

**COMMITTEE ON MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT LOCAL  
AREA DEVELOPMENT SCHEME (2010-11)**

**FIFTEENTH LOK SABHA**

**MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND  
PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION**

{Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Third Report of Committee on MPLADS (15<sup>th</sup> Lok Sabha) on the subject "Providing MPLADS funds to acquire ambulance by reputed service organisation like Red Cross etc." }

**SIXTH REPORT**



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT**

**NEW DELHI**

**16 August, 2011/ 25 Sravana, 1933 (Saka)**

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**Presented to Lok Sabha on 12 August 2011**



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT**

**NEW DELHI**

**16 August, 2011/ 25 Sravana, 1933 (Saka)**

**C.O. MPLADS No. 06**

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## COMPOSITION OF COMMITTEE ON MPLADS (2010-11)

Shri A.K.S. Vijayan - Chairman

### MEMBERS

2. Dr. Rattan Singh Ajnala
3. Dr. Baliram
4. Dr. Pulin Bihari Baske
5. Dr. Kakoli Ghosh Dastidar
6. Adv. Ganeshrao Nagorao Dudhgaonkar
7. Shri D.B. Chandre Gowda
8. Shri Deepender Singh Hooda
9. Shri Kailash Joshi
10. Shri Kaushalendra Kumar
11. Shri Babu Lal Marandi
12. Shri Shripad Yesso Naik
13. Shri Jagdambika Pal
14. Kumari Saroj Pandey
15. Shri Amarnath Pradhan
16. Shri Rajendrasinh Rana
17. Shri Rudramadhab Ray
18. Shri Tufani Saroj
19. Shri Ajit Singh
20. Shri Gopal Singh
21. Shri Udai Pratap Singh (Hoshangabad)
22. Shri Vijay Inder Singla
23. Shri Jagdish Thakor
24. Shri Om Prakash Yadav

### SECRETARIAT

- |    |                         |   |                 |
|----|-------------------------|---|-----------------|
| 1. | Shri N.K. Sapra         | - | Secretary       |
| 2. | Shri V.R. Ramesh        | - | Joint Secretary |
| 3. | Shri Hardev Singh       | - | Director        |
| 4. | Shri C. Kalyanasundaram | - | Under Secretary |

## INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairman of the Committee on Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS) (2010-11) having been authorized by the Committee to submit the Report on their behalf, present this Sixth Report on the action taken by the Government on the observations/recommendations of the Committee contained in their Third Report (15<sup>th</sup> Lok Sabha) on the subject "Providing MPLADS funds to acquire ambulance by reputed service organisation like Red Cross, etc." relating to the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation.

2. The Third Report was presented to the Lok Sabha on 6 August 2010. The Ministry furnished their Action Taken Notes on the observations/recommendations contained in the Report on 01 December 2010.

3. The Report was considered and adopted by the Committee at their sitting held on 07 June 2011.

4. An analysis of the action taken by the Government on the observations/recommendations contained in the Third Report (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) of the Committee (2009-10) is given at Appendix III.

**New Delhi**

**20 July 2011**  
**29 Asadha, 1933 (Saka)**

**A.K.S. VIJAYAN**  
**Chairman,**  
**Committee on Members of Parliament**  
**Local Area Development Scheme**  
**(Lok Sabha)**

# CHAPTER I

## REPORT

This Report of the Committee on Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS) deals with the action taken by the Government on the Observations/Recommendations of the Committee contained in their Third Report (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) on "Providing MPLADS funds to acquire ambulance by reputed service organizations like edross etc relating to the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation.

