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Title: Need to amend the rules and norms to facilitate availability of funds allocated under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan and MPLADS to Government aided schools in the country.

SHRI A. SAMPATH (ATTINGAL): The Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) is a prime engine to implement the right to education. But the Government aided schools are outside the purview of the SSA. Development of infrastructural facilities including safe drinking water, toilet facilities, play grounds, library, standard classrooms are necessary for all Schools. In Kerala about 60% of the primary schools are in Government aided Sector. The funds allocated to the SSA by the Government of India could not be spent for the benefit of the poor children under the aided schools as per the present norms. Many of these school buildings are more than 50-60 years old.

Under the existing guidelines of MPLADS also there are difficulties for the development of infrastructural facilities in the above said aided schools, especially if they are under single management and not under corporate management. This unnecessarily leads to severe discrimination among the students of the primary schools.

Hence, I urge upon the Government of India to rectify these discrepancies by immediately amending the necessary rules and norms and thereby provide SSA funds as well as the Funds under MPLADS to the aided schools also.