

**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 Second Report of Committee on MPLADS (15th Lok Sabha) on the subject “Awareness in the implementing Agencies about the importance of the MPLAD Scheme through Training Programmes, Seminars, Symposia, Workshops, etc.”}

FIFTH 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

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COMPOSITION OF COMMITTEE ON MPLADS (2010-11)

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| 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 Fifth Report on the action taken by the Government on the observations/recommendations of the Committee contained in their Second Report (15th Lok Sabha) on the subject "Awareness in the Implementing Agencies about the importance of the MPLAD Scheme through Training Programmes, Seminars, Symposia, Workshops, etc." relating to the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation.

2. The Second 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 24 November 2010.

3. The Report was considered and adopted by the Committee at their sitting held on 27 April 2011.

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

New Delhi

2 June 2011
12 Jyaistha, 1933 (Saka)

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

CHAPTER I

REPORT

1.1 This Report of the Committee on MPLADS (Lok Sabha) deals with the action taken by the Government on the observations/recommendations of the Committee contained in their Second Report (15th Lok Sabha) on the subject “Awareness in the Implementing Agencies about importance of the MPLAD Scheme through Training Programmes, Seminars, Symposia, Workshops, etc.” relating to the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation.

1.2 The Second Report which was presented to the Lok Sabha on 6 August 2010 contained 12 observations/recommendations. The Action Taken Notes on all these observations/recommendations have been received from the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation and are broadly categorized as follows :-

- (i) Observations/Recommendations which have been accepted by the Government :-
Para Nos. 3.2, 3.6, 3.7 and 3.11 (Total 4)
- (ii) Observations/Recommendations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in the light of replies received from the Government :-
Para Nos. 3.3, 3.4 and 3.5 (Total 3)
- (iii) Observations/Recommendations in respect of which replies of the Government have not been accepted by the Committee and which require reiteration: -
Para Nos. 3.1, 3.9 and 3.10 (Total 3)
- (iv) Observations/Recommendations in respect of which final replies have not been received : –
3.8 and 3.12 (Total 2)

1.3 The Committee hope and trust that utmost importance would be given to the implementation of the observations/recommendations accepted by the Government. In cases where the Ministry finds difficulty in implementing the observations/recommendations in letter and spirit for any reason whatsoever, the matter should be reported to the Committee with reasons for non-implementation. The Committee further desire that the Action Taken Notes on the observations/recommendations contained in Chapter I and the final Action Taken Replies in respect of the recommendations included in Chapter V of this Report should be furnished to them within three months of its presentation.

1.4 The Action Taken Notes furnished by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation have been reproduced in the relevant chapters of this Report. The Committee deal with the action taken by the Government on some of their observations/recommendations in the succeeding paragraphs.

**(A) ROLE OF THE MINISTRY IN IMPARTING TRAINING
(PARA 3.1)**

1.5 In their Second report, the Committee had observed that the provisions contained in the Guidelines of the MPLAD Scheme with regard to training of the State officials were inadequate to create proper awareness among the officials engaged in implementation of the Scheme. The Guidelines merely state that the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation shall provide training materials for conducting training of district officers on MPLAD Scheme as and when these are organized by the State Governments. The Committee felt that the Guideline had been framed by the Ministry to conveniently avoid its responsibility of conducting training programmes by shifting the same to the States. Since this was a Central Sector scheme fully funded by the Government of India, the Committee were of the strong view that it should be the primary concern of the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation to create requisite awareness among the officials of the State Governments who were only the implementing authorities and as such, the Ministry should play a proactive role in the matter and should not wait for the proposals to come from the States. The Committee, therefore, recommended that the Guidelines on the role of the Ministry in imparting training to the officials of the State Governments should be reframed as follows:-

“The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation shall organize training programmes for the officials of the State Governments/U.Ts. in coordination with the respective State/UT Governments and provide financial assistance, training materials and Resource persons for conducting training programmes for State/UT officials”.

1.6 In its Action Taken Note, the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation has stated as follows:-

“Ministry undertakes the training programme on MPLADS guidelines for the State/UT Governments officials as per the convenience and request received from the concerned State/UT. The nodal Secretaries are regularly requested to emphasize the importance and necessity of training on MPLADS in the review meetings held with the nodal Secretaries twice in a year under the chairmanship of MOS(IC) and they are also requested to send the proposals for the training

programme for district/State officials on MPLADS Guidelines. Strenuous efforts are being made by the Ministry to conduct at least two training programmes in a quarter by sending reminders to the concerned State wherever training programme is due.”

1.7 The Committee are dismayed to note that the action taken reply furnished by the Ministry is silent on the recommendation of the Committee regarding reframing the MPLADS Guidelines to the effect that the Ministry shall organize training programmes for the officials of the State Governments/UTs in coordination with the respective State/UT Governments. Two contrary replies have been furnished by the Ministry in this regard. On the one hand, it has been stated that the Ministry undertakes training programmes for the State/UT officials as per the convenience and requests received from the concerned State/UT. On the other hand, it has been stated that strenuous efforts are being made by the Ministry to conduct training programmes by sending reminders to the concerned State wherever training programme is due. The Committee take the reply given by the Ministry regarding reframing of the Guidelines as recommended by the Committee as evasive. The present entry in the Guidelines is totally misleading as it states that the Ministry shall provide training material for conducting training of district officers as and when these are organized by the State governments. This provision in the Guidelines has thus far proved to be a convenient tool for the State Governments to avoid conducting training programmes. Being the nodal Ministry for implementation of this Central Sector Scheme, onus lies on the Ministry to create the requisite awareness among the officials of the State Governments who are only the implementing authorities. The Committee, therefore, reiterate their recommendation to reframe the Guidelines as stated above.

