GOVERNMENT OF INDIA HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2791 ANSWERED ON:11.08.2010 CONSTRUCTION OF KITCHEN SHEDS Ram Shri Purnmasi

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

- (a) the quantum of funds provided by the Government to the State Governments of Bihar and West Bengal for the construction of kitchen sheds under Mid Day Meal Scheme during each of the last two years;
- (b) the number of kitchen sheds required to be constructed from these funds and the number of kitchen sheds actual constructed so far:
- (c) the reasons for not constructing the requisite number of kitchen sheds;
- (d) whether about 90 per cent schools do not have adequate cooking and serving utensils and gas/smokeless chullahs;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the number of children fell ill and death reported due to serving of unhygienic food through MDM Scheme during last one year?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): The details of funds released for construction of kitchen sheds, the number of units sanctioned and the number of units constructed/in progress in the States of Bihar and West Bengal under the Mid Day Meal Scheme (MDMS) during 2006-07 to 2009-10 are given as under:-

(Rs. in lakhs)

S1. State No. of Central No. of Kitchen No. Kitchen assistance Sheds Sheds released constructed/in sanctioned progress

- 1. Bihar 62187 37308.95 36,886 constructed
- (c): The State Governments of Bihar and West Bengal have stated that they were not in a position to get the kitchen sheds constructed with the inadequate Central Assistance of Rs.60,000/- per unit provided for this purpose.
- (d) & (e): Under the MDMS one time Central Assistance @ Rs. 5000/- per school is given for procurement of kitchen devices which include (i) Cooking devices (stove, chullah etc.), (ii) containers for storage of foodgrains and other ingredients; and (iii) utensils for cooking and serving. The details of availability of kitchen devices and gas/smokeless chullahs are as under:-

State Total Number of Number of schools Number of number schools for for which Kitchen schools of which devices procured having schools Kitchen with respect to Gas/smoke devices were sanctioned less sanctioned kitchen devices chullahs

under the Scheme

Bihar 92209 86428 67562 (78%) 02 (Gas based)

West 89914 89914 79559 (88%) 769 (Gas

Bengal based)

(f): During the year 2009-10, in Bihar 300 children fell ill and 2 children are alleged to have died after taking mid-day meal. Viscera of these two children have been sent for testing to establish whether they died as a result of consuming mid day meal. No case of children falling ill or death is reported from West Bengal.