

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Fund under MPLADS

2299. SHRI T. GOVINDAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount sanctioned, allocated and released to each Member of Parliament from Kerala since 1995 under MPLADS, year-wise; and

(b) whether there is any delay in releasing the amount; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) An amount of Rs. 125 crore 45 lakhs has so far been released for the MPs of Kerala since inception of the MPLAD Scheme. For the years 1995-96 and 1996-97 an amount of Rs. 1 crore per MP per year was released. For the year 1997-98 and 1998-99 a total amount of Rs. 38 crore has so far been released for the MPs of Kerala. Statements showing details of funds released for Lok Sabha constituencies and the Rajya Sabha MPs for the year 1997-98 and 1998-99 are placed at Statement-I and II respectively.

(b) and (c) From the year 1997-98 MPLADS funds are being released in two instalments of Rs. 50 lakhs each in a year for the MPs when their unsanctioned balance goes below Rs. 50 lakhs. As per this criteria funds are released as and when requisite expenditure statement is received from the concerned Districts.

Statement-I

Funds Released under MPLADS for 1997-98 and 1998-99 as on 26.2.99 for Lok Sabha MPs

(Rs. Lakhs)

S.No.	Constituency	1997-98	1998-99
1	2	3	4
1.	Adoor (SC)	100.00	—
2.	Alappuzha	100.00	100.00
3.	Badagara	100.00	50.00
4.	Calicut (Kozhikode)	100.00	50.00
5.	Cannanore (Kannur)	100.00	50.00
6.	Chirayinkil	50.00	—
7.	Ernakulam	50.00	50.00
8.	Idukki	100.00	—
9.	Kasaragod	100.00	100.00
10.	Kottayam	100.00	100.00
11.	Manjeri	100.00	—
12.	Mavelikara	100.00	100.00
13.	Mukundapuram	100.00	—
14.	Muvattupuzha	100.00	50.00
15.	Palakkad	100.00	50.00

1	2	3	4
16.	Ponnani	100.00	50.00
17.	Quilon (Kollam)	100.00	50.00
18.	Thrissoor (Trichur)	100.00	50.00
19.	Thiruvananthapuram	100.00	50.00
20.	Ottappalam (SC)	100.00	50.00
Total		1900.00	950.00

Statement-II

Details of Funds Released Under MPLADS for 1997-98 and 1998-99 as on 26.02.99 for Rajya Sabha

(Rs. /Lakhs)

Sl.No.	District Opted	Name of Rajya Sabha MP	1997-98	1998-99
1	2	3	4	5
The Present Sitting Member of Rajya Sabha				
1	Malappuram	Sh. Abdul Samadani	50.00	—
2.	Alappuzha	Sh. Vayalar Ravi	50.00	—
3.	Alappuzha	Sh. Ramachandran Pillai	100.00	—
4.	Emakulam	Sh. E. Balanandan	100.00	—
5.	Kollam	Sh. J. Chitranjan	100.00	50.00
6.	Thrissoor	sh. C.D. Poulse	—	50.00
7.	Kollam	Sh. M.V. Varkey Mattathil	—	100.00
8.	Malappuram	Sh. Korambayil Ahammed Haji	—	50.00
9.	Malappuram	Sh. A. Vijaya Raghavan	—	50.00

1	2	3	4	5
The Ex-Member of Rajya Sabha				
10.	Kollam	Sh. M.A. Baby	100.00	—
11.	Kozhikode	Sh. B.V. Abdulla Koya	100.00	—
12.	Pathanamthitta	Sh. Balakrishna Thennala Pillai	50.00	—
13.	Thrissoor	Sh. K. Karunakaran	—	—
14.	Kottayam	Sh. Joy Nadukkara	—	—
Total			650.00	300.00

Negative Diplomacy

2300. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Negative diplomacy doing India no good: Ackerman" appearing in the *Hindustan Times* dated February 1, 1999;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) At a Republic Day dinner on January 29, 1999, organised by members of the Indian-American community in Washington D.C., US Congressman Gary Ackerman, who is also the new Co-Chairman of the Congressional India Caucus made positive references to India and the contribution of Indian-Americans to Indo-US relations. He stated on this occasion that he would "resolve this evening that in a spirit of unity, you, the Indian-American community and I and the Caucus will work together with our friends from India to accomplish our common objectives". He added that what he called "negative diplomacy" must stop.

Subsequently, Mr. Ackerman visited India in February 1999. He has reportedly gone back very satisfied with the visit. He also made a very positive statement on