

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:34

ANSWERED ON:23.11.2011

IRREGULARITIES IN MDMS

Alagiri Shri S. ;Jaiswal Shri Gorakh Prasad

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

- (a) whether instances of irregularities have been detected in the Mid Day Meal Scheme (MDMS);
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of cases of corruption noticed/reported during the last three years and the current year, State-wise and year-wise;
- (d) the number of persons found guilty in this regard;
- (e) the action taken against the guilty persons; and
- (f) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to stop the recurrence of such irregularities in future?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL)

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

Statement referred to in reply to parts (a) to (f) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 34 for 23.11.2011 by Shri S. Alagiri and Shri Gorakh Prasad Jaiswal regarding Irregularities in MDMS.

(a) & (b): Yes Sir. In the last 3 years and the current year, 106 complaints have been received regarding irregularities in the implementation of the Mid Day Meal Scheme: corruption/misappropriation of funds (35), poor quality of food (28), and irregular serving of mid day meals/not serving mid day meals as per menu (43).

(c) to (e): Details of 35 complaints relating to corruption/misappropriation are given in the Annexure. These were referred to the concerned State Governments, who have taken necessary action on 29 of these complaints. In 19 cases, the allegations in the complaints were not proved; in four cases the State Governments have reported that necessary enquiry/action is under process; in ten substantiated cases the State Governments have taken action against 19 people, such as fixing of responsibility, filing of criminal complaints against persons responsible, suspension of the erring officials, cancellation of the contract of the suppliers, changing of cooks where required; and recovery from Gram Pradhan. In 2 cases, report is still awaited from State Governments.

(f): In order to ensure effective implementation, the scheme guidelines provide for a detailed monitoring mechanism at the school, block, district, State and the National levels. For ensuring quality control, joint inspections are carried out by District Authorities and FCI representatives before lifting foodgrains. To avoid pilferage of foodgrains, kitchen-cum-stores have been sanctioned to ensure that grains are stored safely and hygienically in the school itself. The scheme is constantly reviewed through Quarterly Progress Reports, National level Steering-cum-Monitoring Committee meetings, Programme Approval Board meetings as well as through the Review Missions. In June, 2010 detailed guiding principles for setting up Grievance Redressal Mechanisms for registering complaints through toll free number/dedicated telephone number or through letters were issued to all States/UTs. In addition 40 independent monitoring institutes evaluate the Scheme at regular intervals.