



MPLADS for Medical Facilities

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Why in News

Recently, the **Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation** has made amendments to the **Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS)** guidelines.

Key Points

- The amendments allow **Members of Parliament (MPs)** to recommend funds for purchase of medical testing and screening equipment for government hospitals and setting up of other related facilities in their respective constituencies, to contain **COVID-19**.
- For the same, the government has permitted **one-time use of funds** from MPLADS.
Expenditure under this **one-time dispensation** will be restricted to the **end of financial year 2020-21** and no expenditure, under any circumstances, shall be allowed to make/roll over into next financial year 2021-22.
- Apart from this, field work of large-scale sample surveys has been suspended by the **National Statistical Office** (NSO).

Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme

- It was announced in **December 1993** and initially came under the control of the **Ministry of Rural Development**. Later, in **October 1994**, it was **transferred** to the **Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation**.
- The **1st Guidelines** were issued in **February 1994**, covering the concept, implementation and monitoring of the Scheme.

- **Objective:**
 - To enable MPs to recommend works of developmental nature with emphasis on the creation of durable community assets based on the locally felt needs to be taken up in their Constituencies.
 - Lok Sabha Members can recommend works within their constituencies and elected Members of Rajya Sabha can recommend works within the State they are elected from.
 - Nominated Members of both the Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabha can recommend works anywhere in the country.
 - To create durable assets of national priorities viz. drinking water, primary education, public health, sanitation and roads, etc.
- It is a **Central Sector Scheme**. The **annual MPLADS fund entitlement per MP constituency is ₹5 crore**.
- The **recommendations of the works are made by the MPs** for the betterment of the community.

Source: IE