

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 366
TO BE ANSWERED ON 03.02.2021**

RESTORATION OF MPLADS FUNDS

366. SHRI JANARDAN SINGH SIGRIWAL:

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

(a) whether the Government proposes to restore MPLADS fund keeping in view of this has seriously affected the developmental activities in rural areas of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government has received representations from the Public Representatives regarding suspension of MPLADS for two years; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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 MPLAD Scheme during the FY 2020-21 and FY 2021-22.

(b) 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 decided to place the funds for the 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 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. 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 former Members of Rajya Sabha so that unspent balance in their account can be used by the respective constituencies/ states where funds are required as per MPLADS guidelines.

(c) and (d) The Government has received references from Hon'ble Members of Parliament requesting for release of pending installments due to them as on 31.03.2020 to resume the ongoing works and clear the committed liabilities under MPLADS.
