

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4204
ANSWERED ON:16.12.2009
DISCRIMINATION IN MID DAY MEAL SCHEME
Rajbhar Shri Ramashankar;Rawat Shri Ashok Kumar

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

- (a) whether the children of dalit communities are seated separately during mid day meal in 38 per cent Government schools of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and the reasons therefor;and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to check such discrimination against dalits in the country?

Answer

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

- (a) & (b): Some cases of caste discrimination in a couple of States had come to the notice of the Government through media reports. However, the concerned State Governments, after enquiry, had found allegations to be not true.
- (c): The States/UTs are advised to involve teachers and community members in implementation of the programme and ensuring that children eat together in a spirit of camaraderie, fostering social harmony and cooperation.