Supply of eggs under Mid-Day Meal Scheme

2145. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is considering on cutting down the provision of eggs for the children in the Mid-Day Meal Scheme;

- (b) if so, the reasons therefor, and
- (c) if not, whether the Ministry would take steps to make the provision of eggs compulsory in the Mid-Day Meal Scheme?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) to (c) Mid-Day Meal Scheme (MDMS) is a centrally sponsored scheme implemented in partnership with the States and UTs. The overall responsibilities for providing cooked and nutritious mid-day meal to the eligible children lies with the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations. The States and UTs fix their menu as per their local needs, in order to meet the prescribed nutritional content.

Reservation in private schools empanelled under RTE

2146. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the Total number of private schools in the country;
- (b) the percentage of reserved seats that are occupied by children eligible under the RTE in private schools for the years 2016-17, 2017-18, 2018-19, 2019-2020; and
- (c) what is the percentage of cost-sharing to reimburse these schools between the Centre and the State?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) to (c) As per Unified District Information System for Education (UDISE) 2017-18 (provisional), the number of Private recognised schools in the country is 295233.

The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009, mandates the appropriate Government to provide free and compulsory elementary education to every child of the age 6 to 14 years in a neighbourhood school. Section 12(1)(c) of RTE Act, 2009 provides for admission of children belonging to weaker sections and disadvantaged groups in the schools specified in sub-clauses (iii) and (iv) of clause (n) of section 2 in Class I (or earlier) to the extent of at least 25 percent of the strength of that class. The number of students admitted under Section 12(1)(c) of the RTE Act in the year 2016-17, 2017-18 and 2018-19 are 29,25,303, 34,84,019 and 41,35,015 respectively.