

(c) whether such families have been identified during lockdown whose children used to study in schools and used to get food and whether they were provided additional foodgrains for nourishment of children; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'):

(a) to (d) Mid-Day Meal is the entitlement of children studying in class I to VIII in Government and aided schools, guaranteed under the National Food Security Act, 2013 and extent per child per day norms of hot cooked meal under MDMS are as under:

Stage	Foodgrain	Cooking Cost	
		Amount	Items
Primary	100 gms	₹ 4.97	20 gms pulse, 50 gms vegetables, 5 gm oil other condiments and fuel.
Upper Primary	150 gms	₹ 7.45	30 gms pulse, 75 gms vegetables, 7.5 gm oil other condiments and fuel.

Since, it is not possible to provide hot cooked meal under the prevailing circumstances (COVID-19), State Government and UT Administrations were advised to provide Food Security Allowance (FSA) comprising of foodgrains, pulses, oil etc (equivalent to cooking cost) to all eligible children till such time their schools are closed due to aforesaid pandemic. The modalities for this purpose may be decided by the respective States and UTs, suitable to the prevailing circumstances. States and UTs were further advised that all the precautionary measures to face the situation arising out of COVID-19 should be followed.

#### **Role of SSSA and SCERT in NEP**

1305. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) the extent to which the State Council of Education Research and Training (SCERT) can add 'local flavor' in the proposed National Curriculum set by the NCERT and whether the SCERT additions will be an addition to NCERT curriculum or a subsidiary thereof;

(b) whether the powers bestowed upon State School Standards Authority (SSSA) are strictly that of monitoring and if not, what are the interventions SSSAs can make; and

(c) whether a proposed plan to ensure State autonomy in education exists, with the dilution of State Department of School Education in the NEP, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'):

(a) The National Education Policy (NEP), 2020 provides that States will prepare their own curricula, based on the National Curriculum Framework for School Education (NCFSE) prepared by the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT), to the extent possible and prepare textbooks based on the NCERT textbook materials to the extent possible, incorporating State flavour and material as needed. The Policy further provides that while doing so, it must be borne in mind that NCERT curriculum would be taken as the nationally acceptable criterion.

(b) and (c) The National Education Policy (NEP), 2020 provides that the Department of School Education, which is the apex state level body in school education, will be responsible for overall monitoring and policy- making for continual improvement of the public education system. There is no dilution of State Department of School Education in the NEP 2020. Academic matters, including academic standards and curricula in the State will be led by the State Council of Educational Research and Training (SCERT), (which is under State Department of School Education), with close consultation and collaboration with the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT). To ensure that all schools follow certain minimal professional and quality standards, States/ Union Territories (UTs) will set up an independent, State-wide, body called the State School Standards Authority (SSSA). The SSSA will establish a minimal set of standards based on basic parameters namely, safety, security, basic infrastructure, number of teachers across subjects and grades, financial probity, and sound processes of governance, which shall be followed by all schools.

#### **Status of online classes in Kendriya Vidyalayas**

1306. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the students enrolled in Kendriya Vidyalayas have been availing online classes and the percentage of schools taking online classes;

(b) if so, the percentage of students attending such classes and whether notes are being made available to those who are unable to attend such classes; and