

Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS) are received in the Ministry on a continuing basis.

Release of funds under the MPLADS at the Central Government level as well as at the District level is governed by the provisions contained in the Guidelines of MPLADS.

The first installment of MPLADS funds is released subject to submission of provisional Utilisation Certificate (UC) of the previous year for at least 80% of expenditure of the first instalment of the previous year. The second instalment is released on submission of Monthly Progress Report (MPR) reflecting unsanctioned balance of less than Rs. 100 lakh and unspent balance of less than Rs. 250 lakh with the District Authority along with the Utilisation Certificate (UC) and Audit Certificate (AC) of the immediately concluded financial year. As soon as the requisite documents and certifications are received, the funds are released by the Central Government.

The District Authorities release funds to the Implementing Agencies in accordance with the State Government's rules/guidelines applicable for the purpose.

Funds under the MPLADS are non-lapsable, both at the end of the Central Government and at the end of the District Authorities. Members of Parliament can recommend works upto their full annual entitlement without linking with actual release of funds and District Authorities are required to undertake immediate sanction and implementation of the eligible works so recommended.

Government in the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation continuously emphasizes on timely utilisation of funds and timely submission of required documents and certifications for further release of funds.

#### **Misuse of MPLADS funds**

3105. DR. T.N. SEEMA: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) has pointed out time and again that MPLADS funds are misused, and are not monitored and in many cases, even remain unspent;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto and the complete details constituency-wise and State-wise;

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by Government for monitoring of MPLAD Scheme through impact assessments and publicly available audit details; and

(d) whether Government has any plans for re-assessing the MPLAD Scheme's feasibility and future course of action and, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) and (b) The Comptroller and Auditor General of India (C&AG) in its Performance Audit Report No. 31 (Civil) of the year 2010-11 for the period 2004-05 to 2008-09 has pointed out violations of Guidelines and irregularities in implementation of the Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS).

The implementation of MPLADS in the field is undertaken by the District Authorities as per the State Government's technical, administrative and financial rules. The observations of the C&AG relating to implementation in the field have been communicated to the concerned State Governments/District Authorities for taking appropriate action, including penal/departmental action and recoupment of MPLADS funds with interest.

Action Taken Notes (ATNs) on the C&AG paras are furnished to the C&AG in normal course. The Performance Audit Report as well as ATNs are placed on the website of the C&AG.

(c) Third party physical monitoring of the Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS) has been undertaken since 2007-08. The NABARD Consultancy Services (NABCONS) conducted third party physical monitoring in 208 districts in the period 2007-08 to 2010-11. The Agricultural Finance Corporation (AFC) Ltd. conducted third party physical monitoring in 100 districts in the year 2012-13. Observations/suggestions of the third party monitors in respect of implementation in the field are sent to the District Authorities for taking appropriate action.

(d) There is presently no proposal for re-assessing the feasibility of the MPLAD Scheme.

#### **Delay in infrastructure projects**

3106. SHRI AVINASH PANDE: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 423 out of 925 projects each costing Rs. 20 crore or more, have failed to meet the deadline as stated by the Ministry;

(b) if so, the reasons for the delay thereof;