

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4192  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18.03.2026**

**STRENGTHENING STATISTICAL SYSTEMS AND REFORMS IN MPLAD  
SCHEME**

**4192. SHRI MANOJ TIWARI:  
SHRI VIJAY BAGHEL:  
SMT. MALA RAJYA LAXMI SHAH:  
SHRI PARBHUBHAI NAGARBHAI VASAVA:**

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

- (a) the various measures being taken to strengthen statistical systems at the State and District levels to support local governance;**
- (b) the manner in which the Government proposes to upgrade the governance framework of the Indian Statistical Institute (ISI) in the coming years;**
- (c) whether any changes have been made to the fund flow and implementation guidelines of the Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS) to improve transparency;**
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and**
- (e) the time by which the next phase of the Support for Statistical Strengthening (SSS) sub-scheme is likely to be launched and primary objectives thereof?**

**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 CULTURE [RAO  
INDERJIT SINGH]**

- (a): To strengthen Statistical System at State & District level to support local governance, the Ministry of Statistics and Programme**

**Implementation (MoSPI) provides financial support to States/UTs under the Support for Statistical Strengthening (SSS) Sub-Scheme for development of State and District Level Indices/Indicators. MoSPI provides technical handholding to the States/UTs for compilation of sub-national level macroeconomic indicator which inter-alia includes organizing regional workshops, providing technical support through Uniform Guidelines and joint discussion on comparable estimates with the States/UTs. Also, MoSPI modified the sampling design of major surveys by adopting district as the basic stratum enabling states to generate district level estimates of key indicators for evidence-based policy-making. Further, National Statistical Systems Training Academy (NSSTA) a premier Central Training Institute under MoSPI organizes different training programmes on regular basis on "Official Statistics and related fields" including digital tools, data analytics and data governance for the capacity building of the Statistical personnel of State/UT Governments.**

**(b): The draft Indian Statistical Institute Bill, 2026 is prepared to introduce a comprehensive new legislation, for upscaling the existing legislation ISI Act, 1959 to the level of governing legislations of other peer Institute of National Importance (INIs) such as Indian Institute of Technologies (IITs)/ Indian Institute of Managements (IIMs) with the objective to overhaul and modernise of the Institute's governance framework by enhancing its autonomy and accountability.**

**The draft Bill provides for incorporation of Indian Statistical Institute as a body corporate and also introduces framework of statutory bodies for effective governance. The Board of Governors will be an empowered and leaner body consisting of 11 members having a balanced representation of internal and external members. There would be only one government nominee on the Board, five external experts (including Chairperson) and five internal members of the Institute including two members of the Academic Council. This would provide academic and governance autonomy to the Institute. The draft Bill is founded upon the guiding principles of Excellence, Effective Governance, Autonomy and Accountability. Collectively, the above-mentioned provisions will**

**strengthen and upgrade the governance framework of the Indian Statistical Institute (ISI).**

**(c) & (d): As per the directions of the Ministry of Finance, Department of Expenditure (DoE), the Members of Parliament Local Area Development (MPLAD) Scheme was implemented through Model 2 under the MPLAD Scheme with effect from 1 April 2023. Further, as per subsequent directions of the Ministry of Finance, vide their OM dated 21 May 2024, the MPLAD Scheme is shifted from Model-2 to Model-1A (TSA Hybrid) w.e.f. 1 April 2025. Under Model-1A, the Project Management Unit- Central Nodal Agency (PMU-CNA) of the MPLAD Scheme has opened an assignment account with the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), which is linked to the CNA's State Bank of India (SBI) account. Under this arrangement, a consolidated daily fund bills raised by vendors/implementing agencies during the day, is generated by SBI and electronically pushed to the Public Financial Management System (PFMS) for approval. Upon approval of the day's amount on PFMS, the SBI account receives the corresponding funds from the RBI assignment account, which is then directly transferred to the respective vendors.**

**Under the revised fund flow system, all due authorizations of Hon'ble Members of Parliament are released simultaneously at the start of each financial year or at the beginning of their term, as applicable. Only the authorization amount moves from CNA to Implementing Agencies, and vendor payments are made directly on a "just-in-time" basis, thereby leaving no scope for parking of funds. The earlier pre-conditions such as Utilization Certificates and Monthly Progress Reports have been removed, resulting in faster and more efficient fund management.**

**Moreover, the Ministry has launched the eSAKSHI portal for implementation of the Revised Fund Flow Procedures under MPLADS with effect from 1 April 2023. The portal is a significant initiative aimed at enhancing efficiency, accountability and transparency in managing MPLADS funds. It provides an integrated digital platform wherein recommendations of Hon'ble Members of Parliament, district-level sanctioning, and execution by implementing agencies are seamlessly coordinated, ensuring a smooth and efficient**

**workflow. The transition to the digital system has streamlined fund releases, eliminated physical accounts, enabled Hon'ble Members of Parliament and all other stakeholders to recommend, monitor, and manage works online, and incorporated secure One-Time Password (OTP)-based verification. Real-time tracking of works and fund utilization further strengthens transparency and accountability implementation.**

**(e): MoSPI has prepared the draft Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC) Memorandum for the Capacity Development Scheme, including next phase of the Support for Statistical Strengthening (SSS) Sub-Scheme, for the period 2026–31. The primary objectives of the scheme to strengthen State statistical systems, including adoption of modern data technologies, capacity building of statistical personnel, and development of robust sub-State indicators.**

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