MPLADS Scheme

Prelims: *Current events of national and international importance*

Why in News?

Recently, the MPLADS have been in the spotlight due to recent allegations of MPs misusing funds for works outside their constituencies.

- **MPLADS –** It is a ***Central Sector Scheme*** under which each MP can recommend developmental works worth *Rs.5 crore annually.*
- It is known as the Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS).
- **Launched in –** 1993.
- **Ministry –** ***Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI).***
- **Objective –** Creation of durable community assets such as roads, school buildings, and water facilities.

> *"eSAKSHI portal was launched on April 1, 2023, to provide an end-to-end solution for efficient and transparent implementation of the MPLAD scheme."*

- **Powers & Role of MPs –** MPs identify and recommend developmental works, generally within their constituencies.
- **As per MPLADS Guidelines (2023) –**
  - MPs may recommend works up to Rs.50 lakh per financial year outside their constituency/State.
  - In case of a calamity of severe nature, this limit increases to Rs.1 crore.
- **Lok Sabha MPs –** Can recommend works within their constituencies.
- **Rajya Sabha MPs –** Can recommend works in one or more districts of the State from which they were elected.
- **Nominated MPs –** Can recommend works in any one or more districts in

any one State of the country.

- **Mandate –**
  - Minimum *15% of works for Scheduled Caste–inhabited areas.*
  - Minimum *7.5% of works for Scheduled Tribe–inhabited areas.*
- **Key Features – Sectors –** The funds can be ***utilised across 11 specific sectors***, including infrastructure, education, health and others.
- **Funding Nature –** Fully funded by the Government of India.
- **Asset Creation –** Emphasis on durable community infrastructure.
- **Trusts & Societies –** Asset creation by trusts/societies allowed, subject to a prescribed ceiling and conditions.
- **Convergence –** MPLADS works can be converged with Central/State schemes.
- In that case, funds from other schemes must be used first.
- MPLADS funds were released later to ensure project completion.

- **Implementation Mechanism – Nodal District –** Each MP selects a Nodal District and informs MoSPI, the State Government, and the District Magistrate.
- **Fund Release –** Annual entitlement released in two equal instalments. Funds are released directly to the District Authority.
- **Recommendation –** MPs recommend work formally to the District Authority.
- **Execution –** District Authority identifies suitable Implementing Agencies.
- Responsible for timely, qualitative, and satisfactory execution.
- **Time-bound Process –** Eligible works to be sanctioned within a specified time frame.
- Rejections, if any, to be communicated to MPs with reasons.
- **Public Accountability –** Completed works must be opened for public use immediately.
- Mandatory installation of a plaque displaying scheme details and sponsoring MP.
- **One MP – One Idea –** It is an initiative encouraging MPs to select and implement the top three innovative, community-driven development ideas annually in their constituencies.
- It focuses on sectors like education, health, environment, and housing.

References

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3. Vikaspedia | MPLADS

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