2. The Third Report which was presented to Lok Sabha on 6 August 2010, contained 3 observations/recommendations. While the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, Government of India has furnished Action Taken Replies on two Observations/Recommendations, no reply has been received from the Ministry on the observation contained in Para 15 of the Report. The replies furnished by the Ministry have been categorized as follows:-

**(i) Observations/Recommendations which have been accepted by the Government :-**

Para Nos. - 13 and 14 **(Total 02)**

**(ii) Observations/Recommendations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in the light of replies received from the Government :-**

Nil **(Total Nil)**

**(iii) Observations/Recommendations in respect of which reply of Government have not been accepted by the Committee which require reiteration :-**

Nil **(Total Nil)**

**(iv) Observations/Recommendations in respect of which Government have furnished interim replies:**

Nil **(Total Nil)**

**(v) Observations/Recommendations in respect of which the Government has not furnished any reply**

**Para 15 (Total 1)**

3. The Action Taken replies furnished by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation have been reproduced in the relevant chapters of this Report. In the succeeding paragraphs, the Committee deal with the proposals made by the Government in response to the recommendation contained in Para No. 13 of the Report besides commenting on the recommendation contained in Para No. 15, reply on which has not been furnished.

**Provision of MPLADS funds to acquire ambulances by reputed service organizations**

**(Para No. 13)**

4. In their earlier Report, the Committee noted that the Ministry had discontinued the provision of MPLADS funds for purchase of ambulances by reputed service organizations like Ramakrishna Mission, Red Cross, etc. on the basis of operational experience and the feedback received by it from the States/District authorities on issues relating to recommendations to entrust work to NGOs and their accountability, etc. The Committee were of the considered view that apart from the Central, State and Local Self Governments, reputed service organizations like Red Cross, Rama Krishna Mission, etc. also render great humanitarian service to the poor and the needy for routine health care and in times of natural calamities and they, therefore, might also be provided with MPLADS funds to enable them to purchase ambulance. In this regard, the Committee recommended that the Ministry should take immediate steps to amend the extant provision contained in item No.8 of the list of works prohibited under MPLADS as follows:-



“Purchase of all moveable items except vehicles, earth movers and equipments meant for hospital, educational, sports, drinking water and sanitation purposes belonging to Central, State, UT and Local Self Government. However, ambulance can be provided to reputed service organizations like Red Cross, Rama Krishna Mission, etc. without any restriction on the cost of the vehicle

5. The Ministry in the Action Taken Reply has stated that the matter had been reconsidered by the Ministry and it proposed to allow MPs to recommend the purchase of ambulance(s) which could operate in one of the following manners:-

(i) “The ambulance could remain in ownership of District Administration/Chief Medical Officer of the District who would be free to enter into management contract(s) to be entered as per State procedure with reputed service organization/NGOs to be evaluated/decided by the District Administration. The management contract will specify that although the ownership would remain with the District Administration/Chief Medical Officer, the service organization will maintain the ambulance by way of POL/wages/pay of driver and other maintenance and will be allowed to charge a fee from user for bona fide ambulance use with the fee structure being approved by the District Authority. The ambulance will be kept on call through mobile for use by the community in general for moving patients to hospital, etc. against the above approved fee. The management contract will be allotted to service organization on a year-to-year basis and may not be renewed (in case of poor performance) and may be allotted to another service organization (in case of poor performance). The ambulance(s) will not be attached to any 1 (one) particular Hospital or Nursing Home but will serve the whole community as such (both in urban and rural) by ferrying patients to any hospital as may be required.

Or

(ii) The District Administration through CMO can itself maintain the above service against fixed fee/charges.

6. The Ministry had requested that the above proposals may be placed before the Committee for their consideration. Accordingly, a memorandum (No.4) was prepared in the matter and the same was considered by the Committee at their sitting held on 7 March 2011.

