

**Provision of mid-day-meals for school children**

2874. SHRI C.P. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of school children who were fed mid-day-meals in the country during the last three years;

(b) the amount of money earmarked for the same each year and the amount spent during these years;

(c) the prescribed ingredients of mid-day-meals and the per capita allocation by Central and State Governments;

(d) whether the mid-day-meals so distributed satisfy the nutritional needs of children; and

(e) whether there are complaints that children do not get enough food and part of the allotment is diverted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. SHASHI THAROOR): (a) and (b) The average number of children covered, funds released and expenditure under the Mid-Day Meal Scheme during the last three years are as under:

Year	Average number of children covered	Funds released (Rs. in lakh)	Expenditure (Rs. in lakh)
2009-10	110453794	693726	562167
2010-11	104631566	912452	778656
2011-12	105439889	989072	923582

(c) to (d) The MDMS norms provide for a nutritious hot cooked meal prepared from 100 gms of food grains (rice/wheat), 20 gms of pulses, 50 gms of vegetables and 5 gms of oil to ensure an energy content of 450 calories and 12 grams of proteins for children studying in primary classes. At the upper primary level the entitlement goes up to 150 gms of food grains (rice/wheat), 30 gms of pulses, 75gms of vegetables and 7.5 gms of oil to ensure an energy content of 700 calories and 20 grams of proteins. Nutrition content is further improved by using double fortified salt as well as green leafy vegetables, as per the Mid Day Meal guidelines.

The per capita allocation by Centre and State is Rs. 5.64 for primary classes and Rs. 7.41 for upper primary classes. The Central Government provide 100% funds for cost of foodgrains, transportation assistance and management, monitoring, and evaluation whereas the cooking cost and the honorarium to the cook-cum-helpers are shared in the ratio of 90:10 in respect of States in North East (NER) and 75:25 in respect of other States.

(e) Three complaints of diversion of foodgrains from Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal and Kerala were received during 2008 to 2012. These complaints were investigated and action taken against the concerned officials, which included suspension of the erring official, issuing of charge-sheet and the recoupment of the entire quantity of the sice from the responsible officials.

**Assistance to better performing States in education sector**

2875. SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has noticed the problems of States like Kerala in getting funds from SSA and RMSA because these States have progressed in Lower Primary, Upper Primary and Secondary Education;

(b) if so, whether Government is planning for any scheme to help these States in their quality upgradation schemes;

(c) whether Government has noticed the need for improving the quality and quantity of higher education in Kerala;

(d) whether Government has any scheme or plan to help the needs of higher education for States which are not getting the SSA and RMSA funds like other States; and

(e) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. SHASHI THAROOR): (a) and (b) The Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) and the Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) are centrally sponsored schemes to support the States/UTs in elementary and secondary education respectively. The States/UTs which had progressed in the education sector prior to the launch of these schemes are supported not for substitution of funding already done by the State, but for further strengthening the