

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PLANNING

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 951
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06.12.2021

SUSPENSION OF MPLADS FOR COVID-19

951. Shri John Brittas:

Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government had suspended MPLADS to find resources for fighting COVID-19 Pandemic;
- (b) if so, the amount raised on account of this; and
- (c) the amount spent and details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS & 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) Yes, Sir. As per the information received from M/O Statistics and Programme Implementation (MOSPI) the Cabinet in its meeting held on 6th April 2020 decided not to operate the Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS) for two Financial Years 2020-21 & 2021-22 and to place Annual Budgetary Outlay for the two years at the disposal of the Ministry of Finance, for managing the adverse impacts of covid-19 pandemic. However, the Cabinet in its meeting held on 10.11.2021 has, inter-alia, approved the restoration of MPLADS during the remaining part of the Financial Year 2021-22 with release of MPLADS fund at the rate of Rs. 2 crore per Member of Parliament in one installment; and continuation of MPLADS up to 2025-26 with the annual entitlement per Member of Parliament (MP) at Rs. 5 crores.
- (b) The total savings due to non-operation of MPLADS in 2020-21 and part of 2021-22 is Rs. 6320 crore.
- (c) The funds saved from the MPLAD Scheme have been utilized to enhance the allocation of funds for improving health infrastructure, provide free ration under PM Garib Kalyan Yojana and free vaccination.
