

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3668

ANSWERED ON:01.12.2010

MID DAY MEAL SCHEME

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

- (a) whether the Government has recently reviewed the working of Mid Day Meal Scheme in the country;
- (b) if so, the outcome thereof;
- (c) the achievements made by each State/UT during each of the last three years under the programme;
- (d) whether the increase in the prices of essential commodities has put additional strain on the finances of the States/UT Governments;
- (e) if so, the remedial measures taken by the Union Government in this regard; and
- (f) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to provide balanced healthy cooked food under this programme?

Answer

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

(a): Yes, Sir. The implementation of Mid Day Meal (MDM) Scheme was reviewed with State/UT Secretaries on 16th September, 2010. In addition during 2010-11, the Review Mission on Mid Day Meal Scheme reviewed the Scheme in two States viz. Andhra Pradesh and Gujarat and 15 States were reviewed by selected Institutions of Social Science Research.

(b): The States/UTs were requested to cover all children as per approved number of working days, to speed up the construction of kitchen sheds which are a vital component of the programme for safe and hygienic cooking, to cover all National Child Labour Project Schools, to ensure effective monitoring mechanisms at State, District, Block & village levels and hold regular stakeholders meetings to review the MDM work and take corrective action wherever required.

(c): The Mid Day Meal Scheme at present (2010-11) is implemented in 12,63,256 institutions and covers 11,36,05,412 children. The State-wise details of schools/institutions, children covered during the last three years, 2007-10, are given in Annexure.

(d) & (e):As the entire cost of the foodgrains is borne by the Central Government, there is no burden on States/UTs. The cooking cost of Mid Day Meal (which includes cost of pulses, vegetables, oils, condiments and fuel) was enhanced from Rs.2.50 per child per day to Rs.2.69 at primary stage and from Rs. 3.75 to Rs. 4.03 at upper primary stage with effect from 1.4.2010, to counter inflation.

(f): The Government has issued detailed guidelines for effective implementation, supervision and monitoring of the Scheme at all levels to ensure that children at primary stage get an energy content of 450 calories and protein content of 12 grams and students at upper primary stage get an energy content of 700 calories and protein content of 20 grams.