(B) TRAINING PROGRAMMES (PARA 3.2)

1.8 In their Report, the Committee noted that most of the States had conducted only one training programme since 2006 with the exception of West Bengal which had conducted three programmes. In such a scenario, the Committee were not convinced that it would be sufficient to conduct training once in three years in a State. It was also surprising that the Ministry had not maintained any record of the number of officials imparted training so far. The Committee felt that both the number of training programmes organized and the number of officials trained so far, were very less considering the fact that the Scheme was being implemented in all the Lok Sabha constituencies in the country since 1993. Since several cases of misinterpretation/violation of guidelines by the officials had come to the notice of the Committee, they felt that it would be ideal to conduct training programmes once every year in which all the important officials of the nodal department, district administration and implementing agencies are imparted training. However, till a proper infrastructure was created in this regard, the Committee strongly recommended that the Ministry should take immediate steps to organize, in coordination with the State Governments concerned, training programmes at least once in two years in each State. The Committee also recommended that creation of necessary infrastructure should not linger on for years but must be done within a period of 3-4 years.

1.9 In its Action Taken Note, the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation have stated as under:-

“All the States except Bihar, Jammu & Kashmir and UTs of Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu have already conducted trainings so far. The States/UTs, who have not conducted training, are being constantly reminded by the Ministry . The details of the training programmes conducted in each State is summarized in ‘**Annexure A**’ which reveals that the major States have conducted the training programme at least twice after 2005. An initiative has been taken by the Ministry to create a pool of resource persons from the available resources from the States/UTs for conducting the training programme for district/State officials on regular basis. In this regard, 6 zonal venues have been proposed to be created by this Ministry for conducting training programme on MPLADS Guidelines for the officials of nodal department as well

as some faculty members from the State Administrative Institute so as to create resource persons from the existing human resources of respective States/UTs which will facilitate each State/UT to conduct the training in their respective regional languages. All nodal Secretaries have been requested to nominate some officials from nodal department and faculties from their respective State administrative/management institutes to the zonal venues.”

1.10 The Committee are constrained to note that out of 35 States/UTs, 25 States/UTs have conducted only one training programme since 2005, while 4 States/UTs have never conducted any training programme. Contrary to the claim of the Ministry that the major States have conducted the training programme at least twice after 2005, many major States, viz. Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Gujarat have conducted only one training programme during the period, while Bihar and Jammu & Kashmir have not conducted even a single training programme so far. The Committee do not consider this an ideal situation for effective implementation of the Scheme as several cases of misinterpretation/violation of guidelines by officials have come to the notice of the Committee. The Committee note with satisfaction that at least some initiative has been taken by the Ministry to create a pool of resource persons for conducting training programmes for district/State officials on a regular basis and expect that expeditious steps will be taken by the Ministry in this regard so as to impart training to the officials of the State Government every year as recommended by the Committee. The progress made in this regard should be communicated to the Committee within three months.

(C) TRAINING OF STATE OFFICIALS BY INSTITUTES OF MANAGEMENT AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

(PARA 3.6)

1.11 Having noted that the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation was not in a position to provide resource personnel every year for all the States/UTs and that the dependence of the conduct of training programme on the availability of the officials from the Ministry might also be a reason for a few training programmes conducted so far, the Committee had recommended that the training of State officials might be handed over to the respective Institute of Management and Public Administration of each State which has expertise in the field of training. For this purpose, some faculty members of the State Institutes should be imparted training in the first instance by the Ministry in all the States as this would also facilitate training of State officials in regional languages. The schedule for annual training programmes might be chalked out by the Ministry in consultation with the nodal Departments and the respective Institutes of the States keeping in view the local requirements in a particular State. Financial assistance might be given to the Institutes directly by the Ministry for conducting the training programmes.

1.12 In the Action Taken Note, the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation have stated as follows:-

“Steps have been taken to create a pool of resource persons for every State/UT from the available human resources available in the respective State Government / State Training Institute which would facilitate to conduct training on MPLADS in respective State/UT governments in their regional languages in an efficient and fruitful manner. In this regard all nodal Secretaries were requested to nominate few officials from Nodal department and some faculty members from their State Administrative / Management and Public Administrative Institution for the proposed 6 training zonal centers for creation of resource persons **(Annexure B)**”

1.13 The Committee note that there is a proposal with the Ministry to set up six Zonal Training Centres for creation of a pool of resource persons. These Zonal

Training Centres are meant for training of resource persons who will train only few officers responsible for implementation of the MPLAD Scheme. However, no proposal has been made by the Ministry on the mode of conduct of training to all concerned State officials. The Action Taken reply furnished by the Ministry is silent on the specific recommendation made by the Committee regarding the training of State Officials to be handed over to the respective Institute of Management and Public Administration of each State. The Committee made this recommendation keeping in view the inability of the Ministry to provide resource personnel every year for all the States/UTs to train the State Officials. Handing over of the training process to the State Institutes would result in providing in-depth training in the MPLAD Scheme in regional languages, decrease in expenditure, adhering to the schedule of training and training of more State officials. The Committee, therefore, reiterate their recommendation and expect the Ministry to take immediate steps in this regard.

(D) TRAINING MANUALS

(PARA 3.7)

1.14 The Committee, in their earlier report, had recommended that the training manuals should be prepared in a time bound manner and handed over to the nodal departments and the State Institutes of Public Administration for their use during the training of district officials. The Committee also recommended that steps should be taken to provide training manuals in regional languages, in order that the scheme is implemented in the right spirit.

1.15 In its Action Taken Note, the Ministry has stated as follows:-

“A training manual on MPLADS, will incorporate the background on MPLAD Scheme, Guidelines , its important features and implementation process, release of funds and its management at various levels, accounting procedure, monitoring role of Centre/State /district authority/ and Implementing Agencies, permissible and non-permissible works under MPLADS, various circulars issued on MPLADS, etc. The next proposed revised Guidelines which is under preparation will be considered as a comprehensive training manual. Presently, these aspects are covered in the training on MPLADS to the State/district officials conducted by the Ministry. Training manual will be made based on revised Guidelines on MPLADS.”

