

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:140
ANSWERED ON:04.03.2015
PRIVATE SECTOR PARTICIPATION IN MOMS
Sule Smt. Supriya Sadanand

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

- (a) the percentage of schools which are taking the services of specialist Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) for preparing mid day meals under the Mid Day Meal Scheme (MDMS);
- (b) whether the Government proposes to increase the participation of the private sector and NGOs in running the scheme and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government conducts regular social audits of schools/MDMS to check the effectiveness of the scheme;
- (d) if so, the findings of the audit, if conducted, in the recent past; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SMT. SMRITI ZUDIN 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. 140 for 04.03.2015 raised by SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE regarding Private Sector Participation in MDMS

(a): Out of a total of 11.67 lakh schools covered under MDM Scheme, 41936 schools are covered by NGOs for preparing and serving of the meals to the children under the Scheme, which is 3.6% of the total number of schools covered.

(b): The Mid Day Meal Guidelines envisage cooking and serving of mid day meals in the school premises. However, centralized kitchens could be set up for a cluster of schools where school based cooking is not feasible due to space constraints. The guidelines further envisage that the operation of these centralized kitchens may be entrusted to reputed NGOs who have local presence and familiarity with the needs and culture of the State.

(c) :Social audit had been conducted on pilot basis in 2 districts of Andhra Pradesh i.e. Khammam and Chittoor during 2012-13. Social audit is now being undertaken in 9 States viz. Bihar, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh by different State level institutes to check upon the effectiveness of the Mid Day Meal Scheme.

(d) & (e):The major findings of the social audit conducted in Andhra Pradesh are related to quality of rice, less quantity of rice in bags, delay in payment of honorarium to cook-cum- helpers, coverage of children being less than enrollment, drinking water facilities etc.