

stage for the CBSE affiliated schools in session 2013-14 and as a regular elective from session 2014-15 onwards.

Extension of MDMS

568. SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government provides meals to children studying in class I-VIII in various educational schools/centres supported under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan under Mid-Day-Meal Scheme (MDMS) in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of targets fixed under MDMS for 2011-12 and 2012-13 and the extent to which such targets have been achieved during the said period;

(d) whether there is any proposal to extend the scheme in private unaided schools located in the SC, ST and Minority concentration districts in various States; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. SHASHI THAROOR): (a) and (b) The Mid-Day-Meal Scheme covers children of classes I-VIII studying in Government, Local Body, Government aided and National Child Labour Project schools and the centres run under the Education Guarantee Scheme (EGS)/Alternative and Innovative Education (AIE) centres including Madarasas/Maktabs supported under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA).

(c) The details of children approved for coverage and the average number of children covered during 2011-12 and 2012-13 are as under:—

Children	2011-12	2012-13
Approved number of children (in crore)*	11.07	10.96
Average number of children covered (in crore.)*	10.54	10.43

*Primary and Upper Primary combined

(d) and (e) The Planning Commission has now agreed to extend the Mid-Day-Meal Scheme to 11.75 million children in 54233 private unaided schools in Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe and Minority concentration districts.