

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:421  
ANSWERED ON:22.07.2015  
Guidelines for Quality of Mid-Day Meal  
Sanjar Shri Alok

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

- (a) whether in view of rise in incidents of unhealthy mid-day meal in schools in various States of the country, the Government has decided to comply with the guidelines issued by the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India to improve the quality of mid-day meal;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether there is a need to take assistance of health activists under the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) for this purpose;
- (d) if so, the details thereof ; and
- (e) the steps taken/being taken to serve good quality food under the Mid-Day Meal Scheme?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b) The Mid Day Meal guidelines 2006 prescribe detailed instructions on the quality and safety aspects of Mid Day Meal. In addition, the Central Government has also issued guidelines on Food Safety and Hygiene for school level kitchens under Mid Day Meal Scheme on 13th February, 2015 with an aim to help the States and the UTs to focus more intensively on the safety aspects of procurement, storage, preparation, serving, waste disposal of food items as well as issues of personal hygiene of students and those involved in cooking and serving of food.

(c) & (d) No Madam.

(e) The Central Government has taken following steps to ensure quality meals to the children:

- i) Training of cook-cum-helpers on safety, quality and hygiene aspects.
- ii) States have been instructed to procure Agmark quality and branded items for preparation of mid day meals.
- iii) Tasting of meals by 2-3 adult 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.

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