GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION

LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION No.*35 TO BE ANSWERED ON 24.07.2024

INCREASING MPLAD FUNDS

*35. DR. KALANIDHI VEERASWAMY:

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

- (a) whether the Government has reviewed the functioning of the MPLAD Scheme across the country and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government is aware that five crore per annum is a very meagre amount to complete development works by a Member of Parliament in his/her constituency in view of increase in the cost of building material and wage hike of skilled and unskilled labourers and to fulfill other social responsibilities and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether a demand for increasing the amount of MPLAD fund from Rs. 5 crore to Rs. 10 crore has been made continuously by Members of Parliament especially from Tamil Nadu and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether this Ministry has ever sent any proposal to Finance Ministry to increase the amount of MPLAD and if so, details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the time by which the Government proposes to take a decision in this regard?

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 (e) A statement is laid down on the table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.*35 FOR 24th JULY, 2024

- (a) Yes, Sir. The Ministry conducted a Third-Party Physical Evaluation of the MPLADS works completed during the period 01-04-2014 to 31-03-2019, in 216 districts across the country. The Evaluation was done in the year 2021 and the agency submitted final report on 31-8-2021.
- (b) to (c) Yes sir. Suggestions for increasing annual MPLAD funds were received from Members of Parliament including members from Tamil Nadu.
- (d) to (e) The Cabinet approval for the scheme has been granted till 2025-26. Any increase in the firmed-up cost of the scheme beyond 20% is to be brought before the Cabinet after approval of the competent authority. Ministry will examine the proposal prior to completion of extension period of the scheme i.e. FY 2025-26 following due process of third-party audit, consultation with stakeholders and keeping in view the requests received from Hon'ble MPs over time.
