

FIRST REPORT
COMMITTEE ON MEMBERS OF
PARLIAMENT LOCAL AREA
DEVELOPMENT SCHEME

(THIRTEENTH LOK SABHA)

MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME
IMPLEMENTATION PROPOSALS TO AMEND
GUIDELINES ON MPLADS



Presented to Lok Sabha on 12.5.2000

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

May, 2000/Vaisakha, 1922 (S)

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COMPOSITION OF THE MPLADS COMMITTEE

Dr. Bolla Bulli Ramaiah—*Chairman*

MEMBERS

2. Dr. Baliram
3. Shri Sudip Bandyopadhyay
4. Shri Satyavrat Chaturvedi
5. Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi
6. Shri Bikram Keshari Deo
7. Shri Saiduzzama
8. Shri Raghuvir Singh Kaushal
9. Shri Chandrakant Khaire
10. Shri Krishnamraju
11. Shri C. Kuppusami
12. Shri K. Malaisamy
13. Shri Sis Ram Ola
14. Prof. R.R. Pramanik
15. Shri Shriniwas Patil
16. Shri C.P. Radhakrishnan
17. Shri Rajendrasinh Rana
18. Shri Tarachand Sahu
19. Shri Kishan Singh Sangwan
20. Shri Balbir Singh
21. Shri Kunwar Akhilesh Singh
22. Shri Chinmayanand Swami
23. Shri Braja Kishore Tripathy
24. Shri Dinesh Chandra Yadav

SECRETARIAT

- | | |
|------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Dr. A.K. Pandey | — <i>Additional Secretary</i> |
| 2. Shri John Joseph | — <i>Joint Secretary</i> |
| 3. Shri K.L. Narang | — <i>Director</i> |
| 4. Shri S.C. Kaliraman | — <i>Assistant Director</i> |

INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairman of the Committee on Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS) having been authorised by the Committee to submit the Report on their behalf, present this First Report on the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation—Proposals to amend Guidelines on 'MPLADS'.

2. The Committee considered the representations and proposals received from Hon'ble Ministers and Members of Parliament for amendment to Guidelines on MPLAD Scheme at their sittings held on 2 and 21 March and 25 April, 2000. The observations/recommendations made in the Report are based on the decisions taken by the Committee at their aforesaid sittings.

3. The Committee considered and adopted the Report at their sitting held on 9 May, 2000.

4. The Committee would like to express their thanks to the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation for placing before them the written notes and information the Committee desired in connection with examination of the representations and suggestions of Hon'ble Members of Parliament for amendment to the Guidelines on MPLAD Scheme.

5. For facility of reference, the observations/recommendations of the Committee have been printed in bold letters in the body of the Report and have also been reproduced in consolidated form in the Appendix to the Report.

NEW DELHI;
11 May, 2000

21 Vaisakha, 1922 (S)

DR. BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH
Chairman,
Committee on Members of Parliament
Local Area Development Scheme.

REPORT

I

Amendment to Guidelines on MPLADS re:permitting purchase of audio-visual aids of educational nature in Government and Government aided schools, allowing purchase of night soil disposal system and allowing nominated Members to recommend works under the Scheme in one or more districts throughout the country

Shri Ram Naik, the then Minister of State for Railways, Parliamentary Affairs, Planning and Programme implementation *vide* his letters dated 14th and 28th May, 1999 address to the Hon'ble Speaker, Lok Sabha submitted the following proposals to amend the Guidelines on MPLAD Scheme:—

- (i) Permitting purchase of audio-visual aids of educational nature relevant to the courses being conducted in Government and Government aided schools.
- (ii) Allowing purchase of night soil disposal system.

1.2 In his letters dated 14th and 28th May, 1999, the then Hon'ble Minister stated as follows:—

“The works which are developmental in nature and lead to creation of durable assets, based on locally felt needs could be taken up under MPLAD Scheme. The guidelines on MPLAD Scheme specifically prohibit purchase of inventory items/stock of any type. However, an exception has been made to the ban on purchase of inventory items in respect of computers, Ham equipment, and Citizen Band Radio equipment under MPLADS for implementation of the five Electronics Projects in Government and Government aided schools/institutions.

Requests have been received from Members of Parliament for allowing audio-visual aids under MPLADS, to benefit the student community. Such items may include purchase of Colour TV, Video Cassettes Player/Video Cassettes Recorder, Cassettes, Slides and other related material. These items cannot be purchased under MPLAD Scheme due to the specific restriction on inventory as stated above. It is, therefore, proposed to permit purchase of audio visual aids of educational nature relevant to the courses being conducted by the respective Government and Government aided schools. I would solicit your considered views in this regard. In case, it is decided to

permit these items under MPLADS, the condition about keeping records of such items in the assets registers, making available such items for inspection on demands etc. will be stipulated."

"This has the reference in connection with the permission for purchase of 'Night Soil Disposal System' as requested by the Hon'ble Member of Parliament Shri Fransisco C. Sardinha from Goa. The matter was examined earlier and the same was communicated to the Hon'ble MP that it may not be possible to accede to the request as the 'Night Soil Disposal System' being an inventory item.

(2) The Hon'ble MP has again requested to consider his request for purchase of 'Night Soil Disposal System' vide his letter dated 5.4.1999. In this letter the Hon'ble MP submitted that "disposal of night soil has become a serious health hazard in the port city of Marmagoa and Vasco-de-Gama and its surrounding villages. The municipal authorities have constructed a good number of public toilets in order to meet the need of the tourists and the local people". As the disposal of night soil has become a serious health hazard to provide immediate solution the Hon'ble MP has proposed a scheme of procurement of 'Night Soil Disposal System'.

(3) The 'Night Soil Disposal System' consists of a Vacuum Cleaner, Tractor and a Tractor to dispose night soil so accumulated. The procurement of the system will definitely serve the useful purpose of carrying of night soil with modern mechanical system though these are consisting of inventory items which are prohibited under the guidelines of MPLADS.

(4) In view of the above your honour may give your considered view for allowing the purchase of 'Night Soil Disposal System' as a special case as the same is essential from the stand point of better health and sanitation."

