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उप महानिदेशक  
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Deputy Director General



सत्यमेव जयते



एक कदम स्वच्छता की ओर

भारत सरकार  
Government of India  
सांख्यिकी और कार्यक्रम कार्यान्वयन मंत्रालय  
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D. O. No. C-03/2019-MPLADS

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*Dear Hon'ble Member,*

Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation had organized Open House Discussion on MPLADS with Hon'ble MPs of Lok Sabha on 07<sup>th</sup> and 08<sup>th</sup> Jan, 2019. The Summary Record of the proceedings of the said discussions is attached herewith for kind information.

*With regards.*

Yours sincerely,

(Dinesh Kumar)

To  
All Hon'ble Members of Lok Sabha

**Ministry of Statistics & PISummary Record of Proceedings of Open House Discussion on MPLAD Scheme with Hon'ble Members of Lok Sabha**

**Venue, MP:           07<sup>th</sup> and 08<sup>th</sup> January, 2019 at Auditorium, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, New Extension Building, Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi**

1. Open house discussion on MPLAD Scheme with Hon'ble Members of Lok Sabha was convened on 7<sup>th</sup> and 08<sup>th</sup> January, 2019 at the Auditorium, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, New Extension Building, Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi on the initiative of Shri Vijay Goel, Hon'ble MoS for Statistics and Programme Implementation. Shri Pravin Srivastava, Secretary, M/o Statistics and Programme Implementation and Shri Dinesh Kumar, Deputy Director General (PI) were also present. The list of Members invited for the discussions was divided into two groups. On 7<sup>th</sup> January, 2019, Members from the States of Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, West Bengal and Gujarat were invited while the Members from the remaining States were invited on 08<sup>th</sup> Jan, 2019. The list of Hon'ble Members who participated in the discussions is attached as Annex-I.

2. Secretary, MOSPI welcomed and apprised the Hon'ble Members that this discussion is first of its kind for Lok Sabha Members of Parliament. He emphasized that the free flow of ideas and suggestions of Hon'ble Members during the discussions help the Ministry richer in making the Scheme better and shall serve as template for the successors. Secretary requested Hon'ble MOS to open the floor for discussion and invite suggestions for improvement.

**Address by Hon'ble MoS**

3. Hon'ble MoS welcomed the Hon'ble Members and underscored that a discussion of this kind for MPLAD Scheme was being held for the first time for Lok Sabha Members. The Ministry had conducted similar discussion with Hon'ble Members of Rajya Sabha in March, 2018 which witnessed enthusiasm and interest of the Members and wherein many valuable suggestions emerged. He stated that there could not have been a more opportune moment for the Ministry than to have all of the Members together on the same platform and know their views, ideas and suggestions on implementation of MPLADS based on their experience as a public representative from their respective Constituencies. He was proud to share that the MPLAD Scheme has recently completed twenty-five years since its inception. He highlighted that the earmarked amount under this Scheme for each MP was Rs. 05 Lakh at the time of its commencement, which was subsequently raised to Rs. 01 Crore, then Rs 02 Crore and finally enhanced to Rs 05 Crore.

4. He drew attention to recent newspaper reports which alluded to more than Rs. 12,000 Crore of MPLADS funds lying unspent and that such media reports brought adverse impact on the Members and stated that he has been told that the actual amount of unspent balance for all sitting Members of Parliament is only about Rs. 3000 Crore. On the other hand in the last five years Ministry has been allocated about twenty thousand crore (Rs. 3950 crore annually). He added that the Ministry being the Nodal Ministry for the Scheme, it was important to incorporate innovative ideas and dispel misconceptions about the performance of the Scheme. He informed that the Ministry has published a booklet containing Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) to serve as a ready reckoner for the Members. He also requested the Members to give their suggestions and list their grievances in the Feedback Forms provided for the purpose. He stressed on the fact that the Ministry monitors the fund utilization position under MPLADS on regular basis and had also conducted 21<sup>st</sup> All India Review Meeting with State/ UT Nodal Secretaries.

5. With these remarks, Hon'ble MoS requested Hon'ble Members for suggestions/ discussions for improvement in the overall functioning of the Scheme. He assured that all suggestions shall be looked into by the Ministry with due diligence. Following issues and suggestions came up and some of them were clarified by Hon'ble MoS during the course of the discussions itself.

**A. Issues/ suggestions raised by Hon'ble Members of Parliament on 07<sup>th</sup> January, 2019**

**6. Shri Jugal Kishore Sharma, , MP::**

- a. In many States, there is a system of withholding of balance MPLADS funds if certain percentage of utilization has not been achieved.
- b. The progress of works under MPLADS in certain areas is slow due to terrain, topography etc. Ministry may consider relaxing the conditions in respect of furnishing of documents for release of MPLADS instalments in such cases.

