

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:200
ANSWERED ON:06.07.2004
MID DAY MEALS SCHEME
Baitha Shri Kailash;Prasad Shri Hari Kewal

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

- (a) the quantum of foodgrains supplied to each State for providing mid-day meals to students, State-wise;
- (b) whether the Government has made any independent assessment of the working of the mid-day meals served to the primary school children in the country;
- (c) if so, the number of cases when the children had to be hospitalised due to the poor quality of mid-day meals during 2003 and till date along with the manner in which the food supplied is tested; and
- (d) the measures taken by the Government to ensure that the quality of the mid-day meals by the suppliers is maintained in accordance with the standard norms laid down by the ISI/Nutrition Foundation of India?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI):

- (a) Details are given in the statement enclosed.
- (b) Yes, Sir.
- (c) As per available information. 1420 children had fallen ill during 2003-04 after consuming mid-day meals. State Governments have been requested to get the cooked meal tested by adults sufficiently prior to being served children.
- (d) In addition to the guidelines regarding testing mentioned in part (c) above, State Governments are also expected to take the following other measures, as per guidelines on quality of mid-day meals:
 - (i) To ensure that meals are cooked, served and consumed in a hygienic manner, and storage and handling of foodgrains, and of all other cooking ingredients is also done hygienically.
 - (ii) To entrust supervision and monitoring of the programme at village level, to the Village Education Committee, and to constitute Committees for this purpose at district and State levels also, and
 - (iii) To involve women's Self-Help Groups (SHGs) for cooking mid-day meals as far as possible