

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 560
TO BE ANSWERED ON 16.09.2020**

WITHHOLDING OF MPLAD FUND

**560. SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU:
Dr. PRITHAM GOPINATHRAO MUNDE:**

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

(a) whether the Government has withheld the funds released under MPLAD scheme after Covid-19 pandemic in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the various developmental activities and job opportunities have suffered in the country thereafter;

(d) if so, whether the Government had conducted any survey to find its impact on developmental activities and job opportunities in various districts in the country; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the corrective steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

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) Government decided not to operate the Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS) for two years, that is

during FY 2020-21 and FY 2021-22 and placed the funds allocated for the FY2020-21 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) Ministry has issued detailed circular on 08.04.2020 containing instructions wherein inter alia Hon'ble Members have been requested to re-prioritize their recommendations in consultation with District Authorities, wherever feasible, and District Authorities have also been advised to ensure that works are completed from among the available funds as no more funds would be released during FY 2020-21 and 2021-22.

(c) Government has received references from Hon'ble Members that developmental activities are likely to be affected after the decision of the Government.

(d) No sir

(e) In view of the reply to part (d), question does not arise.