**Response from MoSPI**

- The works of MPLADS are executed by the District Authorities in accordance with the respective State Government's financial, technical and administrative rules. As such, the situation would vary from State to State.
- Relaxation in respect of furnishing of fund related documents under any circumstances is not feasible.

**7. Shri Harish Dwivedi, , MP::**

- a. The Ministry may take steps to expedite the release of last installment.
- b. The Ministry may look into the matter of proper utilization of Administrative Expenses.

- c. There is increasing demand from the people of Constituencies to erect memorials in name of prominent personalities. The Ministry may allow naming of memorials under MPLADS.
- d. The provision to allot certain percentage of funds in cases of relief of fire hazards is available to the MLAs whereas this is not permissible under MPLADS. The Ministry may like to comment on this.

#### **Response from MoSPI**

- Ministry shall take steps to expedite the release of the last instalment only for those MPs whose first instalment of 2018-19 has been released.
- Utilization of administrative expenses is done by the Collector on the basis of the administrative contingencies so arising.
- MPLADS does not allow naming of assets after people.

#### **8. Shri Birendra Kumar Chaudhary, , MP::**

- a. The funds from the old Member have not been transferred to the new Member by the Nodal District.
- b. The cost of works being done under MPLADS is escalating on account of introduction of Goods and Services Tax (GST). MPLADS works should be exempted from GST.

#### **Response from MoSPI**

- The funds of the previous incumbent are to be transferred to the present incumbent by the Nodal district.
- There is no proposal to exempt MPLADS works from GST.

#### **9. Shri Vinayak Raut, , MP::**

- a. Instructions may be issued to implementing agencies entrusted for executing the works of Members by the District Authorities.
- b. Action against erring officials of the District may be taken.
- c. The statistics on fund position provided in the kit/folder may be explained.

#### **Response from MoSPI**

- The statistics on fund utilization in the kit/folder illustrates the state-wise and Member-wise list of balance of MPLADS funds available with respective Members for utilization.
- Ministry periodically issues advisories to State/ UT Nodal departments to take action against erring officials of the District Administration and send Action Taken Reports to this Ministry. However, the Ministry does not take direct action in these cases since this is likely to disrupt the federal structure of the country.

#### **10. Shri Sharad Tripathi, , MP::**

- a. The actual MPLADS funds available for utilization are very low on account of certain commissions to be paid to the implementing agencies. Ministry may take steps in this regard.

**Response from MoSPI**

- Commissions paid to implementing agencies, are not permitted under MPLADS.

**11. Shri Rajiv Pratap Rudy, , MP::**

- a. In many States, many of the works recommended by Members are pending on account of inadequate staff/officials of the concerned department. Ministry may take action to address the issue.

**Response from MoSPI**

- This pertains specifically to State Government and in a federal structure, no action is made out on part of the Ministry.

**12. Shri Rajendra Agrawal, , MP::**

- a. The provisions on works in SC/ST areas may be elaborated.

**Response from MoSPI**

- The provisions related to development of areas inhabited by Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are specified in the MPLADS Guidelines.

**13. Shri Santosh Gangwar, MP & Union Minister, MP:**

- a. The annual entitlement of Rs. 05 Crore of a Member may be released in single installment.

**Response from MoSPI**

- The matter is under examination of this Ministry in consultation with M/o Finance.

**14. Shri Ram Kripal Yadav, , MP::**

- a. Ministry may allow the construction of Kharanja (brick roads) under MPLADS in the rural areas to improve last mile connectivity.

**Response from MoSPI**

- The Ministry shall examine the suggestion.

15. **Shri Ashok Nete, , MP::**

- a. MPLADS Guidelines allow the construction of only one Community Hall in a village. Construction of more than one community hall may be allowed.

**Response from MoSPI**

- Construction of more than one community hall in a village is not permissible under the existing MPLADS Guidelines.

16. **Shri Chandrakant Khaire, , MP::**

- a. Ministry may decide on a date, as per its convenience, on arranging a meeting between the Members and the District Authorities and take stock of the work done by the District Authorities over the last five years.
- b. Many community halls, built long ago, are now in dilapidated state or may be deemed to be abandoned. Ministry may like to comment on this.

**Response from MoSPI**

- Secretary, MoSPI has already written to the Chief Secretaries of the States/UTs to take proactive steps towards monitoring the implementation of MPLADS in their respective States.
- Ministry shall examine the suggestion of allowing community halls in those cases where the previous ones are deemed to be abandoned a competent Authority has to furnish certificate to this effect.

17. **Shri Bhagirath Prasad, , MP::**

- a. "Fees for architectural advice" may be considered for inclusion under the Administrative Expenses as it is an integral part of the project/scheme.
- b. Copy of the Monthly Progress Report (MPR) should be given to the Member.

