

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2806
ANSWERED ON:30.07.2014
COOKS WORKING UNDER MDMS
Maadam Smt. Poonamben Hematbhai

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

- (a) whether the cooks who are preparing food in schools under Mid Day Meal Scheme (MDMS) are not permanent Government employees and they are paid meagre wages;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has any proposal to appoint permanent cooking staff with enhanced wages to them; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): The cooks-cum-helpers are paid an honorarium of Rs. 1000/- per month for 10 months in a year as they are engaged on a part time basis. The funding for honorarium is shared between the Centre and NER States in the ratio of 90:10 and for other States/UTs in the ratio of 75:25. The criteria for the number of cooks-cum-helpers to be engaged in a school has also been prescribed by the Central Government; one for a school having upto 25 students, two for schools having 26 to 100 students, and one additional cook-cum-helper for every additional 100 students.

(c) to (d): No, Madam. There is no such proposal.