

K'taka No Match to South Neighbours in LS MPLADs

by Sangamesh Menasinakai

Belgaum: Karnataka's Lok Sabha MPs again lag behind in the utilisation of Central grants and occupy a poor 24th position in the country. Rajya Sabha (RS) members, however, have fared better by taking the 15th place.

According to statistics released by the Union Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation recently,

compared to other southern MPs, Karnataka's 28 Lok Sabha MPs have utilised 89.13 per cent of MPLAD

(Member of Parliament Local Area Development) funds, far behind Tamil Nadu (6th, with 93.78 per

cent), Kerala (7th, 93.41 per cent) and Andhra Pradesh (9th, 92.95 per cent).

Of the available grant of

₹884 crore, Karnataka LS members spent only ₹764 crore, while RS members utilised ₹319 crore of the

₹364 crore. The utilisation figures released in the first week of this month are for a period between 1993 and

2011. In the case of the RS members, Karnataka's MPs have performed better than their southern counterparts by utilising 88.23 per cent of grants, taking the 15th position. Kerala (86.67 per cent) and Andhra Pradesh (85.43 per cent) stand 19th and 24th respectively.

Goan elders had the distinction of securing the first position in the country by utilising more than 100 per cent funds. **MORE: P6**

THE LEADERS AND LAGGARDS: HOW THE STATE'S LS AND RS MPS FARE IN FUND USE

