

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1233
TO BE ANSWERED ON 11.02.2021

INFORMATION ON REVIVAL OF MPLAD SCHEME

1233. **SHRI B. LINGAIAH YADAV:**
DR. SASMIT PATRA:
SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR:

Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government propose to revive MPLAD Scheme, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (b) whether Government has received any request to release MPLADS funds during the year 2019-20;
- (c) the reasons for stopping MPLAD Scheme so far and the demands received/ action taken in this regard as it is hampering local development projects in the States; and
- (d) whether there is any possibility that the MPLADS funds withheld due to COVID-19 pandemic being released earlier than the specified two years time?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (RAO INDERJIT SINGH)

(a) At present, there is no proposal for restoration of Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS) during the FY 2020-21 and FY 2021-22. Government has decided not to operate the MPLAD Scheme for two years, and decided to place the MPLADS funds FY 2020-21 and FY 2021-22 at the disposal of the Ministry of Finance for strengthening its efforts in managing the challenges of COVID-19 which has been declared as a global pandemic and a notified disaster in the country.

(b) Yes Sir.

(c) Government has decided not to operate the MPLAD Scheme during the FY 2020-21 and FY 2021-22, and decided to place the MPLADS funds FY 2020-21 and FY 2021-22 at the disposal of the Ministry of Finance for strengthening its efforts in managing the challenges of COVID-19 which has been declared as a global pandemic and a notified disaster in the country. The Ministry has received demands / requests from Hon'ble Members of Parliament and Nodal District Authorities for release of pending instalments due up to 31-03-2020, to resume the ongoing works and clear the committed liabilities under MPLADS.

Government has issued detailed instructions vide its circular dated 08th April, 2020 wherein Hon'ble Members of Parliament have been requested to change the priority of their earlier recommendations, if feasible, so that the recommended work can be completed within the funds already available with the District Authority, as no more funds will be released during FY 2020-21 and 2021-22. The Ministry has issued another set of instructions dated 14.05.2020 to the Nodal district authorities for settlement and closure of savings bank accounts of former MPs of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha, which are not yet closed even after completion of 21 months from the date of demitting office so that unspent balance in their account can be used by the respective constituencies / states of incumbent MPs of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha where funds are required, as per MPLADS guidelines.

(d) No Sir.
