

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:331
ANSWERED ON:16.08.2000
MPLADS
PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI

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

- (a) Whether the Govt. have received any complaints regarding slow pace of work under MPLADS Scheme in West Bengal and other States;
- (b) If so, the details thereof State-wise; and
- (c) the corrective steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Govt. in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION, MINISTER OF STATE FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE)

A to C `A statement is laid on the table of the House` Statement referred to in reply to parts (a) (b) and (c) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No.331 by Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi scheduled for answer on 16.8.2000

(a) & (b) Complaints regarding slow pace of work, under MPLADS, have been received from some Members of Parliament from West Bengal and other States. These complaints broadly highlight various circumstances leading to slow pace of work. Some of these are indicated below:

- i) Delay in release of funds.
- ii) Delay in processing of recommendations received from MPs by District Authorities.
- iii) Delay in preparation of estimates by the concerned agencies.
- iv) Delay in issue of financial sanction by the District Heads.
- v) Non-compliance of time frame by the implementing agencies
- vi) Delay in transfer of funds from one District to another.
- vii) Non-submission of expenditure statement by District Heads to the Central Government.
- viii) Non-availability of/delay in acquisition of land. ix) Operation of the Model Code of Conduct

(c) On receipt of such complaints, the matter is immediately taken up with the concerned State Governments/nodal authorities for investigation and remedial action. The State Governments have been advised from time to time to follow strictly the provisions of the guidelines and implement works recommended by members of Parliament expeditiously. The District Heads have been advised to sanction works recommended by members of Parliament to the extent of their entitlement without waiting for actual release of funds and submit the expenditure report expeditiously so that funds could be released from the Ministry speedily. The District Heads have also been advised to evolve a timeframe for implementation keeping in view the nature of the works and follow the same strictly. To streamline the process of release of funds by the Central Government, in place of release of funds of Rs. 2 crores in four instalments of Rs.50 lakhs each, it has been decided to release annual entitlement of Rs. 2 crores in two instalments of Rs.1 crore each on the condition that the moment the unsanctioned balance comes below Rs.1 crore the next instalment of Rs.1 crore is released. The State Governments/District Heads have also been advised to comply with the provision of monitoring of works as per the guidelines on MPLADS and make special arrangements for holding review meetings at the level of Chief Secretary/Additional Chief Secretary/Principal Secretary etc. Special Review Meetings are also being held from time to time at the level of MOS (S&PI) to remove the constraints so as to ensure expeditious implementation of works recommended.

Review Meetings involving MPs and District Collectors were held at Patna on 1-2 September, 98, at Calcutta on 8.1.99 & 2.7.2000, and at Bhubaneswar on 16.2.99 by Minister of State for Programme Implementation. Under the leadership of the Hon`ble Speaker, the Committee on Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme, Lok Sabha also had an Interactive session with some District Collectors of Southern region on 15th April, 2000 at Hyderabad. These meetings helped to identify measures for better implementation of the works under the Scheme.

Under the chairmanship of the Hon`ble Speaker, the Lok Sabha Committee on MPLADS would be having another Interactive session with the District and State authorities of the States of Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan and Bihar at Khajuraho on 12th September, 2000. Another special Review meeting to review implementation of MPLADS in the State of West Bengal is also proposed to be held by Minister of State for Programme Implementation in September, 2000.

