

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION & LITERACY**

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2621
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18.03.2021**

Fixation of cost of food items under Mid-Day Meal Scheme

2621. Shri Shaktisinh Gohil:

Will the Minister of *Education* be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has fixed the quantity of pulses, edible oil and vegetables to be included in food under Mid-Day Meal per day per child basis and Government has also decided the cost of these items at national level;
- (b) whether the cost norms fixed by Government to meet the quantitative obligations are low as compared to the prevailing market price in various States; and
- (c) whether Government propose to let the States decide the cost of various items as per prevailing rates in various States at various times and meet 75 per cent of the actual expenditure?

**ANSWER
MINISTER OF EDUCATION
(SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK')**

- (a) to (c): Under the Mid-Day Meal Scheme the following food norms and nutritional content is prescribed per day per child basis in Primary and Upper Primary Level by Government of India:

Items	For children of Primary classes	For children of Upper Primary classes
A) Nutritional Norms (Per child per day)		
Calorie	450	700
Protein	12 gms	20 gms
B) Food Norms (Per child per day)		
Food-grains	100 gms	150 gms
Pulses	20 gms	30 gms
Vegetables	50 gms	75 gms
Oil & fat	5 gms	7.5 gms
Salt & condiments	As per need	As per need

Under the scheme Cooking Cost is provided which includes cost of ingredients, e.g. pulses, vegetables, cooking oil, other condiments and cost of fuel. The cooking cost is revised annually in the month of April on the basis of the Consumer Price Index (CPI). During 2020-21, the cooking cost was increased in April, 2020 by 10.99%. At present cooking cost at primary and upper primary level is Rs. 4.97 and Rs. 7.45 per child per day respectively. The cooking cost is shared between Central and State Government / UT Administrations as per the approved sharing pattern in the ratio of 60:40 for non-North Eastern Region (NER) States & UTs with legislature (except J & K), 100% for UTs without legislature and 90:10 for NER States, UT with legislature viz : Jammu & Kashmir and 2 Himalayan States viz. Himachal Pradesh, and Uttarakhand.
