

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:333

ANSWERED ON:12.08.2015

Funds for Purchase of Utensils

Kodikunnil Shri Suresh;Mohan Shri P. C.

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

(a) whether the Government proposes to enhance the ceiling/allocations for the purchase of utensils and other items used for preparing food under the Mid-Day Meal Scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government has received any proposals from the States including Kerala for the sanction of additional funds for the aforesaid purpose, if so, the status thereof and the action taken by the Government thereon; and

(d) whether the Government has any proposal to prepare and supply mid-day meals in a centralised manner instead of giving the responsibilities to schools/establishments and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

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

Statement referred to in reply to parts (a) to (d) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 333 for 12.08.2015 raised by SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH and SHRI P.C. MOHAN regarding Funds for Purchase of Utensils.

(a) & (b): The Central Government is providing 100% Central Assistance at a flat rate of Rs. 5000 per school for procurement of kitchen devices from the year 2006-07. The funds at a rate of Rs. 5000 per school are also provided to the States / UTs for replacement of kitchen devices after every 5 years. A proposal for revisions / modifications of the norms of the Mid Day Meal Scheme including revisions of norms for kitchen devices linked to enrolment of children in the schools is under consideration of the Ministry.

(c): Almost all the State Governments have requested for enhancement of funds for kitchen devices but no such request was received from State Government of Kerala. Based on the requests of the States, the revisions / modifications in the norms of the Mid Day Meal Scheme were proposed and the same is under consideration of the Ministry.

(d): The Mid Day Meal guidelines provide that NGOs / Trusts / Centralized kitchens may be engaged for preparation and serving of the meals to the children studying in schools located in urban areas and there is no space in the school premises for construction of kitchen-cum-stores. The State Governments decide the engagement of Centralized kitchens for a cluster of schools. At present 70.54 lakh children studying in 41936 schools in different States are covered by the Centralized kitchens. There is no proposal under consideration of this Ministry to prepare and supply mid day meals in a centralized manner instead of giving responsibilities to schools / establishments.
