

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3101
ANSWERED ON:12.12.2012
INVOLVEMENT OF TEACHERS IN MDMS
Kumar Shri Vishwa Mohan;Premdas Shri

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that instead of teaching the students, the teachers spend the entire day in cooking and serving the meals to the school children;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the action taken by the Government in this regard;
- (c) whether the Mid Day Meal Scheme (MDMS) is likely to improve the educational level of the students; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (Dr. SHASHI THAROOR)

(a) & (b): In order to ensure that the teaching learning process does not suffer, 25.48 Lac Cook-cum-Helpers have been engaged for cooking and serving Mid Day Meals (MDM) to the School Children.

(c)&(d): Various studies have shown that the MDM scheme has played a major role in universalisation of primary education by (i) increasing enrolment and attendance; (ii) reducing dropout rate; and (iii) averting classroom hunger and under-nourishment, especially of those belonging to under-privileged sections of the society. The effective literacy rate for India has increased by 9.21 percentage points during 2001-2011 to 74.04%. The percentage of out-of- school children has come down from 6.9% in 2005 to 4.2% in 2009 and the Male Female Literacy Gap has been reduced from 21.59% in 2001 to 16.68% in 2011.