1.3 The Ministry of Planning and Programme Implementation (Department of Statistics and Programme Implementation) addressed a communication dated the 7th June, 1999 for amendment to the Guidelines on MPLAD Scheme allowing Nominated Members to recommend works, under the Scheme, in one or two more districts throughout the country, stating as following:—

"Under the Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS), elected Members of Rajya Sabha representing the whole of the State as they do, may select works for implementation in one or more districts as they may choose, nominated Members of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha may also select works for implementation in one or more districts but within one State of their choice.

(2) Repeated requests have been received from the nominated Members that they should be allowed to recommend works throughout the country on the plea that they are Presidential nominee and represent whole of the country and not a particular State. The nominated Members of Lok Sabha, in particular, have been arranging that they represent the Anglo-Indian community which is scattered all over the country and is not confined to one State.

(3) This request had earlier not been agreed to for the reasons of problems in coordination. The experience has shown that there are already problems in coordination by one Nodal District with other Districts even within the State and the problems are likely to be complicated if the coordination is to be done across the State boundary.

(4) Keeping in view, however, the repeated requests made by the nominated Members, it has now been decided, with the approval of the MoS (P&PI), to consider amending relevant provision of the Guidelines to allow nominated Members to recommend works, under the Scheme, in one or more Districts throughout the country. Since there are a total of only 14 nominated MPs, the coordination problems arising from the above proposal can be taken care of at the Central level.

(5) It is, thus, proposed that the last sentence of Para 1.2 of the Guidelines may be amended to read as follows:—

“Nominated Members of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha may also select works in one or more districts anywhere in the country.”

1.4 Subsequently Shri Arun Shourie, Minister of State in the Ministry of Planning, Statistics and Programme Implementation and Minister of State in the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances addressed letters dated 25th November and 11th December, 1999 suggesting the following three proposals for inclusion in the Guidelines on MPLAD Scheme for consideration of Hon'ble Speaker/Committee on MPLADS:—

Letter dated 25th November, 1999

“In May-June, 1999, the following three policy issues, for inclusion in the Guidelines on MPLADS, were referred for your consideration:—

- (i) Permitting purchase of audio-visual aids of educational nature in Government and Government-aided schools.
 - (ii) Allowing purchase of night soil disposal system.
 - (iii) Allowing Nominated Members to recommend works, under the Scheme, in one or more districts throughout the country.
- (2) The Lok Sabha Secretariat, however, had conveyed your feelings that it would be appropriate if the new Government and the Hon'ble Speaker with the assistance of MPLADS Committee, Lok Sabha take a view after the 13th Lok Sabha is constituted.

(3) Now that the 13th Lok Sabha has been constituted and you have been elected as the Speaker of the 13th Lok Sabha, I am submitting these issues for your considered views.

(4) These three issues were also sent for consideration of the Hon'ble Chairman, Rajya Sabha. The House Committee on MPLADS considered these issues in their meeting held on 17th June, 1999 and gave certain recommendations. A copy of the minutes of the meeting in this regard is enclosed."

Letter dated 11th December, 1999

"In an earlier letter No. L/05/001 94-MPLADS/2/99 dated 25th November, 1999, I had forwarded three issues pertaining of MPLADS for your kind consideration.

(2) One of these issues concerned the request of Nominated Members that they be allowed to recommend works in more than one State.

(3) At present, the Nominated members of both Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha can choose one State for giving recommendations under the Scheme. Nominated Members representing the Anglo-Indian community have mentioned that they have to look after the interests of Anglo-Indian community as a whole, and that, as the community is spread all over the country, requiring them to confine their recommendations to one district or State would compel them to disregard the interests of their community in other parts of the country.

(4) Similarly, Members who have been nominated to Rajya Sabha because of the work they have done in particular fields, have represented that the work which they have been doing—for instance, work in slum areas—transcends borders of an individual district or State. Therefore, they have been representing that they should be allowed to undertake works under MPLADS in more than one State.

(5) I believe that the requests of both sets have a great deal to commend them.

(6) Several of them have approached me and urged that a decision be taken in this matter expeditiously.

(7) May I, therefore, request you to give your decision on this matter?"

1.5 In this connection, nominated Members, who represent the Anglo-Indian community—Dr. Beatrix D'Souza, MP and Shri Denzil B Atkinson, MP have addressed letters to the Hon'ble Speaker, Lok Sabha for amendment to the Guidelines on MPLAD Scheme allowing them to recommend works, under the Scheme, in any State as the members of the community are spread throughout the country, stating as follows:—

Dr. Beatrix D'Souza, MP

"In the 12th Lok Sabha, the right accorded to the Anglo-Indian nominated Members of the Lok Sabha to recommend works anywhere in the country under the MPLADS was suddenly withdrawn. The Lok

Sabha nominated MPs were considered on a par with the Rajya Sabha Members and restricted to their home States.

I had written to Shri S.S. Kemwal, Deputy Secretary, Government of India, on more than one occasion stating that under Article 331 of the Constitution, the Anglo-Indian members are nominated to represent the Anglo-Indian community spread all over India. It would, therefore, be unconstitutional to restrict the MPs to use the MPLADS funds only in one State. I have received a communication stating that the matter is under consideration. I request that favourable orders may be issued expeditiously.

Sir, under the MPLADS each MP gets 2 crores annually, I request that the Anglo-Indian MP's be allowed to use the 2 crores in two different States, if they so wish. This would mean that in one year, the Anglo-Indian community in 4 States would benefit instead of 2 States as at present. When the life of the Lok Sabha is uncertain, it is desirable to do the maximum good to the maximum number in the shortest period.

Sir, I am sure you will appreciate our problem and help us to serve the Anglo-Indian community we represent."

Denzil B. Atkinson

"His Excellency, The President of India had nominated two Anglo-Indians, namely Dr. Beatrix D'Souza and myself, under Article 331 of the Constitution notification dated 12th November, 1999.

We, Sir, do not possess a particular constituency but represent the community residing all over the country. Presently there are nine States who have a nominated representative in their Legislative Assemblies.

Presently we nominated Members of the Lok Sabha face a peculiar situation for the utilisation of facilities, chiefly MPLADS, gas and telephone connections. Our desire is to reach such of those deserving Anglo-Indians. Should we be confined to use these facilities within a particular State, we would be accused of discrimination to those who reside in other States and who are in real need to make progress or benefit by such facilities.