### **Observations/recommendations**

7. The Committee are constrained to note that the Ministry has made non viable proposals in response to the above recommendation. The main

thrust of the recommendation was for providing ambulance to reputed service organizations like Red Cross, Rama Krishna Mission, etc. which render humanitarian service to the poor and needy for routine health care and in times of natural calamities. While accepting the recommendation, the Ministry had made two proposals regarding operation of the ambulance recommended by an MP. As per the first proposal, the ambulance would remain in the ownership of the District Administration/Chief Medical Officer who would be free to enter into management contract with the reputed service organizations/NGOs. According to the second proposal, the District Administration would maintain the ambulance through CMO against fixed fee/charges. It is regrettable that both the proposals are devoid of any role for the Member of Parliament in choosing the service organization for the purpose of providing ambulance. Both the proposals tend to concentrate all the powers with the District Administration even though the District Administration may not be in a position to maintain or operate the ambulance effectively either itself or through the CMO due to multicapacity of responsibilities of both of them. Moreover, the proposals would defeat the very purpose of providing ambulance service to the poor and needy in rural, remote and inaccessible areas where timely service of Government ambulance is not readily available to the people. In the Committee's view, it should be left to the concerned MP to decide whether the ambulance should be given to a Government hospital or to a reputed service organization as per the local needs of the area. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the ambulance should be placed at the disposal of only such organization for which it is recommended by an MP.

8. The Committee note that the Ministry has proposed management contract(s) with the reputed service organizations for the operation of ambulance and that the contract will be entered into on a year to year basis. Reviewing contracts every year may create hurdles in smooth operation of the ambulance. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the national level reputed organizations which are engaged in whole time service to the poor and needy may initially be offered management contract

for a period of three years and the State level service organizations may be offered two years of contract. The Ministry has also proposed that the contract may not be renewed in case of poor performance. However, no yardsticks have been prescribed by it to assess the poor performance of the service organizations. The Committee feel that review of the contract should be on valid grounds incorporated in the terms of the contract. In order to bring transparency in the use and availability of the ambulance, the Committee recommend that the District Authority may put up public notices at prominent places in the Government hospital, Municipal/Panchayat Offices, etc. together with contact numbers, about the provision of ambulance by the Member of Parliament from his/her MPLAD Scheme funds to enable the public to avail the services of the ambulance in the event of an emergency and to lodge complaints in the cases of misuse or non-use so as to enable the District Authority to take necessary action after proper enquiry into those complaints. In case it is felt necessary to allot the ambulance to another service provider, it should be initiated only in consultation with the Member of Parliament as per his/her choice.

9. The Committee also note that it has been proposed by the Ministry that the service organization will bear the cost of petrol, salary to driver and maintenance charges of the ambulance and for the purpose they will be allowed to charge a fee from the users of the ambulance with the fee structure being approved by the District Authorities. In this regard, the Committee are apprehensive that there is a likelihood of the user agency charging exorbitantly for the use of the ambulance. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the District Authorities should be responsible for fixing reasonable charges for the users to ensure that it is affordable to the common man.

10. The Committee are dismayed to note that the Ministry has preferred to remain silent and has not responded in regard to the observation of the Committee that the Ministry is expected to accord top priority to the

information sought by the Committee and send the same expeditiously. The Committee made this observation after taking into account the inordinate delays which occurred in furnishing replies to the communications sent by the Committee Secretariat in regard to the decisions taken by the Committee for effective implementation of the MPLAD Scheme. Since the representations received from the Members of Parliament, background notes on the subjects selected by the Committee, action taken/ final action taken replies on Reports tabled by the Committee to the Parliament, etc. are being delayed inordinately in the Ministry, the Committee expect the Ministry to take expeditious steps in furnishing replies to the communications sent by the Committee Secretariat within the timeframe mentioned therein.

11. The Committee desire the Ministry to furnish final Action Taken Replies in respect of the above recommendation/observation within three months of the presentation of this Report.

