

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1064
ANSWERED ON:25.11.2009
SHARE OF CENTRE AND STATE UNDER MID-DAY MEAL SCHEME
Kaswan Shri Ram Singh

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

- (a) whether the quality of Mid-day Meal is monitored by the Union Government;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the percentage of Central and State share to the Mid-day Meal scheme running in the States; and
- (d) the percentage of increase in the number of students in schools on account of the Mid-day Meal scheme; State-wise?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) : Though the overall responsibility to ensure all logistic and administrative arrangements for regular serving of wholesome, cooked mid day meal in every eligible school, EGS/AIE centres lies with the State Government/UT administration, the Central Government, through National, Regional and State level review meetings had been continuously urging the State/UT Governments to:

ensure that food is cooked in a hygienic environment

food items are stored in dry and safe places

adequate drinking water is made available

cooks are properly trained in adopting hygienic habits.

Besides the above, the 42 monitoring institutions have been assigned the responsibility of monitoring the implementation of the MDMS in States/UTs. The State Government/UT Administration is also required to send Quarterly Progress Reports (QPRs) to the Central Government. The Central Government analyzes the reports of monitoring institution as well as QPRs and asks States/UTs to take remedial measures, if required, to avoid recurrence of such deficiency in future. States have also been urged to involve the parents and community members to supervise the cooking and serving of mid-day meal. It is provided in the guidelines that the food prepared is tasted by 2-3 adults including at least one teacher before it is served to children.

As and when any complaint regarding any kind of anomaly including poor quality of food, under the MDMS comes to the notice of Central Government through various sources, the concerned State Government/UT Administration is asked to conduct a suitable enquiry into the complaint and to take appropriate action against the responsible person(s) and also to initiate corrective measures to avoid recurrence of such incidents in future.

(c): (I) Under Mid Day Meal Scheme Central Government bears cost of the following components:

(i) Foodgrains: Supply of free food grains (wheat/rice) @100 grams per child per School Day at Primary classes (I-V) and 150 grams per child per School day at upper primary classes (VI-VIII)

(ii) Transportation assistance in the 11 Special Category States (viz. Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Manipur, Nagaland, Tripura, Sikkim, J&K, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand) subject to the ceiling of Public Distribution System (PDS) rates and Rs.75 per quintal for all other States and UTs.

(iii) Management, Monitoring & Evaluation (MME): at the rate of 1.8% of total assistance on (a) free food grains, (b) transport cost and (c) cooking cost. Another 0.2% of the above amount is utilized at the Central Government level for management, monitoring and evaluation.

(iv) In addition to the above, one time Central Assistance is provided to States/UTs @ Rs.5000 per schools for procurement of kitchen devices.

(II) The cooking cost, cost of construction of kitchen-cum-store and honorarium to cook-cum-helper are shared between the Centre and the NER States on 90:10 basis and with other States / UTs on 75:25 basis.

(d): Enrolment, retention etc. of students in schools depend on several interventions of the Government in the field of education, health, nutrition, economic development, demographic changes, expansion of private sector in Elementary Education etc. including the Mid-Day Meal Scheme. Therefore, change in enrolment cannot be attributed solely to Mid-Day Meal Scheme. State/UT wise change in percentage of enrolment (including private unaided schools in which mid-day meal is not served) between 1995-96 to 2006-07 is given in the Annexure.