On behalf of my colleague and myself, I have made a fervent appeal for revoking of the restrictions and permission to utilise such facilities to enable us to discharge our duties among most deserving anywhere within the country. For this act, Sir, we and the community shall remain ever grateful."

1.6 Ms. Shabana Azmi, a nominated Member of Rajya Sabha also addressed a letter dated 24th December, 1999 to HS seeking approval of HS and MPLADS Committee of Lok Sabha to the Rajya Sabha

proposal for enabling the nominated Members to shift constituencies, where they would like to spend the money, every year, as follows:—

“This has reference to the meeting Shri Kuldip Nayar and I had with you today with regard to MPLADS.

As a nominated Member of the Rajya Sabha, I am not bound by any one single constituency since all of India in a sense is my constituency. I work in the slums in Bombay and I am spending a substantial amount of my MPLADS funds for upgradation of facilities in the slums. However, my work also covers rural villages in Azamgarh, U.P.

It is evident that if we wish to arrest the problem of slums, the answer lies not in demolition of slums but rather in arresting rural migration.

May I request that the recommendation of the Rajya Sabha Committee on MPLADS, resolving that nominated members may be allowed to shift constituencies every year find favour from you and the Lok Sabha Committee on MPLADS.”

1.7 The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation has proposed that the last sentence of Para 1.2 of the Guidelines may be amended to read as follows:

“Nominated Members of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha may also select works in one or more districts anywhere in the country.”

1.8 *The Committee on MPLADS (Rajya Sabha)* considered these proposals and gave certain recommendations. Extracts from the First report of the Committee on MPLADS, presented to Rajya Sabha on 23rd December, 1999 are reproduced below item-wise:—

‘The Committee is strongly of the opinion that if the aforesaid recommendation is implemented it will give sufficient flexibility to MPLAD Scheme for transmitting greater thrust in promoting the better standards of the education among the student community, particularly in rural areas and student could enjoy the core benefits of the modern science in its applied form in the field of education and more scientific dissemination of educative values. The Committee, therefore, strongly urge that concurrence of Hon’ble Speaker in the matter should be obtained as soon as possible for framing possible amendments in the guidelines of MPLADS. Hence, the Ministry should take active necessary interest in the matter for giving effect to the recommendations.’

‘The Committee again carries strong conviction in its mind that implementation of such type of recommendations is quite essential for maintaining high health and sanitation standard particularly in rural areas and more specially in remote villages where disposal of night soil has been a persistent problem. From the environmental point of view such recommendations will be of immense help in offering village community with clean ambient air quality for healthy surroundings.’

The Committee hence urged again that concurrence of the Hon'ble Speaker, Lok Sabha should be obtained as soon as possible in the matter for giving effect to the recommendation by making suitable amendments in the Guidelines of MPLAD Scheme.'

'The Committee again urges strongly in view of the importance of the recommendation particularly for the nominated Member of the Rajya Sabha that concurrence of the Hon'ble Speaker should be obtained as quickly as possible in the matter by the Ministry so that it may proceed ahead for bringing out a suitable amendment in the Guidelines of MPLADS in the immediate future.'

Recommendations

Permitting purchase of audio-visual aids of educational nature in Government and Government-aided schools

1.9 The Committee note that at present the works which are developmental in nature and lead to creation of durable assets based on locally felt needs, recommended by the Members can be undertaken under MPLAD Scheme. The guidelines on MPLAD Scheme specifically prohibit purchase of inventory items/stock of any type except electronic projects such as computer, information footpath, ham club, Citizen Band radio.

The Hon'ble Minister in his letter addressed to the Hon'ble Speaker, has stated that requests have been received from Hon'ble Members for allowing audio-visual aids under MPLADS to benefit the student community. Such items may include purchase of colour TV, video cassettes, video cassette players, video cassette recorder. The Committee, while approving the proposal of the Hon'ble Minister recommend that this facility should also be extended to permanently recognised high schools and colleges. The Committee, accordingly, recommend that the proposal might be amended to read as follows:—

“Permitting purchase of audio-visual aids of educational nature in Government, Government-aided and permanently recognised high schools/colleges.”

Allowing purchase of night soil disposal system

1.10 The Committee approve the proposal forwarded by the Government for allowing night soil disposal system and desire that this should be implemented without any delay.

Allowing nominated Members to recommend works under the Scheme in one or more districts throughout the country

1.11 The Committee note the position stated by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation that nominated Members have represented that they should be allowed to recommend works throughout the country on the plea that they are the Presidential nominees and represent whole of the country and not a particular State. The nominated Members of Lok Sabha

in particular have been arguing that they represent the Anglo-Indian community, which is scattered all over the country. Keeping in view the repeated requests made by the nominated Members, the Government have decided to consider amending the relevant provision of the Guidelines to allow nominated Members to recommend works under the Scheme in one or more districts throughout the country. Since there are a total of only 14 Members of Parliament, the co-ordination problem arising from the above proposal can be taken care of at the Central level.

In view of the foregoing, the Committee recommend that, as proposed by the Ministry, relevant sentence in Para No. 1.2 of the Guidelines on MPLAD Scheme might be amended to read as follows:—

“Nominated Members of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha may also select works in one or more districts anywhere in the country.”

I feel that as such assets will be of great use to the general public as the Railways are facing several financial difficulties in executing the works, and as the assets will be owned by and within the control of the Railways, the proposal of Ms. Banerjee should be approved. Will you please approve its being placed before the Committee for a suitable alternation in the Guidelines?"

2.4 In this connection, Shri Kirit Somaiya, MP has also written letter dated 24 February and April, 2000 to HS/Chairman, Committee on MPLADS seeking permission to use MPLADS (Fund) on/near Railway Station/Platforms to provide passenger amenities, stating as follows:—

Letter dt. 24 February, 2000

"I would request you to give special permission to allow me (us) to use MPLADS (Fund) on/near Railway Station/Platforms to provide passenger amenities as you may please re-collect request made by me during last session and also recommended by Hon'ble Railway Minister and Hon'ble Minister for Planning and Implementation.

Hon'ble Pramod Mahajan & Hon'ble Ved Prakash Goyal also want to use their MPLADS (Fund) for such purpose.

