

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3511
ANSWERED ON:12.02.2014
EXTENSION OF MDMS
Biswal Shri Hemanand

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken a decision on introducing Mid Day Meal Scheme (MDMS) in private unaided schools in tribal, scheduled caste and minority concentrated districts especially in Madarsa and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has considered any revision of the cooking cost of mid day meal in the aftermath of deregulation of LPG prices;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) the details of the methodology by which calorie intake and nutritional intake by children is monitored and the methods by which quality is ensured in the cooked meals; and
- (e) whether the Government has noticed any leakages in delivery mechanism of the scheme and if so, the details thereof and the manner in which these leakages have been plugged?

Answer

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

- (a): No, Madam. The competent authority has decided that a decision can be taken in this regard only after a thorough review. However, the Madrasas supported under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan are already covered under the Mid-Day Meal Scheme.
- (b)&(c): Yes, Madam. The additional funds on account of the withdrawal of subsidy on LPG cylinders are being reimbursed to the States/UTs on a cost-sharing basis. An amount of Rs.1151 crore as Central Share has been earmarked under the MDMS for the purpose during the current year; out of this, a sum of Rs.310 crore has already been released to the States/UTs.
- (d): The nutritional and calorific norms for the hot cooked meal, under the Mid-Day Meal Scheme have been laid down as under:

S. No.	Items	Quantity Per Day	
		Primary	Upper Primary
1.	Food grains	100 gms	150 gms
2.	Pulse	20 gms	30 gms
3.	Vegetables (leafy also)	50 gms	75 gms
4.	Oil & fat	5 gms	7.5 gms
5.	Salt & Condiments	As per need	As per need

As per MDM Guidelines, all the States/UTs have to serve hot cooked meals to the children using the above ingredients. These norms have been determined by the nutritional experts to ensure that for each student, a nutritional intake of 450 calories of energy and 12 grams of proteins at the primary and 700 calories of energy and 20 grams of proteins at the upper primary level. To counter the effect of increase in prices, the cooking cost allowance is enhanced by 7.5% each year. Besides this, the MDMS envisages the supply of adequate quantity of micro nutrients, IFA, Vitamin-A and deworming tablets in convergence with the norms prescribed by NRHM, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. To ensure quality, the Mid Day Meal guidelines also provide that the hot cooked meal be tasted by at least one teacher before it is served to the children.

The MDMS is monitored through various Joint Review Missions, which inter alia comprise of nutritional experts, who assess the effectiveness of the Scheme, through field visits in different States / UTs. In the current year 19 such Missions have been undertaken and the JRM to Rajasthan is currently under process.

- (e): A total of 58 complaints relating to leakages in delivery mechanisms have been received in this Ministry during 2010-13 from the various States/UTs. Amongst these 6 pertain to the misuse of food grains and 52 relate to irregularities under the Mid Day Meal Scheme. These complaints were referred to the concerned State Governments/UTs, who have taken necessary action in 41 out of the 58 cases. The allegations were found to be baseless in 15 cases, while action has been taken by the State Governments in the

remaining 26 cases.

The action taken includes suspension, warning and initiation of departmental proceedings against erring officials as well as recovery from the guilty persons. In a few cases, criminal proceedings have also been launched against the guilty. The State-wise number of cases of misuse of food grains and irregularities under the scheme during the last three years, is given at Annexure.