**Response from MoSPI**

- With respect to inclusion of "fees for architectural advice" under the Administrative Expense, the Ministry shall examine the proposal.
- It is imperative that copy of the Monthly Progress Report provided by the District Authority has to be endorsed to the Hon'ble Member. It is provided for in the MPLADS Guidelines.

18. **Ms. Heena Gavit, , MP::**

- a. Installation and maintenance of street lights installed under MPLADS by single vendor may be allowed under MPLADS.

### **Response from MoSPI**

- This pertains to the State Government. Execution of MPLADS works varies from State to State as per their standard procedures.

19. **Ms. Raksha Khadse, MP:**

- a. Ministry may clarify on whether banks grant/maintain a separate corpus under Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) for MPLADS funds.

### **Response from MoSPI**

- Ministry has already added Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) in the list of banks for opening MPLADS accounts. However, it is for the District Authority to decide which bank they choose to operate the MPLADS funds.

20. **Shri Shrikant Shinde, MP:**

- a. Ministry may clarify on whether MPLADS funds could be utilized to sponsor sports-persons' participation in international tournaments.
- b. Ministry may clarify on whether MPLADS funds could be utilized to sponsor medical expenses.

### **Response from MoSPI**

- Sponsoring of sports-persons' participation in international tournaments and incurring of medical expenses on beneficiary basis from MPLADS funds are not allowed under the existing Guidelines.

21. **Shri Sushil Kumar Singh, MP:**

- a. The amount allocated under MPLADS may be enhanced.
- b. Ministry may clarify on the handover agency for submersible pumps which shall be entrusted with payment of electricity bills.

### **Response from MoSPI**

- Payment of electricity bill, being a recurring expenditure, is not permissible under MPLADS. It is for the District Authority to choose the handover agency for the assets created.

## **B. Issues/ suggestions raised by Members on 08<sup>th</sup> January, 2019**

22. **Shri Farooq Abdullah, MP:**

- a. Ministry may explore the feasibility of inclusion of special provisions in the Guidelines with regard to utilization of MPLADS funds for treatment of cancer and cardiac illness; for mass marriage ceremonies, for renovation of burnt homes for persons/families below Poverty Line (BPL).

#### **Response from MoSPI**

- Ministry appreciates the proposals made on humanitarian grounds and shall duly examine the same.

#### **23. Shri Shripad Y. Naik, MP:**

- a. Amount that could be given to NGOs/ trusts/ societies under MPLADS may be enhanced.
- b. Ministry may consider issuing letter to Government implementing agencies to set up dedicated teams to expedite completion of the MPLADS works.
- c. Purchase of dialysis machines and ventilators may be allowed under MPLADS.

#### **Response from MoSPI**

- The execution of works under MPLADS varies from State to State. Ministry shall issue advisory on case-specific basis. For personal grievances, Members may write individually to MoSPI which would then be taken up with the districts.
- Ministry will look into the issues of allowing medical equipment from MPLADS funds.
- At present, MPs can recommend funds to NGOs up to Rs. 01 crore per annum which could add up to Rs. 05 crore during the five-year tenure.

#### **24. Shri Jitendra Chowdhury, MP:**

- a. Implementation of MPLADS works in North-East is slow. If instalments are not released on time, the works are hampered. Ministry may take a view on whether the annual entitlement of a Member from the North-East could be released in a single instalment.

#### **Response from MoSPI**

- No relaxation with regard to furnishing of fund-related documents can be given to any region on the basis of geography alone.

#### **25. Shri Kambhampati Hari Babu, MP:**

- a. Ministry may clarify whether MGNREGA projects could be funded partially from MPLADS funds.
- b. A mechanism may be devised to monitor the registration of gravel roads under MPLADS for farmers.

#### **Response from MoSPI**

- Members may recommend funds for augmentation of funds for 'Swachh Bharat Abhiyan' which provide for construction of individual toilets. Ministry will explore funding of MGNREGA projects from MPLADS fund.
- With regard to the suggestion of gravel roads, the Ministry shall examine the same.

26. **Shri Subhash Chandra Baheria, MP:**

- a. The definition of "Community Halls" in the MPLADS Guidelines may be amended.
- b. Ministry may clarify whether providing tricycles to disabled is permissible under the MPLADS Guidelines.

**Response from MoSPI**

- There is no proposal at present to revisit and amend the provisions of MPLADS Guidelines.
- Yes, providing tricycles to disabled is permissible under the MPLADS Guidelines.

27. **Shri P.C. Mohan, MP:**

- a. Renovation of schools and hospitals may be allowed under MPLADS.

**Response from MoSPI**

- All renovation and repair works are prohibited under MPLADS.