## CHAPTER II

### Observations/recommendations which have been accepted by the Government

#### OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATION (PARA 13)

2.1 The Committee note that the Ministry discontinued the provision of MPLADS funds for purchase of ambulances by reputed service organizations like Ramakrishna Mission, Red Cross, etc. on the basis of operational experience and the feedback received by it from the State/district authorities on issues relating to recommendations to entrust work to NGOs and their accountability, etc. While agreeing to the proposal of the Ministry that stronger and stricter provisions are needed in regard to proper utilization of MPLAD funds by NGOs, the Committee are of the considered view that apart from the Central, State and local self Governments, reputed service organizations like Red Cross, Rama Krishna Mission etc. also render great humanitarian service to the poor and the needy for routine health care and in times of natural calamities and they, therefore, may also be provided with MPLADS funds to enable them to purchase ambulance. The Committee are unhappy that a routine reply has been furnished by the Ministry in this regard that the matter will be examined once again at the time of the revision of the guidelines. Time of revision of guidelines has not also been mentioned in the reply of the Ministry. Instead of postponing this important matter till the revision of the guidelines, the Committee recommend that the Ministry should take immediate steps to amend the extant provision contained in item No. 8 of the list of works prohibited under MPLADS as follows:-

“Purchase of all movable items except vehicles earth movers and equipments meant for hospital, educational, sports, drinking water and sanitation purposes belonging to Central, State, UT and Local Self Governments. However, ambulance can be provided to reputed service organizations like Red Cross, Ramakrishna Mission, etc. without any restriction on the cost of the vehicle

Committee further desire that the action taken on the above recommendation should be furnished to the Committee within three months from the date of presentation of this Report to the Lok Sabha.

## REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

2.2 The Matter has been reconsidered by the Ministry and it proposed to allow MPs to recommend the purchase of ambulance(s) which could operate in one of the following manners:-

(i) “ The ambulance could remain in ownership of District Administration/Chief Medical Officer of the District who would be free to enter into management contract(s) to be entered as per State procedure with reputed service organization/NGOs to be evaluated/decided by the District Administration. The management contract will specify that although the ownership would remain with the District Administration/Chief Medical Officer, the service organization will maintain the ambulance by way of POL/wages/pay of driver and other maintenance and will be allowed to charge a fee from user for bona fide ambulance use with the fee structure being approved by the District Authority. The ambulance will be kept on call through mobile for use by the community in general for moving patients to hospital, etc. against the above approved fee. The management contract will be allotted to service organization on a year-to-year basis and may not be renewed (in case of poor performance) and may be allotted to another service organization (in case of poor performance). The ambulance(s) will not be attached to any 1 (one) particular Hospital or Nursing Home but will serve the whole community as such (both in urban and rural) by ferrying patients to any hospital as may be required

Or

(ii) The District Administration through CMO can itself maintain the above service against fixed fee/charges.

### **OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATION (PARA 14)**

2.3 The Committee note that the provision of ceiling of 10% of the capital cost mentioned in item No. 8 of the list of works prohibited under MPLAD Scheme applies only when a Member of Parliament recommends a composite project for construction of a building asset alongwith movable items. This ceiling does not apply in the cases of recommendations made by MPs for provision of movable items exclusively. In this regard, the Committee are constrained to note that the above condition laid down by the Ministry in the guidelines has led to confusion among District authorities while implementing this provision. Taking into account the difficulties being faced by the implementing authorities, the Ministry has now

decided to lift this 10% ceiling imposed by it. The Committee hope that expeditious steps will be taken by the Ministry to inform the district authorities about the decision taken in this regard. Action taken in the matter should be intimated to the Committee. They also urge the Ministry to examine the entire set of MPLADS guidelines thoroughly in consultation with the Committee on MPLADS of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha and take immediate steps to remove such ambiguities in the guidelines.

### **REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT**

2.4 The Ministry has already informed the District Authorities about the removal of 10% ceiling mentioned in Item-8 of Annexure-II of the MPLADS Guidelines vide Circular No. C/03/2009-MPLADS dated 22.7.2010 (copy enclosed). The other observation regarding thorough examination of MPLADS guidelines, the exercise is already in motion in consultation with Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabha MPLAD Committees and through National Consultation to be held on 20-12-2010.

