

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:36
ANSWERED ON:22.07.2015
Nutritional Value of Food Under MDM Scheme
Khuba Shri Bhagwanth;Verma Shri Rajesh

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

- (a) the guidelines laid down by the Government prescribing norms for nutritional content/value of food being served under the Mid Day Meal Scheme, (MDM) food item-wise;
- (b) whether the mid-day meal samples taken during the last three years, failed the nutritional value test;
- (c) if so, the details thereof indicating the number of food samples lifted and the number out of which were found to have less nutritional value than the prescribed norms, year/State/UT-wise;
- (d) the action taken by the Government against those found guilty; and
- (e) the measures being taken by the Government to ensure serving of quality food under MDM scheme?

Answer

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

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to parts (a) to (e) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 36 for 22.07.2015 raised by SHRI RAJESH VERMA and SHRI BHAGWANATH KHUBA regarding Nutritional Value of Food Under MDM Scheme.

(a) The MDM guidelines have prescribed the following norms for nutritional content:

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| S.No. | Items | Quantity per day / child |
|-------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| | Primary Upper Primary | |
| 1 | Foodgrain (Rice / Wheat) | 100 gm 150 gm |
| 2 | Pulses | 20 gm 30 gm |
| 3 | Vegetables (leafy also) | 50 gm 75 gm |
| 4 | Oil & Fat | 5 gm 7.5 gm |
| 5 | Salt & Condiments | As per need As per need |

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The cooking cost, which includes the cost of all ingredients except foodgrains for primary stage is Rs. 3.59 per child per day and Rs. 5.38 per child per day for upper primary stage. The cooking cost is shared between the Centre and the States in the ratio of 90:10 for North East Region States and 75:25 for other States.

(b) to (d) The Government of NCT Delhi has reported that between 2010 to 2014, testing of food samples has revealed that 89% of the samples did not meet the nutritional and calorific values. The year-wise details of number of samples tested on quality parameters in Delhi are given at Annexure-I.

The Government of Delhi has taken action in the form of proportionate deduction from the payment due to service providers towards cooking costs, where samples did not meet the norms. The Government of NCT Delhi has also terminated contracts in case of four service providers on account of failing on microbiological parameters on sample testing.

(e) The Central Government has taken following steps to ensure quality food under Mid Day Meal Scheme:

- i) Training for cook-cum-helpers on safety, quality and hygiene aspects.
- ii) States instructed to procure Agmark quality and branded items for preparation of mid day meals.
- iii) Tasting of meals by 2-3 adults members including at least one teacher before serving to children.
- iv) System of testing of food samples by accredited laboratories.
- v) Construction of kitchen-cum-stores for safe storage and preparation of meals in a hygienic environment.
- vi) Engagement of cook-cum-helpers.
- vii) Upward revision of cooking cost by 7.5% every year from 2010.
- viii) Updated guidelines on food safety and hygiene issued on 13.02.2015
