

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION & LITERACY
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1154
TO BE ANSWERED ON 27.07.2022

PM-POSHAN scheme

1154 # Shri Rajmani Patel:

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

- (a) the number of kitchens engaged in cooking food under the Pradhan Mantri Poshan Shakti Nirman (PM-POSHAN) scheme;
- (b) the amount of honorarium remitted to these kitchens every month;
- (c) whether the honorarium to be paid to these kitchens would be increased by Government or whether there is any provision to do the same; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER
MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
(SMT. ANNPURNA DEVI)

- (a): Pradhan Mantri Poshan Shakti Nirman (PM POSHAN) is implemented in partnership with States and UTs. The overall responsibility for providing cooked and nutritious mid-day meal to the eligible children lies with the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations. State and UT Governments engage NGOs / Voluntary Organizations for preparing meals in Centralized kitchens for identified clusters of schools. As per the information provided by the States and UTs, total numbers of Centralized kitchens engaged under the Scheme are 420.
- (b) to (d): Under the Scheme, Honorarium is provided to Cook-Cum-Helpers (CCHs) for preparing and serving hot cooked meals at schools and not to Centralized kitchens. As per the norms, one CCH can be engaged for upto 25 students, two CCHs for schools with 26 to 100 students and one additional CCH for every addition of up to 100 students. Cook-Cum-Helpers (CCHs) are honorary workers who have come forward for rendering social services. In recognition of their services, the CCHs are paid Rs.1000 per month as honorarium for 10 months in a year and this is being continued. Honorarium is also provided to CCHs for preparing and serving hot cooked meals in elementary schools during summer vacation in drought affected areas notified by the concerned State Governments. The honorarium expenditure is shared between the Central Government and States and UTs as per the approved sharing pattern. The State Governments and UT Administrations also supplement the honorarium by providing additional funds from their own resources.