1.16 The Committee regret to find ambiguities in the reply furnished by the Ministry in regard to the preparation of a Training Manual. It is not clear from the reply as to whether the next proposed revised Guidelines will be considered as a comprehensive training manual or the Training Manual will be prepared based on revised Guidelines. The Committee expect the Ministry to be clear in its approach and hope that the Training Manual would be prepared by the Ministry in a time-bound manner after the revision of the MPLADS Guidelines. Moreover, the reply is silent on the recommendation of the Committee that steps should be taken to provide training manuals in regional languages. In order to ensure that the officials deployed for field level implementation of the Scheme understand the Guidelines in right earnest, the Committee reiterate their earlier recommendation that along with the English and Hindi versions, the Training Manual should also be made available in all regional languages.

**(E) SEMINARS/SYMPOSIA/WORKSHOPS ON MPLAD SCHEME
(PARA 3.9 AND 3.10)**

1.17 The Committee, in their earlier report, had observed that the Ministry had not conducted any Seminars/Symposia/Workshops on MPLAD Scheme so far. The contention of the Ministry that the review meetings conducted by it twice a year were in the nature of symposia or workshop was not acceptable to the Committee. The Committee was of the firm view that the seminars, symposia and workshops are the broader instruments which involve wide range of discussions among the participants. All the issues relating to the implementation of the scheme can be discussed at such events which in turn would create requisite awareness among the implementing agencies about the importance of the MPLAD Scheme. Therefore, the Committee recommended that the Ministry should organize region-wise seminars/symposia/workshops exclusively for creating awareness among the implementing agencies. In these seminars/symposia/workshops, Members of Parliament should also be invited in order to pave the way for a holistic discussion. The Committee also expected the Ministry to use internet and other communications media for creating awareness among the implementing agencies. Tele conference, e-workshops, etc. could be organized for tripartite discussions among the officials of the Ministry, Members of Parliament and the officials of the States who are not in a position to come to Delhi to attend the seminars, symposia, etc.

1.18 In its Action Taken Note, the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation stated as follows:-

“Due to the limited staff strength in the Ministry, organizing region-wise seminars/symposia/workshops exclusively for creating awareness among the implementing agencies may not be feasible . Whenever training on MPLADS is conducted in State/UTs, the State/UT Governments are requested to invite Implementing Agencies along with officials of district administration involved in implementation of MPLAD Scheme. The training programmes conducted by the Ministry on MPLADS Guidelines to the district officials including implementing agencies facilitates them to improve the implementation of the MPLAD Scheme at district level which is reflective from the higher utilisation of MPLADS funds. Along with the training on Guidelines, various clarifications are also given to the officials involved in implementation. In the review meetings, held both at Centre

and State/UT Nodal Authorities are requested to create awareness on MPLADS among Implementing Agencies.”

1.19 The Committee are constrained to note that it may not be feasible for the Ministry to organize region-wise seminars/symposia/workshops due to limited staff strength in the Ministry. Since a holistic discussion on all the issues relating to the implementation of the Scheme can be held only at such events, the Committee recommended that the Ministry should organize region-wise seminars/symposia/workshops where Members of Parliament may also be invited. The ritual of review meetings presently held by the Ministry which is just one day event twice a year involving all the States/UTs, serve no meaningful purpose. Moreover, the views of the Members of Parliament, on whose recommendations the Scheme is being implemented, are not taken into consideration in the reviews being undertaken by the Ministry with the State Authorities. The Members of Parliament are in a better position to point out the lacunae and the difficulties in implementation of the Scheme as they frequently visit their respective constituencies and interact with the people at the grassroots level. Accordingly, the feedback received by them from their constituents regarding progress of works being executed by the Implementing Agencies, would prove to be of immense value in the smooth functioning of the Scheme. The Committee, therefore, reiterate their earlier recommendation that region-wise seminars/symposia/workshops may be organized at Delhi/other places by the Ministry for creating requisite awareness among the implementing agencies. The Ministry has also preferred to remain silent on the recommendation regarding organizing tripartite discussions among the officials of the Ministry, Members of

Parliament and officials of the State through tele-conferencing, e-workshops, etc. The Committee feel that these electronic events, which can even be organised with the help of limited staff, would prove very helpful for the Ministry to effectively implement the Scheme. The Committee hope that the necessary steps would be taken by the Ministry and also expect a periodic report in the matter.

CHAPTER – II

Observations/recommendations which have been accepted by the Government

OBSERVATION/RECOMMENDATION (PARA 3.2)

2.1 The Committee are deeply concerned to note that most of the States had conducted only one training programme since 2006 with the exception of West Bengal which has conducted three training programmes. As many as nine States have not so far organized even a single training programme. In such a scenario the Committee are not convinced that it would be sufficient to conduct training once in three years in a State. It is also surprising that the Ministry have not maintained any record on the number of officials imparted training so far. The only information the Ministry could provide in this regard that the approximate number of trainees in training programme ranged between 30 and 60 is vague. The Committee feels that both the number of training programmes organized and the number of officials trained, so far, were very less considering the fact that the Scheme is being implemented in all the Lok Sabha constituencies of the country since 1993. A number of officials right from the nodal department to the implementing agencies, are involved in the implementation of the Scheme. All officials in the channel of implementation of the Scheme should be fully conversant with the guidelines governing the Scheme and the implementing procedures. Moreover, frequent transfer of the officers engaged in the process of implementation and the absence of any kind of training to the newly posted officers are such factors that the officials are not able to appreciate the importance of the scheme. Several cases of misinterpretation/violation of guidelines by the officials had come to the notice of the Committee. To obviate recurrence of such violation and to ensure successful implementation of the Scheme, it is imperative that all officials dealing with the Scheme are made fully conversant with all aspects of the Scheme and the correct interpretation of guidelines. The Committee feels that it would be ideal to conduct training programmes once every year in which all the important officials of the nodal department, district administration and implementing agencies are imparted training before they take up or immediately after taking up any assignment in the channel of implementation of the Scheme. However, till a proper infrastructure is created in this regard, the Committee strongly recommends that the Ministry should take immediate steps to organize, in coordination with the State Governments concerned, training programmes at least once in two years in each State. The Committee also recommends that creation of necessary infrastructure should not linger on for years but must be done within a period of 3-4 years. Action taken in this regard should be intimated to the Committee.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

