

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:112  
ANSWERED ON:08.08.2012  
EXTENSION OF MDMS  
Reddy Shri Modugula Venugopala

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

- (a) whether the Mid Day Meal Scheme (MDMS) is the world's largest school feeding programme;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the number of schools covered and the number of children being served such meals;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to extend MDMS to the unaided private schools located in the tribal areas of the country;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government proposes to undertake further reforms in the programme so as to boost the intake of students especially those belonging to the Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes community; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b): The Mid Day Meal (MDM) Scheme covers children studying in class I-VIII in all Government, Government aided, Local Body and National Child Labour Project Schools, Education Guarantee Scheme / Alternative and Innovative Education centres and Madarasas / Maqtabs supported under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan. During 2011-12, the MDM was served to 10.54 crore children studying in 12.37 lakh institutions.

(c) to (f): The Working Group on Elementary Education for 12th Plan has recommended for inclusion of children in private unaided schools in 109 Scheduled Tribe (ST) and 61 Scheduled Caste (SC) concentration districts under the MDM Scheme in a phased manner.