

# SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

## FORM 497J

Certification of no change in definitive materials under paragraph (j) of Securities Act Rule 497

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#### MERRILL LYNCH VARIABLE SERIES FUNDS INC

CIK: **355916** | IRS No.: **133093080** | State of Incorporation: **NJ** | Fiscal Year End: **1231**  
Type: **497J** | Act: **33** | File No.: **002-74452** | Film No.: **96688148**

Business Address  
*P O BOX 9011*  
*PRINCETON NJ 08543-9011*  
*6092823319*

MERRILL LYNCH VARIABLE SERIES FUNDS, INC.  
P.O. Box 9011  
Princeton, New Jersey 08543.

December 16, 1996

VIA EDGAR

Securities and Exchange Commission  
450 Fifth Street, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20549-1004

Re: Registration Statement on Form N-1A  
FILE NO. 2-74452

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Pursuant to Rule 497(j) under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Act"), Merrill Lynch Variable Series Funds, Inc. (the "Company"), hereby certifies:

(i) that each form of prospectus and statement of additional information that would have been filed under Rule 497(c) of the Act would not have differed from that contained in Post-Effective Amendment No. 26 of the Registration Statement on Form N-1A (the "Registration Statement"), which is the most recent amendment to such Registration Statement; and

(ii) that the Registration Statement was filed electronically with the Securities and Exchange Commission on December 9, 1996.

Sincerely,

MERRILL LYNCH VARIABLE  
SERIES FUNDS, INC.

By /S/ IRA P. SHAPIRO  
Ira P. Shapiro  
Secretary