Request to sanction as special case."

Letter dt. April, 2000

"I would request you to consider my request to allow to use MPLADS funds to provide passenger amenities, beautification and cleanliness of the local railway stations in Mumbai city. As you are aware that during the discussions in the Lok Sabha and with you have made it clear that these are all additional passenger amenities and we are planning to provide these to local passengers in Mumbai. Daily 59 lakhs commuters are travelling in Mumbai sub-urban trains. These passengers are facing too many hardships. When they get down from the train you find mad rush on the platform.

Our idea to use MPLADS funds to provide drinking water, primary medical facilities, some welfare—shelters, beautification, little gardens, more benches for sitting and rest, more toilets inside and outside the railway stations and other things on the platform and outside the stations.

Most of these amenities and facilities are not provided or planned in normal Railway Budget. Many times the Railway authorities are asking social organisations to donate such things. As Mumbai is having unique problem for railway users, I would once again request you to allow to use MPLADS funds for the above purposes, as otherwise also Railways is not going to provide this, so there is no other alternative.

Please treat this as a special request and do the needful."

Recommendation

2.5 The Committee note the proposal of the Hon'ble Minister of Railways contained in her letter received through the Hon'ble Minister of State for Planning, Statistics and Programme Implementation and Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances for inclusion of items connected with Railway Passenger Amenities in the Illustrative List of Works that can be taken up under MPLAD Scheme. The Committee while not approving the proposal recommend that no amount should be made available from the MPLADS funds for utilisation for Plan projects of the Union Government for which budgetary provisions could be made under Plan allocation.

III

Amendment to Guidelines on MPLAD Scheme to use funds for creating Computer Centres—not only in Government institutions and Government aided institutions but also in Government recognised institutions

3.1 Shri Arun Shourie, Minister of State for Planning, Statistics & Programme Implementation and Administrative Reforms & Public Grievances addressed a letter dated 19th January, 2000 to Hon'ble Speaker suggesting therein amendment in the Guidelines on MPLAD Scheme for use of funds under the Scheme for creating Computer Centres—not only in Government institutions and Government aided institutions but also in Government recognised institutions for consideration of HS/Committee on MPLAD Scheme.

3.2 In his letter, the Hon'ble Minister has stated as follows:—

“I am distressed to report that a project proposed by an Hon'ble Member of Parliament for creating Computer Centres in educational institutions in Kanpur has been buffeted around—with the file going up and down for over six months.

It seems that the State Administration, going by a literal interpretation of the Guidelines, had made out that the order for computers could only be placed with UPTRON, a State Government Undertaking. The MP represented, I think quite rightly, that UPTRON was a sick unit, and that better suppliers of the computers—who could be relied on for better after-sales service also—were available. He has informed me that even as far as cost quotations go, the firms have quoted figures that were less than those of UPTRON.

The second problem has been that among institutions to which the Hon'ble Member of Parliament wants to provide assistance for creating Computer Centres are private institutions. While these are recognized by Government, they are not aided by Government. It is entirely possible that institutions may be far better equipped by way of teaching staff, motivation and other factors to impart computer instruction than institutions which have been set up and depend on Government for aid. I am told that funds cannot be permitted to be used for setting up Computer Centres in such institutions unless Guidelines are amended, and that for this purpose I must seek your approval.

As you know, Guidelines relating to the construction of buildings have already been amended. MPs are now permitted to take up construction in Government recognised institutions—and not just Government aided institutions—so long as there is a clause which prevents assets which have been created from being transferred to or by any private body.

I would urge that by inserting a similar condition, namely, that the assets which are created out of MPLADS cannot be subsequently transferred to or by a private institution, we permit the Hon'ble Member of Parliament to use the funds for creating Computer Centres—not only in Government institutions and Government aided institutions but also in Government recognised institutions.”

Observation/Recommendation

3.3 The Committee on consideration of the proposal received from the Minister of State for Planning, Statistics and Programme Implementation and Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances recommend that necessary amendment may be made in the Guidelines on MPLAD Scheme for use of funds under the Scheme for creating Computer Centres—not only in Government institutions and Government aided institutions but also in Government recognised institutions. The Committee also desire that a specific provision may also be made in the Guidelines to prevent assets which have been created from being transferred to or by any private body.

IV

Training of District Officers on Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS)

4.1 Para 5.7 of Guidelines on MPLAD Scheme on the subject imparting training to District officials entrusted with the implementation Scheme, envisages as follows:—

“In order to bring about continuous improvement in implementation of the scheme, the Bureau of Parliamentary Studies and Training (BPST) may arrange training of MPs district officials in batches, involving, and bringing about interaction with MPs.”

4.2 In pursuance of the above para issued by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, the BPST had earlier tried to organise such training workshops twice, first in December, 1997 and later in March 1999. However, due to untimely dissolution of respective Lok Sabha these workshops could not be organised.

4.3 After the constitution of Parliamentary Committees on MPLAD Scheme in both Houses of Parliament in February, 1999, it was necessary to obtain the considered opinion of the Committee on the subject. In the absence of the Chairman after dissolution of Twelfth Sabha on 26th April, 1999, the Committee Secretariat opined that involvement of BPST for imparting training to district officials of MPLAD Scheme, which was a Scheme of the Union Government, because MPs were involved, was not required. As both the Union and State Governments have necessary training and reorientation set-up to train their officials about their professional responsibilities this matter ought to be the decision and responsibility of the Union Government/State Governments. That has become all the more imperative in view of the constitution of Committees on MPLAD Scheme in both Houses of Parliament, who have been mandated with the responsibility of monitoring, review and supervision of the Scheme, including performance of district officials.

4.4 Meanwhile, the subject was included in the Orientation Programme for the new Members of Parliament organised by BPST from 8th to 16th December, 1999 and discussed in the sixth session of the Programme held on 15th December, 1999. Senior Officers from the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation were also invited to act as Resource Persons.

4.5 The functions of the Committee on MPLAD Scheme *inter alia* are to:—

- (a) Monitor and review periodically the performance and problems in implementation of the MPLAD Scheme; and
- (b) Consider complaints of Members of Lok Sabha in regard to the Scheme.

