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Title: Requests the Central Government to send a team with medical experts to assess the situation due to supply of rotten eggs to the children through Mid-day Meal Scheme in many districts of Tamil Nadu.

SHRI K.P. MUNUSAMY (KRISHNA GIRI): Sir, a very serious situation is prevailing in many districts of Tamil Nadu due to food poisoning of students. The supply of rotten eggs to the children through Mid-day Meal Scheme in Dharmapuri District has led to hospitalisation of 1012 children on 31.07.1998. In Ammani Mallapuram alone 312 children have been affected. While 291 children have been discharged after medical aid, 21 children have been admitted in serious conditions. In old Dharmapuri, 500 children were affected, out of which 50 have been admitted in the hospital. In Konangi Nayana Halli 200 children were affected, of which 25 have been admitted in hospital.

Some children are reported to be serious because the eggs supplied under the Mid-day Meal Scheme were rotten. This is not the first time that such thing has happened. Even two weeks before thousands of children were affected due to supply of rotten eggs in many districts of Tamil Nadu.

The Tamil Nadu Government claimed to have destroyed 28 lakh rotten eggs. The Government had asked TAPCO, a Government organisation, to supply eggs. I wish to place on record that the rotten eggs have been supplied by TAPCO in Dharmapuri District. Our respected Leader Dr. Puratchi Thalaivi has said that the DMK Government is attempting to stop this Mid-day Meal Scheme. That is why, it is creating a terror among the children through supply of rotten eggs.

I would request the Government to despatch a Central team with medical experts to assess the situation and suggest remedial measures.