

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1680
ANSWERED ON:22.08.2012
WAGES OF WORKERS IN MDMS
Patil Shri A.T. Nana

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that the wages of workers engaged in cooking mid day meals in the schools in the country is very low;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has any proposal to increase their wages;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government for the upliftment of these workers?

Answer

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

(a) to (d): The job of cook-cum-helpers engaged under Mid Day Meal Scheme is part time as only one meal has to be cooked on a school day and they are required to work for 3-4 hours only. The scheme was revised with effect from 01.12.2009, to provide separate honorarium to each cook-cum-helper @ Rs. 1000/- per month. Prior to 01.12.2009 there was no separate element of honorarium for these cooks.

(e): Apart from separate honorarium, the criteria for engagement of cook-cum-helpers has also been prescribed under which one cook-cum-helper can be engaged for a school having up to 25 students, two cook-cum-helpers for schools with 26 to 100 students and one additional cook-cum-helper for every addition of up to 100 students.