## CHAPTER III

**Observations/recommendations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in the light of replies received from the Government**

Nil



## CHAPTER IV

**Observations/Recommendations in respect of which reply of Government have not been accepted by the Committee which require reiteration**

Nil

## **CHAPTER V**

**Observations/Recommendations in respect of which Government have furnished interim replies**

Nil

## CHAPTER VI

### Observations/Recommendations in respect of which the Government has not furnished any reply

#### OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATION (PARA 15)

6.1 The Committee take a serious view of the apathetic attitude of the Ministry in furnishing replies to the communications sent by the Secretariat in regard to the decisions taken by the Committee for the effective implementation of the MPLAD Scheme. In the instant case, comments of the Ministry were solicited on the provision of ambulance to reputed service organizations like Red Cross, Rama Krishna Mission, etc. on 26 February 2010. The Ministry furnished its reply only on 17 May 2010 after several written and telephonic reminders by the Secretariat. Replies on other representations/complaints forwarded to the Ministry are also delayed in the Ministry many a time for months together. The Ministry is expected to accord top priority to the information sought by the Committee and send the same expeditiously. The Committee feel highly concerned about the lackadaisical attitude of the Ministry in furnishing information sought by the Committee for the examination of the subjects taken up by them and other matters.

New Delhi  
20 July, 2011  
29 Asadha, 1933 (Saka)

A.K.S. VIJAYAN  
Chairman,  
Committee on Members of Parliament  
Local Area Development Scheme  
(Lok Sabha)

Annexure



भारत सरकार  
सांख्यिकी एवं कार्यक्रम कार्यान्वयन मंत्रालय  
सरदार पटेल भवन, नई दिल्ली - 110001  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF STATISTICS & PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION  
SARDAR PATEL BHAVAN, NEW DELHI-110001  
FAX 23364197  
E-mail: mplads@nic.in

No. C/03/2009-MPLADS

Dated 22.07.2010

To

The Commissioners,  
Municipal Corporations of Kolkatta/Chennai/Delhi  
District Collectors/District Magistrates/Dy. Commissioners,  
All Districts.

Subject: Modification of item-8 of Annexure-II of MPLADS Guidelines.

Sir/Madam,

Based on the clarification sought by District Authorities, the Ministry has felt that the 10% of the cost of the work is not adequate for completion of the work and the extant condition of 10% of the capital cost of the work mentioned in item-8 of Annexure-II of the MPLADS Guidelines requires modification.

2. This issue has been examined in the Ministry and it has been decided that purchase of moveable items, mentioned at Sl. No. 8 of Annexure-II of the MPLADS Guidelines, for **Government organizations** may not be subject to the condition of 10% of the capital cost of the work. However, it is reiterated that purchase of moveable items viz. **vehicles, earthmovers and equipments meant for hospitals, educational, sports, drinking water and sanitation purposes are permissible only for organizations belonging to Central, State, UT and Local Self Governments.**

Yours faithfully,

(Kiran Vasudeva)

Under Secretary to the Govt. of India  
Telefax:-011-23743291

Copy to:

1. All Hon'ble Members of Parliament (Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha).
2. The Secretary, Nodal Departments of MPLADS (all States/UTs).
3. The Director, Lok Sabha Secretariat, New Delhi.
4. The Director, Rajya Sabha Secretariat, New Delhi.
5. NIC, MOSPI and all all concerned in MPLADS Division.

**APPENDIX - II**

**MINUTES OF THE FOURTH SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE ON MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT LOCAL AREA DEVELOPMENT SCHEME (LOK SABHA) HELD ON MONDAY, 7 MARCH, 2011.**

The Committee sat on Monday, 7 March 2011 from 1500 hours to 1600 hours in committee room D Parliament House Annex, Delhi.

