

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3353  
ANSWERED ON:25.04.2012  
SC/ST/OBC EMPLOYEES UNDER MDMS  
Toppo Shri Joseph

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

- (a) the number of SC/ST and OBC employees working as cook under the Mid-day Meal Scheme, State-wise;
- (b) whether for the recruitment of cook, reservation of rules has been followed under the said programme;
- (c) if so, the reasons for lesser number of cooks from the reserved categories; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Answer**

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

- (a): A statement is annexed.
- (b): As per Mid Day Meal Guidelines, cook-cum-helpers are part time workers who are engaged by the States/UTs on honorarium basis; and preference is given to persons from SC, ST and OBC categories in their engagement.
- (c): Currently, 25% of cook-cum-helpers are SC; 15% are ST and 34% are from OBC category.
- (d): In view of (b) & (c) above, question does not arise.