrayaan-1 spacecraft and payload systems have been completed. The development of the spacecraft & scientific instruments and establishment of deep space network are progressing satisfactorily. Chandrayaan-1 is planned for launch in 2007-08 on board India's PSLV.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) After a scientific-merit based selection process, two US payloads have been accepted to be included in Chandrayaan-1 mission.

Engineers of DDA

1899. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that around two thousand engineers of Delhi Development Authority are kept idle and Government are wasting huge expenditure on their salary and perks;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether DDA's Engineers Association have made any representation for getting work responsibilities to them; and

(d) if so, Government's response thereto and the details of the steps taken or proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) and (b) Delhi Development Authority (DDA) has reported that it is not a fact that its Engineers are kept idle.

(c) and (d) DDA has informed that Engineers Association have made representation expressing its apprehension that there may not be

adequate work for DDA engineers and have suggested that DDA should take up more construction projects.

DDA has further reported that a number of housing projects are under construction in various areas. In addition to the execution of residential projects, the engineers are required for supervision of commercial projects, development works, fly-overs, infrastructure for Commonwealth Games etc. Engineers are also required for planning, designing, quality control, vigilance, maintenance of land & building and other administrative works.

Modifying MPLAD Scheme

1900. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal to abrogate or replace or otherwise modify the existing MPLAD Scheme; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI G.K. VASAN): (a) and (b) There is no proposal to abrogate the Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS) under consideration. However, MPLADS Guidelines have been comprehensively revised and issued on 16.11.2005. The salient features of the revised Guidelines are given at enclosed Statement (See below). The Ministry has further sought views of all Members of Parliament, State Governments and the concerned Central Ministries/Departments for improvement in the implementation of the Scheme.

Statement

Salient Features of Revised Guidelines of MPLADS

Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS) is under implementation since 1993-94. The Guidelines under the Scheme were revised from time to time and lastly it was revised in April, 2002. Subsequently, certain clarificatory circulars have been issued. Now, a