

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1557

ANSWERED ON:01.08.2001

MPLADS

A. VENKATESH NAIK;RAMDAS ATHAWALE;RAMSHETH THAKUR

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

- (a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned `Sansad Vikas Yojana Bhi Bhrastachar se achuti nahin` appearing in `Rashtriya Sahara` New Delhi dated May 10, 2001;
- (b) if so, the facts thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether a large amount of funds allocated for the purpose are lying unspent in the banks;
- (d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and bank-wise;
- (e) whether the statement of the spent amount reveal irregularities; and
- (f) if so, the action taken/being taken by the Government in this regard?

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) The news item captioned `Sansad Vikas Yojana Bhi Bhrastachar se achuti nahin` appearing in `Rashtriya Sahara` of 10th May, 2001 gives some of the observations made by the Comptroller & Auditor General (CAG) in their Report No.3A of 2001 and Report No.3 of 1998.

(c),(d)&(e) As on 30.6.2001, the Government of India had released Rs.7792.0 crores under Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme. As per the information received from the District Collectors, an amount of Rs.5112.06 crores (65.6%) out of the funds released is reported to have been spent. The Statewise utilisation is given in the enclosed Annexure. Bankwise figures of expenditure are available with the concerned District Heads.

Normally, the District Heads sanction the works after receiving funds from Government of India. The expenditure occurs thereafter. There is, therefore, a time lag between release of funds and corresponding 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. This Ministry, from time to time, issues instructions to the Districts for speedy implementation of works, under the Scheme.

(f) On receipt of a copy of their Report No. 3A of 2001 from CAG, all the State/UT Governments were forwarded a copy of the Report and requested to ensure the following:-

- (i) The works are sanctioned strictly in accordance with the Guidelines on the recommendations of the Hon`ble MPs themselves.
- (ii) Proper accounts in respect of MPLADS are maintained in accordance with the established accounting procedure of the State Government or as per the procedure of the DRDAs where the works are being implemented through DRDAs.
- (iii) The works recommended by the MPs are sanctioned expeditiously after finalising plans & estimates. Monitoring of the progress of works from the date of sanction to the date of its completion is done by the concerned officers.
- (iv) At least 10% of the works are inspected by the District Heads as per the provisions of the Guidelines. Similarly, the works should also be inspected by the senior officials of the implementing agencies as laid down in the Guidelines.
- (v) The Chief Secretaries/Administrators should themselves conduct meetings involving Heads of Districts and MPs to assess the progress of works, under MPLADS, at least once a year.

