

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2896

ANSWERED ON:30.07.2014

FUEL FOR COOKING MDM

Dastidar Dr. (Smt.) Kakoli Ghosh;Dastidar,Dr. (Smt.) Kakoli Ghosh;Patil Shri Chandrakant Raghunath;Rathwa Shri Ramsinh Patalyabhai

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

- (a) whether fuel cost is included in the grants provided by the Government for the Mid-Day Meal (MDM) scheme and if so, the details thereof along with the total budgetary allocation made in this regard during each of the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise;
- (b) whether the Government has any proposal to promote the use of environmentally friendly fuels like LPG for cooking the MDM and provided assistance for the purchase of LPG chulhas/stoves and meeting the cost of security deposits for LPG cylinders and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the discontinuation of supply of subsidized LPG cylinders to the MDM scheme has put an additional burden on the overall allocation for the said scheme and if so, the details thereof and the manner in which the additional is being met; and
- (d) the details of the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to mitigate the impact of the discontinuation of supply of subsidized LPG cylinders on the MDM scheme?

Answer

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

- (a): Yes, Madam. The Central Government provides grant-in-aid towards Cooking Cost on sharing basis between Centre and States / UTs. The Cooking Cost includes cost of fuel also. The State-wise Central assistance released to the States / UTs during the last three years and current year is given at Annexure-I.
- (b): The States / UTs can procure LPG cylinders from the cooking cost for cooking of the meals at schools. The Central Government is also providing funds @ Rs. 5000 per school for procurement of kitchen devices including stoves / chulhas.
- (c) & (d): The Central Government also provides Central assistance for the procurement of unsubsidized LPG cylinders after withdrawal of subsidy by Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas since 18th September, 2012. The Central Government has estimated an additional burden of Rs. 1528 crore on the Scheme. The additional burden due to withdrawal of subsidy on LPG cylinders is met from the budgetary provisions of the Scheme on sharing basis between Centre and States.