4.6 The Committee consider problems being faced by the Members of Parliament in the implementation of the Scheme and suggest improvements from time to time in the implementation of the Scheme to the Government. Developmental works suggested by the Members under MPLAD Scheme are vast, numerous and relate to various Departments of the State Governments. No useful purpose may be served by imparting training to a handful of officers.

4.7 After the constitution of the Committee on MPLAD Scheme, the BPST sought the considered opinion of the Committee on the subject of imparting training to District Officials entrusted with implementation of the Scheme.

Recommendation

4.8 The matter was placed before the Committee to consider whether arrangements for training of District Officials concerned with the implementation of MPLAD Scheme may be made by BPST or by State Governments concerned in the light of experience gained by them in the functioning and performance of District Officials and for incorporating in their Training Programme corrective measures to improve deficiencies observed in implementation of the Scheme.

In the considered view of the Committee, State Governments concerned may make arrangements for training of District Officials concerned with the implementation of MPLAD Scheme in the light of experience gained by them in the functioning and performance of District Officials and for incorporating corrective measures in their Training Programmes to improve deficiencies observed in implementation of the Scheme. Also the objectives can be further achieved by circulating the various suggestions, recommendations made by the Committee in their Reports presented to Parliament to each and every Department of State Governments for guidance.

pertaining to this year upto 31.1.2000. That works out to 17% of the total allocation.

5.6 In view of the low rate of utilisation, and in view of the conditions of governmental finances, there really is no justification to an enhancement of the allocations for MPLADS.

In regard to raising the amount from Rs. 2 crore to Rs. 3 crore or Rs. 5 crore, the Hon'ble Minister of State for Statistics and Programme Implementation had informed the House during question hour on 19.4.2000 that "the view of the Government is that the amount will not be increased from Rs. 2 crore to other amount".

Observation/Recommendation

5.7 The Committee note the position stated by Hon'ble Minister in reply on the proposal for proportionate increase in the allocation of MPLADS funds based on the population of voters in the constituency. The Committee are not in favour of increase in MPLADS funds based on population in proportion to the population of the constituency.

5.8 The Committee further note that MPLADS allocation per year per MP was doubled on 23rd December, 1998. Funds amounting to Rs. 2 crore are being released for each MP from the year 1998-99. The Committee note that this increased amount of Rs. 2 crore per year is just not sufficient to implement developmental schemes based on the locally felt needs of constituents. The Committee therefore recommend that the present allocation of Rs. 2 crore may be enhanced to Rs. 4 crore.

(See Para 5.4 of the Report)

ARUN SHOURIE

Minister of State
Planning, Statistics and Programme
Implementation and Administrative
Reforms & Public Grievances
Government of India
New Delhi-110 002

D.O.No.C/3 2000-MPLAD
February 3, 2000

Dear Pramod ji,

Please refer to your letter of 23rd December, 1999 in which you had forwarded the request of Shri Prakash Pranjpe, Member of Parliament (LS) and other MPs about increasing the allocation of MPLADS funds.

MPLADS allocation per year MP was doubled on 23rd December, 1999. Funds are being released for the year 1998-99 in accordance with the enhancement. The unutilized balance—on which Government are paying interest—is over Rs. 1500 crores.

Out of an allocation of Rs. 1580 crores for the current year, 1999-2000 we have been able to release only Rs. 268 crores pertaining to this year upto 31.1.2000. That works out to just 17% of the total allocation.

In view of the low rate of utilization, and in view of the dire conditions of governmental finances, there really is no justification to seek an enhancement of the allocations for MPLADS.

Best regards and the very best wishes.

Yours sincerely

Sd/-

(Arun Shourie)

Shri Pramod Mahajan,
Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs &
Information Technology,
New Delhi.

Proposal for modification in Guidelines on MPLAD Scheme for contribution of Rs. 10 lakh by each Member of Parliament from MPLADS Funds towards Orissa Cyclone Relief

6.1 The Secretary, Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation addressed a letter dated the 16th March, 2000 to Secretary General (Lok Sabha) regarding proposal for one time modification in Guidelines on MPLAD Scheme for contribution of Rs. 10 lakh by each Member of Parliament from MPLADS funds towards Orissa Cyclone Relief for consideration of Committee on MPLAD Scheme.

6.2 In his communication, the Secretary, Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation stated as follows:—

“On 29th November, 1999 during the course of the discussion in Lok Sabha on loss of life and property due to the Super Cyclone in Orissa, Shri Rajesh Pilot, MP had suggested that Rs. 10 lakh from MPLADS funds of every Member be contributed towards the Orissa Cyclone Relief. In response, the Hon'ble Prime Minister had observed that there should be no objection in agreeing to the suggestion and assured that no rule would come in the way of this suggestion.

(2) The question of contributing Rs. 10 lakh per Rajya Sabha MP came up for discussion in the meeting of the Committee on MPLADS, Rajya Sabha and the Chairperson was authorised to write to all the MPs of Rajya Sabha in this regard.

(3) Accordingly, Dr. Najma Heptulla, Chairperson, Committee on MPLADS, Rajya Sabha had requested the Rajya Sabha MPs to contribute an amount of Rs. 10 lakh out of their MPLADS funds for spending on projects like housing and other rehabilitation measures in cyclone-affected areas of Orissa.

(4) The question of allowing MPs to contribute at least Rs. 10 lakh for rehabilitation of cyclone-affected Orissa in the form of construction of houses, schools, roads, bridges, shelters, etc. also came up for discussion in the meeting of the Committee of MPLADS, Rajya Sabha held on 18th February, 2000. It was suggested that keeping in view that this was a natural calamity of unprecedented magnitude, a one-time modification in the Guidelines for allowing Members to contribute for Orissa Relief, may be made. It was also suggested that the funds be given to a selected agency which would carry out the construction work. The agency would be finalised in a separate meeting of the Committee to be held shortly.

(5) The Guidelines on MPLADS permit utilisation of MPLADS within the constituency for Lok Sabha MPs, within the State of elected Rajya Sabha MPs and within one State of choice by Non-elected Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabha MPs. Keeping in view, however, unprecedented cyclone in Orissa, and the assurance given by Hon'ble Prime Minister on the Floor of the House, a modification can be considered."

