

Monitoring of Mid Day Meal Scheme

*223. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to constitute a special committee to monitor the quality and standards of meals under the Mid Day Meal Scheme;

(b) whether the State Governments are failing to provide their matching share (75:25) for the scheme; and

(c) if so, the details of such Governments and the action taken by the Central Governments in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) No, Sir. However, an elaborate monitoring mechanism exists both at the Central and the State level for smooth implementation of the Mid Day Meal Scheme (MDMS). At the national level, an Empowered Committee headed by Hon'ble Minister and National Steering-cum-Monitoring Committee headed by Secretary, School Education and Literacy monitor Mid Day Meal Scheme on regular basis. Besides, 38 independent Monitoring Institutes have been engaged by the Ministry for monitoring of the Scheme on half-yearly basis. Further, a District Level Committee headed by senior most MP of the Lok Sabha from the district monitors the Mid Day Meal Scheme on quarterly basis. The Joint Review Mission (JRM) headed by experts also reviews implementation of the scheme in different States from time to time. There is also a Management Information System (MIS) for monitoring of the Scheme.

(b) No, Sir. All the States/UTs had released their minimum mandatory State share in the year 2014-15. Central Assistance is released to the States/UTs only after receiving information on the release of minimum mandatory State share by the States/UTs.

(c) Does not arise.

Allocation of funds for toilets in rural areas

†*224. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government has set target for States for construction of toilets in rural areas;

(b) if so, whether the Central Government would allocate funds also for the achievements of those targets; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) if not, the details of other options available with the State Governments?

THE MINISTER OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION (SHRI CHAUDHARY BIRENDER SINGH): (a) The Government of India has launched Swachh Bharat Mission with effect from 2.10.2014 with a goal to achieve Swachh Bharat by 2.10.2019. The programme is demand driven and no targets are set by the Central Government for the State Governments. The States draw up an Annual Implementation Plan before the beginning of each year to guide the work that they intend to take-up in that particular year.

(b) The Central Government allocate funds based on the Annual Plans of the States, their actual performance and available resources.

(c) Besides the funds provided by the Central Government under SBM(G), the States can tap other sources of funds such as 14th Finance Commission, Corporate Social Responsibility etc.

Mid Day Meal Scheme in Madhya Pradesh

†*225. DR. VIJAYLAXMI SADHO: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of funds allocated to Madhya Pradesh under the Mid Day Meal Scheme during the last three years and the current financial year by the Central Government and the quantum of funds out of these utilized, year-wise;

(b) whether the State Government has followed the norms laid down by the Central Government while spending these funds;

(c) whether the Central Government is aware of distribution of sub-standard porridge and other food items in Government schools in that State; and

(d) if so, the action taken by the Central Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) The details of funds allocated to and utilized by Government of Madhya Pradesh during last 3 years and the current year is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(b) The norms for incurring the expenditure under various components are indicated in the sanction order issued by this Ministry. The State Government of Madhya Pradesh has reported in their State Annual Work Plan and Budget for the current year that expenditure has been incurred as per the norms of the Scheme.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.