GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 438 TO BE ANSWERED ON 22.07.2021

CUTS IN MP's SALARIES AND MPLADS FUND

438. SHRI SANJAY SINGH: -

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

- (a) details of the funds utilisation for the MPLADS fund and the 30 per cent cut in the Member's salary; and
- (b) whether Government is planning restoration of the MPLADS fund in the near future?

ANSWER

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

(a) The Ministry has so far released Rs. 55497.24 Crore to the Nodal Districts Authorities and the total expenditure incurred as on 09 July, 2021 is Rs. 53863.79 Crores (*source: mplads portal*), under MPLADS. Further, the Cabinet in its meeting held on 6th April, 2020, decided not to operate MPLADS for Financial Year 2020-21 and 2021-22; and placed the MPLADS funds for these two-years at the disposal of Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance.

The Parliament passed "The Salary Allowances and pension of Members of Parliament Amendment Bill of 2020", whereby the salary payable to Members of Parliament was reduced by thirty percent for a period of one year commencing from 1st April, 2020 to meet the exigencies arising out of Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

The funds saved from the MPLAD Scheme and cuts from MP's salary have been utilized to enhance the allocation of funds for improving health infrastructure, provide free ration under PM GaribKalyanYojana, and free vaccination.

(b) At present, there is no such proposal for restoration of MPLADS.