2.2 All the states except Bihar, Jammu & Kashmir and UTs Dadar & Nagarhaveli and Daman & Diu have already conducted trainings so far. The states/UTs, who have not conducted training, are being constantly reminded by the Ministry. The details of the training programme conducted in each state is summarized in 'Annexure A' which reveals that the major States have conducted the training programme at least twice after 2005. An initiative has been taken by the Ministry to create a pool of resource persons from the available resources from the States/UTs for conducting the training programme for district/State officials on regular basis. In this regard, 6 zonal venues have been proposed to be created by this Ministry for conducting training programme on MPLADS Guidelines for the officials of nodal department as well as some faculty members from the State Administrative Institute so as to create resource persons from the existing human resources of respective States/UTs which will facilitate each state/UT to conduct the training in their respective regional languages. All nodal secretaries have been requested to nominate some officials from nodal department and faculties from their respective state administrative/management institutes to the zonal venues.

(Vide M/o Statistics & Programme Implementation OM No.C/3/2009-MPLADS dated 24.11.2010)

OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS (PARA NO 3.6)

2.3 The Committee note that the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation is not in a position to provide resource personnel every year for all the States/UTs. In Committee's view, the dependence of the conduct of training programme on the availability of the officials from the Ministry may also be a reason for the negligibly few training programmes conducted so far. Moreover, such diversion of the manpower of the Ministry as resource persons to impart training to the district officials could affect the functions of the Ministry with regard to the implementation of the Scheme. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the training of State officials may be handed over to the respective Institute of Management and Public Administration of each State which has expertise in the field of training. For this purpose, some faculty members of the State Institutes should be imparted training in the first instance by the Ministry in all the States. This would also facilitate training of State officials in regional languages. The schedule for annual training programmes may be chalked out by the Ministry in consultation with the nodal Departments and the respective Institutes of the States keeping in view the local requirements in a particular State. Financial assistance may be given to the Institutes directly by the Ministry for conducting the training programmes.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

2.4 Steps have been taken to create a pool of resource persons for every states/UTs from the available human resources available in the respective State Government / State Training Institute which would facilitate to conduct training on MPLADS in respective State/UT governments in their regional languages in an efficient and fruitful manner. In this regard all nodal Secretaries were requested to nominate few officials from Nodal department and some faculty members from their state Administrative / Management and Public Administrative Institution for the proposed 6 training zonal centers for creation of resource persons (copy enclosed).

(Vide M/o Statistics & Programme Implementation OM No.C/3/2009-MPLADS dated 24.11.2010)

OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS (PARA NO 3.7)

2.5 The committee note that there is a proposal to prepare a training manual by incorporating the provisions of Guidelines , circulars, etc. The committee hope that this manual would be prepared in a time bound manner and handed over to the Nodal Departments and the State institutes of Public Administration for their use during the training of district officials. Steps should also be taken to provide training manuals in regional languages , in order that the scheme is implemented in the right spirit.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

2.6 A training manual on MPLADS , will incorporate the background on MPLADS background , Guidelines , its important features and implementation process, release of funds and its management at various level, accounting procedure, monitoring role of Centre/State /district authority/ and Implementing Agencies, Permissible and non-permissible works under MPLADS, Various circulars issued on MPLADS etc. The next proposed revised Guidelines which is under preparation will be considered as a comprehensive training manual. Presently, these aspects are covered in the training on MPLADS to the state/district officials conducted by the Ministry. Training manual will be made based on revised Guidelines on MPLADS.

(Vide M/o Statistics & Programme Implementation OM No.C/3/2009-MPLADS dated 24.11.2010)

OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS (PARA NO 3.11)

2.7 The Committee notes that the findings of the review conducted by NABCONS on the MPLAD Scheme in various States provided useful feedback on issues relating to the implementation of the Scheme. Violation of guidelines, wrong interpretation of guidelines, etc. lead to ineffective implementation of the Scheme. The Committee in this regard recommends that the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation should examine the findings of NABCONS and issue necessary directions to all the States for strict compliance by the implementing authorities of the Scheme.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

2.8 Based on the observation and the shortcomings reported by the NABCONS, the reports are analyzed by the Ministry and as regard to the violation of MPLADS Guidelines made by the district officials/Implementing Agencies were taken up with the concerned District Authorities and State/UT Governments for taking up appropriate action against the concerned erring officials including recouping of MPLADS funds. Replies from the District Authorities in this regard are also analysed by the Ministry and if the reply was found not satisfactory, the same is again taken up with concerned district Authorities for suitable corrective action.

