

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:285
ANSWERED ON:14.03.2012
MID-DAY-MEAL SCHEME
Dhruvanarayana Shri R.

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

(a) whether the Government is contemplating to provide mid-day-meal to children studying in private schools in districts with predominant population of SCs and STs from the 12th Five Year Plan, in an effort to increase the enrolment of students belonging to these communities; and

(b) if so, the details worked out and the survey made so far and the views of each State Government including Karnataka in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): The Working Group on Elementary Education & Literacy for 12th Plan has recommended inclusion of children in private unaided schools in ST and SC concentration districts under Mid Day Meal Scheme, in a phased manner. In the Scheduled Tribe concentration districts, it is proposed to cover 11472 schools, with 25 lakh children, at an estimated cost of Rs. 423 crores. In the Scheduled Caste concentration districts, it is proposed to cover 13645 schools with 32 lakh children, at an estimated cost of Rs. 519 crores. The States of Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, West Bengal, and Tripura had agreed to share the expenditure with Central Government. The views of the State Government of Karnataka were not sought for as there are no tribal concentration areas in the State. The Twelfth Five Year Plan is yet to be finalized.