

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3396

ANSWERED ON:25.04.2012

USING LPG FOR MID-DAY MEAL SCHEME

Jardosh Smt. Darshana Vikram;Mahendrasinh Shri Chauhan ;Premajibhai Dr. Solanki Kiritbhai;Singh Shri Pradeep Kumar

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

- (a) whether Non-Liquefied Petroleum Gas fuel including fuel wood continues to be the major cooking fuel under the Mid-Day Meal Scheme;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government has been promoting usage of fuels including Liquefied Petroleum Gas;
- (d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the total assistance provided for the said purpose during the last three years, State-wise and year-wise;
- (e) the total and average number of cooks/helpers engaged under the Mid-Day Meal Scheme per school/children alongwith the details of total and average honorarium paid to them, year-wise and State-wise;
- (f) whether the Government has reviewed the adequacy of cooks and helpers under the scheme and the honorarium paid to them; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir, In 78% schools across the country, mid day meal is cooked with fuels other than gas.

(c) & (d): One time Central assistance @ Rs. 5000/- per school is provided to States and Union Territories for provisioning of kitchen devices (Stove, Chulha, etc.), containers for storage of foodgrains and other ingredients and utensils for cooking and serving. In addition LPG cylinders for cooking in schools are also provided at domestic rates under Mid Day Meal Scheme. Detail of Central assistance released State-wise, for provisioning of kitchen devices during the last three years is given at Annexure-I.

(e) to (g): The States/UTs have engaged 2252063 CCH and paid an amount of Rs. 120258 lakh till 31.12.2011 against the release of Central assistance of Rs. 204952 lakh for the year 2011-12. Details are given at Annexure-II.

The criteria for engagement of cook-cum-helpers is one CCH for a school having up to 25 students, two CCHs for schools with 26 to 100 students and one additional CCH for every addition of up to 100 students. The Mid Day Meal Scheme guidelines provide for payment of Rs. 1000/- as honorarium to each cook-cum-helper per month. The number of CCHs to be engaged by each State/Union Territory is decided by Programme Approval Board of MDMS every year.