

Centralised kitchens in Mid-Day-Meal Scheme

1806. SHRI TARINI KANTA ROY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the policy of Government regarding centralized kitchen in Mid-Day-Meal Scheme;
- (b) whether Government has received any complaint regarding quality of food provided by the centralized kitchens; and
- (c) whether it is a fact that centralized kitchens are against the very purpose of the Mid-Day-Meal Scheme, to provide locally available freshly cooked food to the children?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI) : (a) and (c) The policy of the Government is that Mid Day Meal (MDM) is to be cooked locally in the school premises either through Self Help Groups or through the personnel engaged by the School Management Committee constituted under the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009 or any other equivalent Committee responsible for implementing the scheme. However, for urban areas, where there is a space constraint for setting up individual school kitchens, the Guidelines provide that a Centralized Kitchen could be set up for a cluster of schools where cooking can take place and the cooked hot meal may be transported under hygienic conditions through reliable transport systems to various schools.

- (b) No, Sir.

Setting up of schools under PPP Model

1807. SHRI RANJITSINH VIJAYSINH MOHITE PATIL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether with a view to promote private sector participation in the education sector, any proposal to set up some schools under a new PPP model for 2011-12 is under active consideration of Government;
- (b) whether any time-frame has been set up for its implementation; and
- (c) if so, the details of the scheme and the financial implications involved, if any?