

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:873
ANSWERED ON:16.07.2014
QUALITY FOOD UNDER MDMS
Patil Shri A.T. (Nana);Ram Shankar Dr. Prof.

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

- (a) the details of the cases of incidents reported regarding spurious or poor quality of food served to the children under Mid-Day Meal Scheme (MDMS) during each of the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise;
- (b) the details of the guidelines issued by the Government to check such incidents in future;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to involve Non-Governmental Organisations (NGO's) like Akshayapatra for providing hygienic and quality food to the students throughout the country under MDMS; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the final decision will be taken in the matter?

Answer

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SMT. SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

- (a) :The State/UT wise complaints regarding poor quality of the Mid Day Meal are at Annexure.
- (b):The Central Government has issued detailed guidelines to ensure quality, safety and hygiene under Mid Day Meal Scheme. The States / UTs have been requested to take immediate action on following points:
 - i. Setting up of an effective Management Structure for MDM at various levels.
 - ii. Mandatory tasting of the meal by at least one teacher before it is served to the children
 - iii. Safe storage and supply of ingredients to schools
 - iv. Capacity building of stakeholders
 - v. Procurement of pulses and ingredients of Agmark quality and supply to schools.
 - vi. Awareness about entitlements under Mid Day Meal Scheme
 - vii. Convening of District level Vigilance and Monitoring Committee meeting under the Chairmanship of senior most Member of Parliament from the district.
 - viii. Convening of regular review meeting at District level under the chairpersonship of DC/ Deputy Commissioner/CEO, ZilaParishad
 - ix. Social Audit of the Scheme.
 - x. Testing of food samples by CSIR/NABL accredited lab
 - xi. Prompt action on the reports of the Monitoring Institutes, Joint Review Mission etc.
 - xii. Contingency Medical Plans
- (c)& (d) The guidelines for engagement of Voluntary Organisation/Non -Government Organizations (NGOs) under Mid Day Meal Scheme have already been issued by the Ministry in September 2010. Akshaypatra is presently engaged by 8 States for providing MDM in selected districts.