

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2946
ANSWERED ON:11.08.2010
DISRUPTION IN MID DAY MEAL SCHEME
Owaisi Shri Asaduddin

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Mid Day Meal Scheme (MDMS) has been disrupted due to reported shortage of foodgrains;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether there is any dispute over any payment between the Ministry of Human Resource Development (HRD) and the Ministry of Food and Public Distribution which has affected the MDMS;
- (d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the broad details of other disputes involved in the matter;
- (e) the total amount due for payment by Ministry of HRD to FCI under the scheme as on date and the total quantity of foodgrains it procures from FCI per year, foodgrain-wise; and
- (f) the remedial steps taken by the Government to resolve the disputes and to implement the scheme in an effective way?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT(SMT. D. PURANDESWARI)

(a) to (d): The Government had allocated foodgrains to the States/UTs on 5.3.2010 for the first two quarters from April to September, 2010. Due to insistence of the Department of Food & Public Distribution for pre-payment of cost of foodgrains, there was some delay on part of the Food Corporation of India (FCI) in intimating the State-wise allocation of foodgrains to its field units. Consequently, some States like Rajasthan, West Bengal, Jharkhand and Punjab pointed out shortage of foodgrains for implementing the scheme. Inter-ministerial consultations were held to resolve the issue. On the direction of Department of Food & Public Distribution, the FCI directed its regional offices on 12.4.2010 and 31.5.2010 to release the foodgrains on post- payment basis for the first quarter (April-June, 2010) and second quarter (July-September, 2010) respectively as per the allocation made by this Ministry. All the States/UTs have been advised by this Ministry vide letters dated 13.4.2010 and 1.6.2010 to lift foodgrains from the FCI.

(e) & (f): An amount of Rs.125.95 crore is to be paid to the FCI for the foodgrains supplied to States/UTs upto financial year 2009-10 under the MDM Scheme. The quantity of foodgrains to be procured from FCI under the Scheme is determined by the number of children and number of working days approved by the Programme Approval Board for Mid Day Meal Scheme (PAB- MDM) for States/UTs every year. Actual procurement is done after adjusting the unspent balance of the previous year. Procurement of foodgrains from FCI for last three years is given below:

(Figures in lakh MTs)

Year PAB-MDM approval for procurement of
foodgrains from FCI

Wheat Rice Total

2007-08 3.89 14.54 18.43

2008-09 4.31 15.97 20.28

2009-10 4.47 19.41 23.88

It is the endeavour of the Government to make regular payment to FCI for foodgrains supplied under Mid Day Meal Scheme. Sometimes delay in payment takes place due to some discrepancy in the information received from the FCI and the States/UTs.