(Vide M/o Statistics & Programme Implementation OM No.C/3/2009-MPLADS dated 24.11.2010)

CHAPTER – III

Observations/recommendations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of the Government's replies

OBSERVATION/RECOMMENDATION (PARA 3.3)

3.1 The Committee also recommend that the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation should maintain a data base of officials engaged in the implementation of the Scheme and the status of training imparted to them. The action taken in this regard should be intimated to the Committee within three months.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

3.2 Considering the huge volume of data in respect of officials engaged in the implementation of MPLAD Scheme all over the country ,and due to the insufficient staff in the Ministry, maintaining a data base of the officials and the status of training imparted to them may not be feasible for the Ministry. Moreover, the officials engaged in implementation of the scheme are being transferred now and then. However, necessary steps have been taken by the Ministry to collect the information regarding the number of officials participated in these training programmes . The information from State nodal department received so far is summarised in '**Annexure B**'. The states who were not furnished the details are being constantly reminded by the Ministry (copy enclosed)

(Vide M/o Statistics & Programme Implementation OM No.C/3/2009-MPLADS dated 24.11.2010)

OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS (PARA NO 3.4)

3.3 The Committee note that the Ministry makes a budgetary allocation of only Rs. 20 lakh a year for meeting the expenses relating to the training of the State officials. When the proposal for training is received from the States, the Ministry scrutinizes the same and provides financial assistance for organizing the same. Even though the State Governments demand for reimbursement of the hotel expenses, TA/DA and other expenses incurred by them for training of the officials engaged in the implementation of the Scheme, the Ministry restricts the expenditure on training only to stationery, training kits and light refreshment/lunch. They also

provide a resource person from the Ministry. Meeting only a part of the expenses may also be one of the major reasons for poor response of the States in organizing training programmes. The Committee are of the firm view that the Union Government should bear all the expenses for organizing such training programmes. This would encourage the resource starved States to depute their officers for training. They, therefore, recommend that budgetary allocation for training should be increased and the total amount of financial assistance should include reimbursement of hotel expenses, TA/DA, etc. of the trainees in addition to the assistance being provided presently.

OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS (PARA NO 3.5)

3.4 The Committee also find huge variations in sanctioning financial assistance to the States for conducting training programmes. Maharashtra was sanctioned Rs. 3.23 lakh in 2006 whereas Meghalaya was sanctioned Rs. 28,000/- only in 2007. The Committee recommend in this regard that parameters being adopted by the Ministry to sanction financial assistance to the States should be standardized so as to provide adequate amount of financial assistance to all the States to meet the expenses on training of officials.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

3.5 The financial assistance requested by the concerned state/UT are generally considered by the Ministry while sanctioning the same except ineligible expenses as per GFR, TA/ DA, and Hotel expense of the participants of the training which is borne by the State nodal department as per existing Central/ State Government rules. The boarding charges such as lunch, tea/ snacks etc. , stationery charges for training material including bag, folder, pen ,printing, power point presentation , certificate preparation, copying , binding etc. are being considered by the Ministry for reimbursement. The charges for the training such as hall arrangement, photography, preparation charges for banners for publicity and documentation etc. are also considered. The training assistance is considered and sanctioned by the Ministry to the State/UTs in a manner that the States do not financially suffer for conducting the training.

(Vide M/o Statistics & Programme Implementation OM No.C/3/2009-MPLADS dated 24.11.2010)

CHAPTER – IV

Observations/recommendations in respect of which replies of the Government have not been accepted by the Committee and which require reiteration

OBSERVATION/RECOMMENDATION (PARA 3.1)

4.1 The Committee find that the provisions contained in the guidelines of the MPLAD Scheme with regard to training of the State officials are inadequate to create proper awareness among the officials engaged in the implementation of the Scheme. The guidelines merely state that the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation shall provide training materials for conducting training of district officers on MPLAD Scheme as and when these are organized by the State Governments. It seems that this guideline has been framed by the Ministry to conveniently avoid its responsibility of conducting training programmes by shifting the same to the States. This is a Central sector scheme fully funded by the Government of India and, as such, it should be the primary concern of the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation to create requisite awareness among the officials of the State Governments who are only the implementing authorities. As per the present provisions relating to training, the State Governments have to moot proposals for training and the Ministry provides financial assistance, training materials and the resource persons for the same. It is a demand based provision. As demands are not forthcoming from the States, the number of training programmes conducted so far are dismally low. The Committee are of the strong view that the Ministry should play a proactive role in the matter and should not wait for the proposals to come from the States. They, therefore, recommend that the guidelines on the role of the Ministry in imparting training to the officials of the State Government should be reframed as follows:-

“The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation shall organize training programmes for the officials of State Governments/Union Territories in coordination with the respective State/UT Governments and provided financial assistance, training materials and Resource Persons for conducting training programmes for State/UTs.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

4.2 Ministry undertakes the training programme on MPLADS guidelines for the State /UT Governments officials as per the convenience and request received from the concerned state/UT. The nodal secretaries are regularly requested to emphasize the importance and necessity of training on MPLADS in the review meetings held with the Nodal secretaries twice in a year under the chairmanship of MOS(IC) , and they are also requested to send the proposals for the training programme for district/state officials on

MPLADS Guidelines. Strenuous efforts are being made by the Ministry to conduct at least two training in a quarter by sending reminders to the concerned state wherever training programme is due.

(Vide M/o Statistics & Programme Implementation OM No.C/3/2009-MPLADS dated 24.11.2010)

OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS (PARA No 3.9)

4.3 The Committee regret to note that the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation has not conducted any Seminars/Symposia/Workshops on MPLAD Scheme so far. The contention of the Ministry that the review meetings conducted by it twice a year are in the nature of symposia or workshop is not acceptable to the Committee. The Ministry can officially review the implementation of the Scheme as part of its monitoring role. Seminars, symposia and workshops are the broader instruments which involve wide range of discussions among the participants. All the issues relating to the implementation of the Scheme can be discussed at such events which it turn would create requisite awareness among the implementing agencies about the importance of the MPLAD Scheme. During evidence, the representatives of the Ministry assured the Committee that they will examine the demand to broadbase the review meetings being held by them as official-cum-MPs meetings. In this regard, the Committee recommend that the Ministry should organize region-wise seminars/symposia/workshops exclusively for creating awareness among the implementing agencies. In these seminars/symposia/workshops, Members of Parliament should also be invited in order to pave the way for a holistic discussion on the subject. Action taken in this regard should be communicated to the Committee within three months.

OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS (PARA NO 3.10)

4.4 The Committee expects the Ministry to use internet and other communications media for creating awareness among the implementing agencies. Tele conference, e-workshops, etc. could be organized by the Ministry for tripartite discussions among the officials of the Ministry, Members of Parliament and the officials of the States who are not in a position to come to Delhi for participating in the seminars, symposia, etc. organized by the Ministry due to variety of factors.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

4.5 Due to the limited staff strength in the Ministry, organizing region-wise seminars/symposia/workshops exclusively for creating awareness among the implementing agencies may not be feasible. Whenever training on MPLADS is conducted in State/UTs, the State/UT Governments are requested to invite Implementing Agencies along with officials of district administration involved in implementation of MPLAD Scheme. The training programmes conducted by the Ministry on MPLADS Guidelines to the district officials including implementing agencies facilitates them to improve the implementation of the MPLAD Scheme at district level which is reflective from the higher utilisation of MPLDAS funds. Along with the training on Guidelines, various clarifications are also given to the officials involved in implementation. In the review meetings, held both at Centre and State/UT Nodal Authorities are requested to create awareness on MPLADS among Implementing Agencies.

(Vide M/o Statistics & Programme Implementation OM No.C/3/2009-MPLADS dated 24.11.2010)

CHAPTER – V

Observations/recommendations in respect of which final replies of the Government have not been received

OBSERVATION/RECOMMENDATION (PARA 3.8)

5.1 The Committee are concerned to note that the proposal to add a special capsule on MPLAD Scheme in the training imparted to IAS probationers at the Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration (LBSNAA), Mussoorie is still at correspondence stage between the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation and the LBSNAA since 2008. The MPLAD Scheme is being implemented by the District Authorities. As such, it is imperative that a comprehensive training is imparted to IAS probationers during their training at the LBS Academy. The proposal of the Ministry to include two sessions each on MPLAD Scheme may not be adequate considering the pivotal role being played by the district authorities in the implementation of the Scheme. The Committee, therefore, recommends that the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation should prepare a comprehensive curriculum in consultation with LBS Academy. The Faculty members of the Academy may be apprised of the Scheme who in turn may impart training to IAS probationers. This would reduce the dependence of the Academy on the resource persons of the Ministry who are busy in the implementation of the Scheme. The Committee hopes that the capsule on MPLAD Scheme would be included in the training programme of the current batch of IAS probationers. The Committee may be apprised of the progress made in this regard.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

5.2 Lal Bahadur Shastri of National Academy of Administration, Mussoorie had earlier assured the Ministry that after the creation of the training module, the officers are being oriented in Phase-I, Phase II and Phase III of the IAS professional training. A two hour duration training session on MPLADS has been conducted in the Phase I of the IAS professional course last time. The following aspects are covered in the module which seems sufficient in respect of an IAS probationer to understand the MPLADS Guidelines and their role as a District Authority.

- ❖ MPLADS background and recent guidelines of 2005
- ❖ Important features of MPLADS and its implementing strategy
- ❖ Fund release & management at various levels & its accounting procedure
- ❖ Role of State, district authority and implementing agencies
- ❖ Works prohibited under the MPLADS.

However, the Academy has been requested by the Ministry to include the module as a curriculum to the IAS professional courses in Phase-I, Phase II and Phase III and conveyed that the Ministry will be ready to depute officers as resource person if they require. (Copy enclosed)

(Vide M/o Statistics & Programme Implementation OM No.C/3/2009-MPLADS dated 24.11.2010)

OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS (PARA NO.3.12)

5.3 The Committee regrets to note that the Ministry has taken no steps for translation of MPLAD Scheme guidelines into regional languages. Instead of taking any proactive steps in this regard, the Ministry has merely stated that the State/UT Governments were free to translate the guidelines in the respective regional languages. Translation of guidelines in the regional languages is imperative as many State Governments conduct their work in their respective regional language. The Ministry has itself conceded that in some States, the correspondence with regard to the ground level implementation of the Scheme is done only in the concerned regional language. The Committee, therefore, recommends that the Ministry should make arrangements for translation of the MPLADS guidelines into various regional languages in consultation with the nodal Departments of the States. Translated version of the guidelines should be distributed to the District Authorities and the implementing agencies. The Ministry may not shy away in extending the much-needed financial assistance to the States in this regard.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

5.4 No action is pending with the Ministry as the MPLADS Guidelines is under revision and the Guidelines will be brought out in English as well as in Hindi. Earmarking a proportion of the MPLADS contingency fund to the respective State Nodal Department and keeping a provision for utilization of the same to translate the MPLADS Guidelines in their regional language except in Hindi is being examined by the Ministry in the proposed revision of Guidelines.

(Vide M/o Statistics & Programme Implementation OM No.C/3/2009-MPLADS dated 24.11.2010)

NEW DELHI

02 June 2011
12 Jyaistha 1933 (Saka)

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

Details of the training programmes conducted in each State provided by Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation

