

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6617
ANSWERED ON:16.05.2012
EXTENSION OF MID DAY MEAL SCHEME
Jakhar Shri Badri Ram

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

- (a) whether the Government has set up a Committee at national level to review the extension of mid-day meal scheme to include unaided minority institutions and the students receiving education in those unaided schools which are privately operated in tribal areas of the country under mid-day meal scheme;
- (b) if so, the terms of reference of the said Committee;
- (c) whether the said Committee has completed its study and submitted the report; and
- (d) if so, the details of the recommendations made in this report and the action taken by the Government on those recommendations?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI E. AHAMED)

- (a) & (b): Yes Sir, the Government had constituted a Committee in July, 2009 to;
- (i) examine the suggestions with regard to coverage of students studying in privately managed unaided schools with focus on Tribal areas and minorities under the ambit of Mid Day Meal Scheme (MDMS);
 - (ii) estimate financial and other implications of such coverage/extension; and
 - (iii) ascertain whether State Governments/ UT Administrations are agreeable to the extension of MDM Scheme to privately managed unaided recognized schools and share the cost.
- (c) & (d): The Committee in its report recommended extending the Mid Day Meal Scheme to the children of the privately managed unaided schools in Scheduled Tribe, Scheduled Caste and Minority concentration districts in a phased manner across the country. The Working Group on Elementary Education for 12th Plan has considered and recommended inclusion of children in private unaided schools in the Scheduled Tribe and Scheduled Caste concentration districts under MDM Scheme in a phased manner.