

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4087
ANSWERED ON:03.08.2009
MID-DAY MEAL SCHEME
Dhruvanarayana Shri R. ;Singh Shri Sushil Kumar

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

- (a) whether the Government has received any proposals from the State Governments for providing better quality meal and for its extension upto twelfth standard;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any instances of misuse of supply of foodgrains and other irregularities under Mid-day Meal Scheme have come to the notice of the Government; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): The Mid-Day Meal Scheme (MDMS) at present covers children studying in primary & upper primary (classes I to VIII) in Government (including Local body), Government Aided Schools and Education Guarantee Scheme/Alternative & Innovative Education (EGS/AIE) Centres. The MDMS also covers Madarasas/Maktabas supported under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan. Under the MDMS, provision has been made to provide hot cooked, wholesome, hygienic mid day meal with 450 calories and 12 grams of protein to every child at Primary level and 700 calories and 20 grams of protein at Upper Primary level. This energy and protein requirement for a child comes from food cooked of 100 grams of rice/flour, 20 grams of pulses and 50 grams of vegetables at Primary level and 150 grams of rice/flour, 25 grams of pulses and 65 grams of vegetables at Upper Primary level. The MDMS Guidelines provide for elaborate management and monitoring mechanism to ensure that good quality of hygienic, nutritious and wholesome meal is served to the children.

The Government of India (GoI) has not received any proposal from any State Government for extension of Mid-Day Meal Scheme (MDMS) upto twelfth standard. However, Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested GoI for extension of MDMS to classes IX & X.

(c) & (d): Some cases of misuse of foodgrains supplied under the MDM Scheme i.e. black marketing and diversion to other Schemes, poor quality of MDM foodgrain, poor quality of meal, inadequacy of meal, diversion and misappropriation of funds etc. have come to the notice of the Government through various sources, inter alia, complaints from individuals as well as people's representatives, newspaper reports, reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India, Monitoring Institutions etc. As and when, any complaint comes to the notice of the Government, the concerned State Government/UT Administration is asked to conduct a suitable enquiry into the complaint and to take appropriate action against the responsible person(s) and also to initiate corrective measures to avoid recurrence of such incidents in future.