Recommendations

6.3 The Committee note that in November, 1999 during the discussion in Lok Sabha on loss of life and property due to super cyclone in Orissa, a suggestion was made in the House that Rs. 10 lakh from MPLADS funds of every Member be contributed towards Orissa cyclone relief. In response the Hon'ble PM had observed that there should be no objection in agreeing to the suggestion and that no rule should come in the way of the suggestion.

The Committee note that Guidelines on MPLADS permit utilisation of MPLADS funds within the constituency of Lok Sabha MP and within the State of election for elected Rajya Sabha MP. Keeping in view the magnitude of calamity of unprecedented magnitude in Orissa, the Committee approve the proposal of the Government for modification in the Guidelines allowing Members to contribute Rs. 10 lakh for reconstruction and rehabilitation of cyclone-affected areas of Orissa.

6.4 The Committee also recommend that there should be a special provision in the Guidelines on MPLADS for contribution by Members exceeding Rs. 10 lakh per annum for rehabilitation measures in the event of calamity of rare severity in any part of the country.

6.5 The Committee also desire that Members might be permitted to utilise MPLADS funds for providing drinking water tankers and digging of wells to mitigate the sufferings of people in their constituencies, which is in the grip of extreme drought conditions.

VII

Increase in Limit of amount suggested by MPs for individual works

7.1 Para 4.1 of Guidelines on MPLADS regarding limit of amount suggested by an MP for individual works, envisages as follows:—

“Ideally it would be desirable that the MPs suggest individual works costing not more than Rs. 10 lakhs per work. However, the limit of Rs. 10 lakhs per work should not be too rigidly construed. Amount higher than Rs. 10 lakhs per work can be spent depending upon the nature of the work. (For example a single check dam to provide water for irrigation or water supply or a sports stadium may cost more than Rs. 10 lakhs. In the case of such works higher amount can be legitimately spent).”

Recommendation

7.2 The Committee feel that the present limit for an MP to suggest individual works costing not more than Rs. 10 lakh per work under MPLADS is not conducive for completion of developmental works, particularly where the cost is more than Rs. 10 lakh. The Committee therefore, recommend that suitable amendment may be carried out in para 4.1 of the Guidelines on MPLADS to raise the present limit from Rs. 10 lakh to Rs. 25 lakh per work for individual works suggested by an MP.

NEW DELHI;
11 May, 2000

21 Vaisakha, 1922 (S)

DR. BOLLA BULLI RAMA
Chairman
Committee on MPLAD Schemes

APPENDIX I

MINUTES OF SECOND SITTING OF COMMITTEE ON MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT LOCAL AREA DEVELOPMENT SCHEME (LOK SABHA)

The Committee sat on Thursday, the 2nd March, 2000 from 1500 to 1610 hours.

PRESENT

Dr. Bolla Bulli Ramaiah—*Chairman*

MEMBERS

2. Dr. Baliram
3. Shri Sudip Bandyopadhyay
4. Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi
5. Shri Bikram Keshari Deo
6. Shri Saiduzzama
7. Shri Raghuvir Singh Kaushal
8. Shri Chandrakant Khaire
9. Shri Krishnamraju
10. Shri C. Kuppusami
11. Prof. R.R. Pramanik
12. Shri Shriniwas Patil
13. Shri C.P. Radhakrishnan
14. Shri Kishan Singh Sangwan
15. Shri Balbir Singh
16. Kunwar Akhilesh Singh
17. Shri Chinamayanand Swami
18. Shri Braja kishore Tripathy

SECRETARIAT

1. Shri K.L. Narang—*Director*
2. Shri S.C. Kaliraman—*Assistant Director*

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3. The Committee then took up for consideration Memorandum No. ... containing three proposals for amendment to the Guidelines on MPLD Scheme. The decisions/recommendations are given proposal-wise serially.

(i) *Permitting purchase of audio-visual aids of educational nature in Government and Government aided schools.*

3.1 The Committee deliberated over the proposal of the Hon'ble Minister seeking permission for purchase of audio-visual aids of educational nature in Government and Government aided schools. The Committee approved the suggestion and also decided that this facility should also be extended to permanently recognised high schools and colleges.

The Committee accordingly recommended that the proposals might be amended to read as follows:—

“Permitting purchase of audio-visual aids of educational nature in Government, Government aided and permanently recognised high schools/colleges.”

(ii) *Allowing purchase of night soil disposal system.*

3.2 The Committee approved the proposal and desired that this should be implemented without any further delay.

(iii) *Allowing nominated Members to recommend works under the Scheme, in one or more districts throughout the country.*

3.3 In this connection, the Committee perused the communication received from the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation stating *inter alia* that repeated requests have been received from the nominated Members that being Presidential nominees they should be allowed to recommend works throughout the country on the plea that they represent whole of the country and not a particular State. The nominated Members of Lok Sabha, in particular, have been arguing that they represent the Anglo-Indian community which is scattered all over the country and is not confined to one State.

The Ministry added that since there were a total of only 14 nominated MPs, the coordination problems arising from the above proposal can be taken care of at the Central level.

In view of the above, the Committee recommended that Para No. 1.2 of the Guidelines on MPLAD Scheme might be amended to read as follows:—

“Nominated Members of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha may also select works in one or more districts anywhere in the country.”

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The Committee then adjourned.

APPENDIX II

MINUTES OF THIRD SITTING OF COMMITTEE ON MEMBER PARLIAMENT LOCAL AREA DEVELOPMENT SCHEME (LOK SABHA)

The Committee sat on Tuesday, the 21st March, 2000
1500 to 1645 hours.

PRESENT

Dr. Bolla Bulli Ramaiah — *Chairman*

MEMBERS

2. Shri Sudip Bandyopadhyay
3. Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi
4. Shri Bikram Keshari Deo
5. Shri Raghuvir Singh Kaushal
6. Shri Krishnamraju
7. Shri C. Kuppusami
8. Shri Kishan Singh Sangwan
9. Shri Balbir Singh
10. Shri Chinamayanand Swami
11. Shri Braja Kishore Tripathy

SECRETARIAT

1. Shri K.L. Narang — *Director*
2. Shri S.C. Kaliraman — *Assistant Director*

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3. The Committee then took up for consideration four Memoranda containing proposals for amendment to the Guidelines on MPLAD Scheme. The decisions/recommendations are given memorandum seriatim:

- (i) Memorandum No. 2 regarding "*Amendment to Guidelines on MPLAD Scheme for inclusion of items connected with Passenger Amenities in the Illustrative list of works that can be taken up under MPLAD Scheme*".

