

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2119
ANSWERED ON:06.12.2012
FUNDS FOR SCSs/STs
Naranbhai Shri Kachhadia;Vinay Kumar Alias Vinnu Shri

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

- (a) whether adequate amount has not been spent for development of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (SCs/STs) dominated areas under MPLAD Scheme;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government is considering to review the guidelines in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE), MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND
MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT KUMAR JENA)

(a) & (b) The MPLADS guidelines provide for the MPs to recommend works costing at least 15 per cent of the MPLADS entitlement for the year for areas inhabited by Scheduled Caste

(SC) population and 7.5 per cent for areas inhabited by Scheduled Tribe (ST) population. In case a State does not have ST inhabited areas, the earmarked funds may be utilized in SC inhabited areas and vice-versa. Recommendation of works in SC/ST areas is the prerogative of the MPs and the utilisation of funds in SC/ST areas depend upon the recommendations made by them. The Ministry has not received any information regarding adequate amount not been spent for the development of SC/ST areas.

(c)&(d) In order to facilitate better implementation of the provision for SC/ST, the guidelines have been revised to allow the district authority, keeping in view the extant provisions of the State and Central Government, to declare areas eligible for utilisation of MPLADS funds for the benefit of SC/ST population.