**PRESENT**

Shri A.K.S. Vijayan - In the Chair

**MEMBERS**

2. Dr. Baliram
3. Adv. Ganeshrao Nagorao Dudhgaonkar
4. Dr. Rattan Singh Ajnala
5. Dr. Pulin Bihari Baske
6. Kumari Saroj Pandey
7. Shri Jagdambika Pal
8. Shri Rudramadhab Ray
9. Shri Udai Pratap Singh

**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT**

- |    |                         |   |                      |
|----|-------------------------|---|----------------------|
| 1. | Shri N. K. Sapra        | - | Additional Secretary |
| 2. | Shri Hardev Singh       | - | Director             |
| 3. | Shri C. Kalyanasundaram | - | Under Secretary      |

2. At the outset the honorable Chairman welcomed the Members to the sitting of the Committee.

XXX XXX XXX XXX

3. Thereafter, the Committee considered Memorandum No.4 regarding action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the third Report of the Committee on MPLADS, Lok Sabha(2009- ) on the subject "Providing MPLADS funds to acquire ambulance. Since the proposals submitted by the Ministry were aimed at giving power to the District Authority and no role had been assigned to the MP who recommended the ambulance, it was decided by the Committee that the ambulance should be placed at the disposal of the organization for which the ambulance had been recommended by the MP.

4. XXX XXX XXX XXX

**The Committee then adjourned.**

**APPENDIX - III****MINUTES OF THE EIGHTH SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE ON MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT LOCAL AREA DEVELOPMENT SCHEME (LOK SABHA) HELD ON TUESDAY, 7 JUNE 2011.**

The Committee sat on Tuesday, 7 June 2011 from 1130 hours to 1240 hours in committee room Parliament House Annex Delhi.

**PRESENT**

Shri A.K.S. Vijayan - In the Chair

**MEMBERS**

2. Dr. Baliram
3. Adv. Ganeshrao Nagorao Dudhgaonkar
4. Shri Kailash Joshi
5. Shri Babu Lal Marandi
6. Shri Jagdambika Pal
7. Shri Rudramadhab Ray
8. Shri Gopal Singh Shekhawat
9. Shri Udai Pratap Singh (Hoshangabad)
10. Shri Vijay Inder Singla
11. Shri Om Prakash Yadav

**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT**

- |    |                         |   |                 |
|----|-------------------------|---|-----------------|
| 1. | Shri N. K. Sapra        | - | Secretary       |
| 2. | Shri V.R. Ramesh        | - | Joint Secretary |
| 3. | Shri Hardev Singh       | - | Director        |
| 4. | Shri C. Kalyanasundaram | - | Under Secretary |

2. At the outset the honorable Chairman welcomed the Members to the sitting of the Committee. The Committee then took up for consideration the draft Action Taken Report on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Report of the Committee on MPLADS (15<sup>th</sup> Lok Sabha) on the subject "Providing MPLADS funds to acquire ambulance by reputed service organizations like Red Cross, etc and unanimously adopted the same without any amendments.

3. xxx xxx xxx xxx xxx xxx xxx xxx xxx

**The Committee then adjourned.**

**APPENDIX IV**  
**(vide para 4 of the Introduction)**

**ANALYSIS OF THE ACTION TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT ON THE  
RECOMMENDATIONS CONTAINED IN THE THIRD REPORT OF THE  
COMMITTEE ON MPLADS (15<sup>TH</sup> LOK SABHA)**

I.	Total number of recommendations :	03
II.	Recommendations which have been accepted by the Government	02
		<b>(66.66%)</b>
	Para Nos : 13 and 14	
III.	Recommendations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in the light of replies received from the Government	00
		<b>(0%)</b>
	Nil	
IV.	Recommendations in respect of which replies of the Government have not been accepted by the Committee which require reiteration	00
		<b>(0%)</b>
	Nil	
V.	Recommendations in respect of which Government have furnished interim reply or not furnished any reply	01
		<b>(33%)</b>
	Para No. 15	