

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4186  
ANSWERED ON:02.05.2012  
FUNDS FOR MID DAY MEAL SCHEME  
Vijayan Shri A.K.S.

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the amount allocated for the implementation of Mid Day Meal Scheme exhausted in many districts in the country and many of the schools do not serve the Mid Day Meal;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the steps taken by the Union Government against the erring School authorities and the State Governments; and
- (d) the steps taken/being taken by the Union Government to ensure the availability of Mid Day Meals to the targeted categories of children in the country?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (c): The Central funds for Mid Day Meal (MDM) Scheme are allocated as per the approval of Programme Approval Board for Mid Day Meal, which is based on the requirement of funds and foodgrains projected by each State/UT in their Annual Work Plan and Budget. Therefore, so far as central funds are concerned, there is no scarcity thereof. However, there could be disruptions in the implementation of MDM Scheme in a State/UT on account of non receipt or delayed receipt of funds and foodgrains or other unforeseen circumstances. Whenever, any complaint or instance in this regard is reported to the Central Government, the concerned State/UT is immediately asked to look into the matter and take remedial action.

(d): In order to ensure that such disruptions are not caused, the Scheme guidelines provide for maintenance of one month's buffer stock of foodgrains in each school, so that in case of any shortage in supply, at least for one month the scheme continues smoothly.

Further, in order to ensure effective implementation of the scheme, the Scheme guidelines provide for an extensive monitoring mechanism at the school, block, district, State and the National levels. The scheme is constantly reviewed through Quarterly Progress Reports, in the National level Steering cum Monitoring Committee meetings and during Programme Approval Board meetings. In addition the Central Review Missions visit the States for an on the spot assessment. Independent monitoring institutes also evaluate the Scheme at regular intervals.