| Sl. no | State from which proposal for training programme received | Amount sanctioned for the training (Rs. in lakh) | Date of sanction | No. of training conducted. | Year of training conducted. |
|--------|---|--|------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 01 | Andhra Pradesh | 2.00 | 13.3.06 | 2 | 2006-07 |
| | | 0.65000 | 20.07.10 | | 2010-11 |
| 02 | Chattisgarh | 1.60 | 13.3.06 | 1 | 2006-07 |
| 03 | Uttar Pradesh | 1.20 | 24.3.06 | 2 | 2006-07 |
| | | 0.96 | 18.06.09 | | 2009-10 |
| 04 | Maharashtra | 3.23 | 28.4.06 | 1 | 2006-07 |
| 05 | Rajasthan | 0.77 | 25.7.06 | 2 | 2007-08 |
| | | 0.5784 | 22.08.08 | | 2009-10 |
| 06 | Haryana | 2.00 | 25.9.06 | 1 | 2007-08 |
| 07 | Mizoram | 0.2128 | 29.3.07 | 1 | 2007-08 |
| 08 | Tamil Nadu | 2.00 | 5.2.07 | 1 | 2007-08 |
| | | 0.55,800 | 02.11.10 | | |
| 09 | Gujarat | 0.81 | 28.2.07 | 1 | 2008-09 |
| 10 | Assam | 2.00 | 29.3.07 | 1 | 2008-09 |
| 11 | Punjab | 0.3184 | 29.3.07 | 1 | 2007-08 |
| 12 | Kerala | 0.815 | 29.3.07 | 1 | 2007-08 |
| 13 | West Bengal | 0.3552, | 19.7.07, | 4 | 2007-08, |
| | | 0.37046, | 25.06.08 | | 2008-09, |
| | | 0.35998 | 18.06.09 | | 2009-10 |
| | | - | - | | 2010-11 |
| 14 | Meghalaya | 0.28 | 5.12.07 | 1 | 2008-09 |
| 15 | Tripura | 0.39878 | 5.12.07 | 1 | 2008-09 |
| 16 | Jharkhand | 1.74500 | 5.12.07 | 1 | 2008-09 |
| 17 | Sikkim | 0.61 | 21.1.08 | 2 | 2008-09 |
| | | 0.44 | 17.03.09 | | 2009-10 |
| 18 | Orissa | 1.60 | 26.3.08 | 1 | 2009-10 |
| 19 | Madhya Pradesh | 0.65675 | 17.3.08 | 1 | 2009-10 |
| 20 | Uttarakhand | 0.50000 | 9.5.08 | 1 | 2009-10 |
| 21 | Karnataka | 0.75000 | 4.6.08 | 2 | 2008-09 |
| | | 0.67250 | 26.05.10 | | 2010-11 |
| 22 | Arunachal Pradesh | 0.86500 | 4.6.08 | 1 | 2008-09 |
| 23 | Lakshadweep | 0.41000 | 4.6.08 | 1 | 2008-09 |
| 24 | A & Nicobar | 0.15000 | 10.7.09 | 1 | 2009-10 |

ANNEXURE-A

List of the States/UTs where the Government of India has provided financial assistance for the purpose of the National Health Policy, 2002.

| Sl. No. | State/UT | Amount (Rs. Crores) | Date | No. of States/UTs | Year |
|---------|------------------|---------------------|------------|-------------------|---------|
| 25 | Chandigarh | 0.16000 | 10.7.09 | 1 | 2009-10 |
| 26 | Himachal Pradesh | 0.37,000 | 6.10.09 | 1 | 2009-10 |
| 27 | Jammu & Kashmir | 0.70000 | 19.2.2010 | 0 | |
| 28 | Manipur | 0.19260 | 29.3.2010 | 1 | 2010-11 |
| 29 | Delhi | - | - | 1 | 2010-11 |
| 30 | Goa | 0.16400 | 28.06.2010 | 1 | 2010-11 |
| 31 | Puducherry | 0.24000 | 27.07.2010 | 1 | 2010-11 |
| 32 | Nagaland | 0.32500 | 11.08.2010 | 1 | 2010-11 |

Annexure B

The number of officials participated in the training on MPLADS so far in each State.

| Sl. No | State | Impleme nting Agency | Participants | | | Total |
|--------|--|----------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|-------|
| | | | State Nodal Dept. | District Nodal Department | MP/ representa tives | |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 36 | 7 | 23 | | 66 |
| 2. | Chattisgarh | | | | | |
| 3. | Uttar Pradesh | 11 | 233 | 70 | | 314 |
| 4. | Maharashtra | | | | | |
| 5. | Rajasthan | 4 | 10 | 66 | | 80 |
| 6. | Haryana | 3 | 1 | 18 | | 26 |
| 7. | Mizoram | | | | 4 | |
| 8. | Tamil Nadu | | | | | |
| 9. | Gujarat | | | | | 44 |
| 10. | Assam | | 10 | 42 | | 52 |
| 11. | Punjab | | 13 | 73 | | 86 |
| 12. | Kerala | 117 | 26 | 73 | | 216 |
| 13. | West Bengal | 100 | 1 | 9 | | 110 |
| 14. | Meghalaya | 9 | 7 | 49 | 1 | 66 |
| 15. | Tripura | 25 | 5 | 9 | | 39 |
| 16. | Jharkhand | | | | | |
| 17. | Sikkim | | | | | 28 |
| 18. | Orissa | 115 | 20 | 10 | | 185 |
| 19. | Madhya Pradesh | | 48 | 45 | | 93 |
| 20. | Uttarakhand | 5 | 1 | 5 | | 11 |
| 21. | Karnataka | 18 | | 40 | | 58 |
| 22. | Arunachal Pradesh | 0 | 06 | 09 | | 15 |
| 23. | Lakshadweep | 22 | 4 | 10 | | 36 |
| 24. | A & Nicobar | 10 | 09 | 08 | 03 | 30 |
| 25. | Chandigarh | 3 | | 1 | | 4 |
| 26. | Himachal Pradesh | | 8 | 12 | | 20 |
| 27. | Jammu & Kashmir | No trg. | | | | |
| 28. | Manipur | 13 | 01 | 09 | | 23 |
| 29. | Delhi | | | | | 55 |
| 30. | Goa | 4 | 2 | 13 | | 19 |
| 31. | Puducherry | 35 | 3 | 3 | | 41 |
| 32. | Nagaland | | | | | |
| 33. | Bihar | No trg. | | | | |
| 34. | Daman & Diu Dadra & Nagar Haveli | No trg. | | | | |

सांसद स्थानीय क्षेत्र विकास योजना
Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme



अनिल कुमार चौधरी
निदेशक
ANIL KUMAR CHOUDHARY
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भारत सरकार
सांख्यिकी एवं कार्यक्रम कार्यान्वयन मंत्रालय
211, सरदार पटेल भवन, नई दिल्ली -110001
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF STATISTICS & PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION
211, SARDAR PATEL BHAVAN, NEW DELHI-110001
E-mail : akchoudhary@nic.in

No.C/96/2005-MPLADS

29.10.2010

To

The Principal Secretary (Planning),
Planning Department,
Govt. of Maharashtra,
Mantralaya,
Mumbai-400001

Sub :- Submission of details regarding officials that participated in training on MPLADS-reg.