The Committee deliberated over the proposals of the Hon'ble Minister of Railways contained in her letter received through the Hon'ble Minister of State for Planning, Statistics and Programme Implementation, Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances regarding inclusion of items connected with Railway Passenger Amenities in the Guidelines of MPLAD Scheme. The Committee while not accepting the proposal decided that

amount should be made available from the MPLADS funds for utilisation for plan projects of the Union Government for which budgetary provision could be made under plan allocation.

- (ii) Memorandum No. 3 regarding *“Amendment to Guidelines on MPLAD Scheme to use funds for creating Computer Centres — not only in Government institutions and Government aided institutions but also in Government recognised institutions”*.

The Committee approved the proposals received from the Minister of State for Planning, Statistics and Programme Implementation and Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances, for carrying out amendment in the Guidelines on MPLAD Scheme for use of funds under the Scheme for creating Computer Centres — not only in Government institutions and Government aided institutions but also in Government recognised institutions.

- (iii) Memorandum No. 4 regarding *“Training of District Officers and Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS)”*.

The Committee considered the Memorandum and decided that the arrangements for training of District officials concerned with the implementation of MPLAD Scheme might be made by the State Governments concerned in the light of experience gained by them in the functioning and performance of District Officials and for incorporating in their Training Programme corrective measures to improve deficiencies observed in implementation of the Scheme.

- (iv) Memorandum No. 5 regarding *“Proportionate increase in the allocation of MPLAD Scheme funds”*.

The Committee deliberated upon the proposal. Members were not in favour of increase in MPLADS funds based on population. However, the Committee deferred their decision on the matter for the time being as they anticipated that the Union Government might be reviewing enhancement in the allocation of MPLADS funds.

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The Committee then adjourned.

APPENDIX III

MINUTES OF FOURTH SITTING OF COMMITTEE ON MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT LOCAL AREA DEVELOPMENT SCHEME (LOK SABHA)

The Committee sat on Tuesday, the 25th April, 2000 from 1500 to 1745 hours.

PRESENT

Dr. Bolla Bulli Ramaiah—*Chairman*

MEMBERS

2. Dr. Baliram
3. Shri Sudip Bandyopadhyay
4. Shri Satyavrat Chaturvedi
5. Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi
6. Shri Bikram Keshari Deo
7. Shri Chandrakant Khaire
8. Shri Krishnamraju
9. Shri C. Kuppusami
10. Shri K. Malaisamy
11. Shri Shriniwas Patil
12. Shri Rajendrasinh Rana
13. Shri Tarachand Sahu
14. Shri Kishan Singh Sangwan
15. Shri Balbir Singh
16. Kunwar Akhilesh Singh
17. Shri Braja Kishore Tripathy

SECRETARIAT

1. Shri K.L. Narang —*Director*
2. Shri S.C. Kaliraman—*Assistant Director*

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3. The Committee then considered Memorandum No. 6 containing proposal for one time modification in Guidelines on MPLAD Scheme for contribution of Rs. 10 lakh by each Member of Parliament from MPLAD funds for Orissa cyclone relief. The Committee noted that Guidelines on MPLADS permitted utilisation of MPLADS funds within the constituency of Lok Sabha MP and within the State of election for elected Rajya Sabha MP. Keeping in view the natural calamity of unprecedented magnitude in Orissa, the Committee approved the proposal for modification in t

Guidelines allowing the Members to contribute Rs. 10 lakh for reconstruction and rehabilitation in cyclone-affected areas of Orissa.

The Committee also recommended that there should be a specific provision in the Guidelines on MPLADS for contribution by Members not exceeding Rs. 10 lakh per annum for rehabilitation measures in natural calamity of rare severity in any part of the country.

Hon'ble Members might be permitted to utilise the funds for providing drinking water tankers and digging of bore wells to mitigate the effect of drought. The Committee decided to report the matter to the House.

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7. Members made suggestions for enhancement in the present amount of allocation of Rs. 2 crore per year per MP. It was brought to the notice of the Committee that Hon'ble Minister of State for Statistics and Programme Implementation had informed the House during question hour on 19.2.2000 that "the view of the Government is that the amount will not be increased from Rs. 2 crore to any other amount."

The Committee, however, decided to recommend to Government for enhancement in allocation from Rs. 2 crore to Rs. 4 crore.

8. In regard to limit of Rs. 10 lakh for individual work as laid down in Para 4.1 of the Guidelines, the Committee recommend that this limit should be raised to Rs. 25 lakh per work.

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The Committee then adjourned.

APPENDIX IV

MINUTES OF FIFTH SITTING OF COMMITTEE ON MEMBERS PARLIAMENT LOCAL AREA DEVELOPMENT SCHEME (LOK SABHA)

The Committee sat on Tuesday, 9 May, 2000 from 1600 to 1640 hours

PRESENT

Dr. Bolla Bulli Ramaiah—*Chairman*

MEMBERS

2. Shri Satyavrat Chaturvedi
3. Shri Saiduzzama
4. Shri Raghuvir Singh Kaushal
5. Shri Chandrakant Khaire
6. Shri C. Kuppusami
7. Shri Sis Ram Ola
8. Shri C.P. Radhakrishnan
9. Shri Kishan Singh Sangwan
10. Shri Kunwar Akhilesh Singh
11. Shri Braja Kishore Tripathy

SECRETARIAT

1. Shri K.L. Narang —*Director*
2. Shri S.C. Kaliraman—*Assistant Director*

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3. The Committee then considered the Draft Report—'Proposal to amend Guidelines on MPLADS' and adopted the same without modification.

4. The Committee authorised the Chairman to finalise the report also to make verbal and consequential changes, if any, arising out of factual verification by the Ministry and present the same to Lok Sabha.

The Committee then adjourned.

