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News: Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS)

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- Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS) is a scheme formulated by Government of India on 23 December 1993 that **enables the members of parliaments (MP) to recommend developmental work in their constituencies** with an emphasis on creating durable community assets based on locally felt needs.
- MPLADS is a **Central Sector Scheme** implemented by **Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI)**.
- Elected Members of Rajya Sabha representing the whole of the State as they do may select works for **implementation in one or more district(s)** as they may choose.
- **Nominated Members** of the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha may also select works for **implementation in one or more districts, anywhere in the country**.

- The MPLADS is a Plan Scheme fully funded by the Government of India. The annual MPLADS fund entitlement per MP constituency is Rs. 5 crores. But this amount is not disbursed directly to MP but to the District Authority of the chosen district.
- This annual entitlement is released conditionally in two installments of Rs. 2.5 crore each.
- The figures has been revised to 2 crore rupees annually.
- Funds are non-lapsable in nature i.e. in case of non-release of fund in a particular year it is carried forward to the next year.
- MPs need to recommend work worth at least 15% and 7.5% of their funds to create assets in areas inhabited by Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs) respectively.
- MPs can also recommend work of up to Rs. 25 lakhs per year outside their constituency or state of election to promote national unity, harmony and fraternity.
- MPs can recommend work of up to 25 lakh for Natural Calamity in the state and up to Rs. 1 crore in the country in case of Calamity of Severe Nature.
- Funds for MPLADS can be converged with Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) for creating more durable assets and with National Program for Development of Sports (Khelo India).

- Funds can be utilized for procurement of LED lights under Atal Jyoti Yojana (AJAY) Scheme.
- It mandates 100% compulsory auditing of all works completed by trusts which receive funds under the scheme.
- Recently, the Ministry of Finance has revised the Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS) rules, where the interest that the fund accrues will be deposited in the Consolidated Fund of India.
- So far, the interest accrued on the fund used to be added to the MPLADS account and could be used for the development projects.
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