

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:462
ANSWERED ON:25.07.2001
MPLADS
HANNAN MOLLAH

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Government continues to sanction funds under MPLAD scheme based on the amounts sanctioned by the District Collectors, regardless of actual utilisation resulting thereby in large unspent balances and in contravention of the guidelines issued;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that since inception of the scheme, utilisation of funds has been only 64.2 per cent;
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRIES OF PLANNING, STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE)

(a) & (b) Under MPLADS, works recommended by the Members of Parliament are to be implemented by the District Heads by following the established procedure of the concerned State Governments. To ensure that the implementation does not suffer for want of funds, it has been decided to release funds, under the Scheme, on the basis of cost of works sanctioned. The next instalment of Rs. 1 crore is released when the unsanctioned balance in respect of a Lok Sabha Constituency or a Rajya Sabha MP comes to less than Rs. 50 lakhs.

(c), (d) & (e) The percentage utilisation over release has been less than 70% since inception of the Scheme. The sanctions are normally issued by the concerned District Heads after receipt of funds. The utilisation occurs thereafter. There is, thus, always a time lag between the release of funds and its actual expenditure. Factors like civil nature of works proposed by the MPs, limited working seasons in some States, operation of Model Code of Conduct during elections, incidence of a large number of works recommended under the Scheme, each involving small outlays, are also responsible for this level of utilisation. The Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation issues instructions, from time to time, to the District Heads for speedy implementation of the works, under the Scheme.