Sir,

Please refer to our letters of even number dated 07.07.2010, 16.09.2010 and 28.09.2010 on the subject mentioned above requesting to forward the number of officials participated in training on MPLADS so far.

2. I regret to inform the requisite information has not been received from your State. I would again request you to furnish the total number of officials participated in the training conducted on MPLAD Scheme so far. Separate data may be provided regarding the number of participants in respect of Implementing Agency, State, District and Nodal Department officials to enable this Ministry to forward the same to Lok Sabha Committee on MPLADS.

3. The report may be sent latest by 03/11/2010 by fax to enable this Ministry to furnish a factual report to the Lok Sabha Secretariat.

Yours faithfully,

(A.K.Choudhary)

To nodal Secretaries of
Chattisgarh, Maharashtra, Mizoram, Tamil Nadu,
Gujarat, Jharkhand, ^{and} Nagaland and Manipur

SPEED POST

डा० र.वन्द सिंह
उप महानिदेशक
DR. RAVENDRA SINGH
Deputy Director General
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भारत सरकार
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
सांख्यिकी एवं कार्यक्रम कार्यान्वयन मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND
PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION
द्वितीय तल, सरदार पटेल भवन, संसद मार्ग
नई दिल्ली - 110001
NEW DELHI - 110 001

D.O.No.C/96/2005-MPLADS

02.11.2010

Dear Madam,

As you are aware, the training on "MPLADS Guidelines" to the State/District officials is an inevitable part for the successful implementation of the MPLAD Scheme. It has been seen that the training programmes conducted on MPLADS Guidelines to the field functionaries is not sufficient in most of the States/UTs due to shortage of resource persons from the Ministry for imparting such training. In order to overcome this issue and regular training for implementation of the Scheme, the Ministry is proposing to create a pool of resource persons for respective States/UTs from amongst the Government and respective State Training Institute, based on the suggestion of the MPLADS Committee of Lok Sabha. You may appreciate that such resource persons will have sufficient expertise in the field of training which will also facilitate to conduct training on MPLADS in the respective States/UTs in their regional languages in an efficient and fruitful manner.

2. In order to create resource persons from their existing human resource, Ministry has created 6 zonal venues viz. Guwahati, Chandigarh, Bhopal, Kolkata, Chennai and Mumbai to conduct training programme on MPLADS to the officials of Nodal Department as well as the faculty members of the respective State Institute of Administrative /Management and Public Administration.

3. I would request you to arrange a venue at Kolkata for the training programme preferably an Administrative / Management and Public Administrative Institution run by the State Govt. and the same may be intimated to the Ministry latest by 12th November 2010. The exact date of the training programme will be intimated in consultation with the participating states coming under the zone. You may also nominate some officials from Nodal department and some faculty members of state Administrative / Management and Public Administrative Institution of your state for the proposed training. It is to be noted here that TA/DA should be borne by the respective states.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

(Dr. Ravendra Singh)

Smt. Jaya Das Gupta,
Principal Secretary,
Planning Department,
Govt. of West Bengal,
Poura Bhavan, FE-415-A,
Sector-III, Bidhan Nagar,
Salt Lake City,
Kolkata-700106

To all Nodal Secretaries

CONFIDENTIAL

MINUTES OF THE SIXTH SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE ON MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT LOCAL AREA DEVELOPMENT SCHEME (LOK SABHA) HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 27 APRIL 2011.

The Committee sat on Wednesday, 27 April 2011 from 1130 hours to 1230 hours in Committee Room 'C', Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

PRESENT

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

MEMBERS

2. Dr. Rattan Singh Ajnala
3. Adv. Ganeshrao Nagorao Dudhgaonkar
4. Shri Kailash Joshi
5. Shri Kaushalendra Kumar
6. Shri Shripad Yesso Naik
7. Shri Jagdambika Pal
8. Kumari Saroj Pandey
9. Shri Amarnath Pradhan
10. Shri Rajendrasinh Rana
11. Shri Tufani Saroj
12. Shri Gopal Singh Shekhawat
13. Shri Vijay Inder Singla
14. Shri Om Prakash Yadav

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 Hon'ble Chairman welcomed the Members to the sitting of the Committee. The Committee then took up for consideration the draft Action Taken Report on the 2nd Report of the Committee on MPLADS (15th Lok Sabha) on the subject "Awareness in the Implementing Agencies about the importance of MPLAD Scheme through Training Programmes, Seminars, Symposia, Workshops, etc." and unanimously adopted the same without any amendments.

3 to 5.

xxx

xxx

xxx

The Committee then adjourned.

APPENDIX II

(vide para 4 of the Introduction)

ANALYSIS OF THE ACTION TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS CONTAINED IN THE SECOND REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON MPLADS (15TH LOK SABHA)

| | | |
|------|---|----------------|
| I. | Total number of recommendations : | 12 |
| II. | Recommendations which have been accepted by the Government : | 04 (33.33%) |
| | Para Nos : 3.2, 3.6, 3.7 and 3.11 | |
| III. | Recommendations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of the Government's reply : | 03 (25%) |
| | Para Nos : 3.3, 3.4 and 3.5 | |
| IV. | Recommendations in respect of which replies of the Government have not been accepted by the Committee : | 03 (25%) |
| | Para Nos : 3.1, 3.9 and 3.10 | |
| V. | Recommendations in respect of which final replies of the Government are still awaited : | 02 (16.67%) |
| | Para Nos : 3.8 and 3.12 | |