28. **Shri Ravindra Kumar Ray, MP:**

- a. Purchase of organ implants may be allowed under MPLADS.

**Response from MoSPI**

- Ministry shall examine the proposal.

29. **Shri Ramcharan Bohra, MP:**

- a. District Authorities are not sending the requisite fund-related documents on time which results in delay in release of funds and eventually non-completion of works.
- b. Photographs of the progress of works should be sent to the Members from time to time.

**Response from MoSPI**

- Ministry shall issue communication to all the District Authorities on the above issues. However, Ministry would advise all the Members to follow up with their respective Nodal District Authorities on the submission of fund-related documents.

30. **Shri Chandra Prakash Joshi, MP:**

- a. Preparation of grazing grounds for domestic cattle under MPLADS may be allowed.
- b. “Revenue village” may be defined in the MPLADS Guidelines.

**Response from MoSPI**

- Ministry shall examine the proposal at point 30 (a) above. However, at present, there is no proposal to amend the Guidelines.

31. **Shri Pon Radha Krishnan, MP:**

- a. Works recommended under MPLADS may be allowed to be cancelled.

**Response from MoSPI**

- The works, once recommended by the MP and sanctioned by the District Authority may be cancelled if so desired by the MP, only if the execution of the work has not commenced and the cancellation does not lead to any contractual financial liability/cost on the Government.

32. **Shri K. Kamaraj, MP:**

- a. Ministry may devise a mechanism to have direct superintendence on the functioning of the District Authorities.

**Response from MoSPI**

- As per the scheme guidelines and in view of the federal structure, it is not possible to conceive of any mechanism to have direct superintendence on the functioning of the District authorities in a federal structure.

33. **Shri B.B. Patil, MP:**

- a. Ministry may inform whether there is any mechanism to keep watch over the progress of MPLADS projects.

**Response from MoSPI**

- Ministry has, from time to time, issued letters to the District to keep the Members apprised of the progress of their projects. District Authorities have also been advised to enter the details of works recommended, sanctioned and

completed on the integrated MPLADS portal wherein the Members could keep a close tab on the progress of the MPLADS projects/works.

**34. Ms P.K. Sreemathi Teacher, MP:**

- a. Ministry may clarify whether appointment of additional staff (Data entry operator) from the “Administrative Expenses” is permissible under MPLADS.

**Response from MoSPI**

- Ministry shall examine the proposal. Incorporation of this proposal shall, however, necessitate amendment in the MPLADS Guidelines.

**35. Concluding remarks by Hon’ble MOS, MP:**

All the Hon’ble Members lauded the effort of Hon’ble MOS for providing an opportunity for voicing their concerns and providing worthy suggestions on the overall implementation of the Scheme. Hon’ble MOS expressed hope that interactions of this kind would be conducted more frequently in the future and thanked all Members for participating in the discussion and bringing out important issues. He also assured that Ministry shall make all efforts to address their issues, provided in the feedback form, within two to three weeks.

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*Annexure I*

**List of Participatns**

<b>S. No.</b>	<b>Name of Hon'ble MP (Mr./Mrs./Ms./Dr./Prof.)</b>
1	Vijay Goel-In Chair
2	Mamtaz Sanghamita
3	Pratima Mondal
4	Jugal Kishore
5	Ashok Nete
6	Vinayak Raut
7	Sanjay Dhotre
8	A T Nana Patil
9	Arvind Sawarit
10	Heena Gavit
11	Raksha Khadse
12	Pritam G Munde
13	Chandrakant Khare
14	Shrikant Shinde
15	Subhash Bhawe
16	Sharad Tripathi
17	Ravindra Kushawaha
18	Santosh K Gangwar
19	Bhola Singh
20	Harish Dwivedi
21	Ram Charitra Nishad
22	Bhanu Pratap Singh Verma
23	Hari Narayan Rajbhar

24	Rajendra Agarwal
25	Birendra Kr. Chaudhary
26	Kaushalendra Kumar
27	Janardan Singh Sigriwal
28	Ram Kripal Yadav
29	R. P. Roy
30	Sushil Kr. Singh
31	Ganesh Singh
32	Vijaysinh Mohite Patil
33	Bhagirathi Pd.
34	Riti Pathak
35	Kambhampati Haribabu
36	Pon. Radhakrishnan
37	Ravindra Kr. Rai
38	B. B. Patil
39	Ram Charan Bohra
40	Jagdambika Pal
41	Jitendra Chaudhury
42	Subhash Chandra Bahoria
43	K. Kamaraj
44	R. Radhakrishnan
45	P C Mohan
46	P K Sreemathi Teacher
47	Chandra Prakash Joshi
48	Farooq Abdullah
49	Shripad Y. Naik