APPENDIX V

STATEMENT OF OBSERVATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Sl. No.	Para No.	Ministry	Observations/Recommendations
1	2	3	4
1.	1.9	Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation	<p>The Committee note that at present the work which are developmental in nature and lead to creation of durable assets based on locally felt needs, recommended by the Members can be undertaken under MPLAD Scheme. The Guidelines on MPLAD Scheme specifically prohibit purchase of inventory items/stock of any type except electronic projects such as computer, information footpath, ham club, Citizen Band radio.</p> <p>The Hon'ble Minister in his letter addressed to the Hon'ble Speaker, has stated that requests have been received from Hon'ble Members for allowing audio-visual aids under MPLADS to benefit the student community. Such items may include purchase of colour TV, video cassette recorder, video cassettes players, video cassettes recorder. The Committee, while approving the proposal of the Hon'ble Minister recommend that this facility should also be extended to permanent recognised high schools and colleges. The Committee, accordingly, recommend that the proposal might be amended to read as follows:—</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">“Permitting purchase of audio-visual aids of educational nature in Government Government aided and permanent recognised high schools/colleges.”</p>
2.	1.10	-do-	<p>The Committee approve the proposal forwarded by the Government for allowing night school disposal system and desire that this should be implemented without any delay.</p>

1	2	3	4
3.	1.11	Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation	<p>The Committee note the position stated by Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation that nominated Members represented that they should be allowed to recommend works throughout the country on the plea that they are the Presidential nominees and represent whole of the country and not a particular State. The nominated Members of Lok Sabha in particular have been arguing that they represent the Anglo-India community which is scattered all over the country. Keeping in view the repeated requests made by the nominated Members, the Government has decided to consider amending the relevant provision of the Guidelines to allow nominated Members to recommend works under the MPLAD Scheme in one or more districts throughout the country. Since there are a total of 14 Members of Parliament, the co-ordinating problem arising from the above proposal can be taken care of at the Central level.</p>

In view of the foregoing, the Committee recommend that, as proposed by the Ministry, the relevant sentence in Para No. 1.2 of the Guidelines on MPLAD Scheme might be amended to read as follows:—

“Nominated Members of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha may also select works in one or more districts anywhere in the country.”

4.	2.5	-do-	<p>The Committee note the proposal of the Hon'ble Minister of Railways contained in a letter received through the Hon'ble Minister of State for Planning, Statistics and Programme Implementation and Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances for inclusion of works connected with Railway Passenger Amenities.</p>
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the Illustrative List of Works that can be taken up under MPLAD Scheme. The Committee while not approving the proposal recommend that no amount should be made available from the MPLADS funds for utilisation for Plan projects of the Union Government for which budgetary provisions could be made under Plan allocation.

5. 3.3 Ministry of
Statistics and
Programme
Implementation

The Committee on consideration of the proposal received from the Minister of State for Planning, Statistics and Programme Implementation and Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances recommend that necessary amendment may be made in the Guidelines on MPLAD Scheme for use of funds under the Scheme for creating Computer Centres — not only in Government institutions and Government aided institutions but also in Government recognised institutions. The Committee also desire that a specific provision may also be made in the Guidelines to prevent assets which have been created from being transferred to or by any private body.

6. 4.8 -do-

The matter was placed before the Committee to consider whether arrangements for training of District officials concerned with the implementation of MPLAD Scheme may be made by BPST or by State Governments concerned in the light of experience gained by them in the functioning and performance of district officials and for incorporating in their Training Programme corrective measures to improve deficiencies observed in implementation of the Scheme.

In the considered view of the Committee, State Governments concerned may make arrangements for training of District officials concerned with the implementation of MPLAD Scheme in the light of experience gained by them in the functioning and performance of District officials and for incorporating corrective

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measures in their Training Programmes to improve deficiencies observed in implementation of the Scheme. Also the objectives can be further achieved by circulating the various suggestions/recommendations made by the Committee in their Reports presented to Parliament to each and every Department and State Governments for guidance.

7. 5.7 Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation
The Committee note the position stated by Hon'ble Minister in his reply on the proposal for proportionate increase in the allocation of MPLADS funds based on the population of voters in the constituency. The Committee are not in favour of increase in MPLADS funds based on population in proportion to the population of the constituency.

8. 5.8 -do-
The Committee further note that MPLADS allocation per year per MP was doubled on 23rd December, 1998. Funds amounting to Rs. 2 crore are being released for each MP from the year 1998-99. The Committee feel that the increased amount of Rs. 2 crore per year is just not sufficient to implement developmental schemes based on the locally felt needs of the constituents. The Committee therefore recommend that the present allocation of Rs. 2 crore may be enhanced to Rs. 4 crore.

9. 6.3 -do-
The Committee note that in November 1999 during the course of discussion in Lok Sabha on loss of life and property due to super cyclone in Orissa, a suggestion was made in the House that Rs. 10 lakh from MPLADS funds of every Member be contributed towards Orissa cyclone relief. In response the Hon'ble PM has observed that there should be no objection in agreeing to the suggestion and that no rule should come in the way of this suggestion.

The Committee note that Guidelines on MPLADS permit utilisation of MPLADS funds within the constituency of Lok Sabha MP and within the State of election for elected Rajya

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			Sabha MP. Keeping in view the natural calamity of unprecedented magnitude in Orissa, the Committee approve the proposal of the Government for modification in the Guidelines allowing the Members to contribute Rs. 10 lakh for reconstruction and rehabilitation in cyclone-affected areas of Orissa.
10. 6.4	Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation		The Committee also recommend that there should be a specific provision in the Guidelines on MPLADS for contribution by Members not exceeding Rs. 10 lakh per annum for rehabilitation measures in natural calamity of rare severity in any part of the country.
11. 6.5	-do-		The Committee also desire that Members might be permitted to utilise MPLAD funds for providing drinking water tankers and digging of bore wells to mitigate the sufferings of people in their constituencies, which come in the grip of extreme drought conditions.
12. 7.2	-do-		The Committee feel that the present limit for an MP to suggest individual works costing not more than Rs. 10 lakh per work under MPLADS is not conducive for completion of developmental works, particularly where the cost is more than Rs. 10 lakh. The Committee, therefore, recommend that suitable amendment may be carried out in para 4.1 of the Guidelines on MPLADS to raise the present limit of Rs. 10 lakh to Rs. 25 lakh per work for individual works suggested by an MP.