

APEDA, an organization under Ministry of Commerce is implementing National Programme on Organic Production (NPOP) to provide various services such as certification, notification of standards, assistance for promotion of exports of organic products etc.

In addition, Government is spreading awareness about organic farming through various extension activities such as exhibitions and fairs, Agri-Clinic and Agri-Business Centres, mass media support activities, radio talks, Kisan Melas, etc.

Quality of food served under MDMS

*29. SHRI N.K. SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has any mechanism for ascertaining the quality of food served under the Mid-Day-Meal Scheme (MDMS);
- (b) whether Government has received any reports or complaints regarding the quality of food served under the Scheme;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the measures taken by Government to maintain the quality of food served under the Scheme?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.M. PALLAM RAJU): (a) The Mid Day Meal Guidelines stipulate that children at primary stage be provided with a meal to ensure 450 calories of energy and 12 grams of protein and 700 calories of energy and 20 grams of protein at upper primary stage. The food norms for primary and upper primary children are also clearly defined. To ensure that good quality nutritious food is served, there is an extensive monitoring mechanism at school, block, district, State and the national levels. The Scheme is constantly reviewed through Quarterly Progress Reports, in the National level Steering-cum-Monitoring Committee meetings and during Programme Approval Board meetings. In addition, the Central Review Missions visit the States/UTs for an on the spot assessment and independent Monitoring Institutes also evaluate the Scheme at regular intervals.

(b) and (c) Yes Sir, in the last three years and the current year, complaints of poor quality food served to the children have been received. The details of such complaints received at the national level are given in Statement (*See below*).

(d) The Mid Day Meal Guidelines provide for lifting of good quality foodgrains of atleast FAQ quality from FCI godown, storage of food items in dry and safe places, cooking meal in hygienic environment through properly trained cook-cum-helpers. The cooked food has to be tasted by 2-3 adults including one teacher before serving it to the children. In addition, community involvement is promoted in implementation and supervision of the Mid Day Meal Scheme and officers of the State level have been deputed to frequently inspect the hygienic standards.

Statement

Details of complaints received at national level

Year-wise and State-wise complaints received regarding poor quality food

| State | Year | Total |
|---------------|------|-------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Bihar | 2009 | 0 |
| | 2010 | 2 |
| | 2011 | 1 |
| | 2012 | 1 |
| Rajasthan | 2009 | 1 |
| | 2010 | 0 |
| | 2011 | 0 |
| | 2012 | 0 |
| Assam | 2009 | 0 |
| | 2010 | 0 |
| | 2011 | 1 |
| | 2012 | 1 |
| Uttar Pradesh | 2009 | 0 |
| | 2010 | 1 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|----------------|------|---|
| | 2011 | 1 |
| | 2012 | 3 |
| Haryana | 2009 | 0 |
| | 2010 | 1 |
| | 2011 | 3 |
| | 2012 | 1 |
| Punjab | 2009 | 0 |
| | 2010 | 0 |
| | 2011 | 0 |
| | 2012 | 1 |
| Delhi | 2009 | 3 |
| | 2010 | 1 |
| | 2011 | 3 |
| | 2012 | 2 |
| Madhya Pradesh | 2009 | 4 |
| | 2010 | 1 |
| | 2011 | 1 |
| | 2012 | 1 |
| Maharashtra | 2009 | 0 |
| | 2010 | 0 |
| | 2011 | 0 |
| | 2012 | 1 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|-------------|------|----|
| Jharkhand | 2009 | 1 |
| | 2010 | 0 |
| | 2011 | 0 |
| | 2012 | 0 |
| Karnataka | 2009 | 0 |
| | 2010 | 1 |
| | 2011 | 0 |
| | 2012 | 1 |
| West Bengal | 2009 | 0 |
| | 2010 | 0 |
| | 2011 | 0 |
| | 2012 | 2 |
| TOTAL: | | 40 |

Supply of phosphatic fertilizers to Madhya Pradesh

†*30. DR. CHANDAN MITRA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that despite making arrangements for advance payment to the authorized companies of Central Government by Madhya Pradesh as per the instructions for supply of phosphatic fertilizers, Madhya Pradesh is not being supplied these fertilizers as per demand;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the concrete steps taken by Government to ensure adequate availability of DAP and other phosphatic fertilizers to Madhya Pradesh again, as per the earlier arrangement?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.