

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:26

ANSWERED ON:23.02.2011

MID-DAY-MEAL SCHEME

Patel Shri Bal Kumar;Ramasubbu Shri S.

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware of a series of surveys carried out by the Supreme Court Commissioners who have found that the implementation of the Mid-Day-Meal Scheme is being mis-managed in six States as reported in the media;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to address the deficiencies pointed out;
- (d) the funds allocated to States/UTs under the scheme during 2010-11;
- (e) whether the funds allocated to the States/UTs during each of the last three years have been diverted;
- (f) if so, the details thereof including the names of such States and remedial action taken in this regard; and
- (g) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to further strengthen this scheme to ensure proper delivery of the benefits to the school children?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT(SHRI KAPIL SIBAL)

(a) to (g): A Statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement referred to in reply to parts (a) to (g) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 26 for 23.02.2011 by Shri Bal Kumar Patel and Shri S.S. Ramasubbu regarding Mid-Day-Meal Scheme.

(a) & (b): The Supreme Court Commissioners have carried out surveys in six States viz. Assam, Bihar, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa and West Bengal to study the implementation of food schemes with respect to coverage, availability, access and quality of service, problems in implementation, grievances and grievance redressal mechanisms. As far as Mid Day Meal Scheme (MDMS) is concerned the surveys have assessed the percentage of children covered under the scheme, offtake of foodgrains against norms, availability of kitchen sheds and utensils for cooking as well as eating, drinking water availability and the kind of fuel used for cooking. The surveys have also evaluated the utilisation of funds released for MDMS, timeliness of release of funds to schools and promptness of payment to cooks and self help groups involved in the programme. In addition the surveys have evaluated the overall quality of food, and whether there is any discrimination on grounds of caste in the appointment of cooks as well as serving of food to the children. The overall supervision of the programme has also been assessed along with the grievance redressal mechanisms in place.

(c) & (g): The steps taken by the Central Government to strengthen the scheme are at Annexure I.

(d): The State / UT wise allocation of funds during the year 2010-11 is given at Annexure II.

(e): During the last three years no case of funds diversion has come to the notice of the Government.

(f): In view of (e) above, question does not arise.