

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

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1633
TO BE ANSWERED ON 16.03.2022**

Unspent budgetary allocation of Mid-Day Meals in schools

1633. SHRI JOHN BRITTAS:

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

- (a) whether Government has made an estimate of the unspent budgetary allocation for Mid-Day Meals in schools while they were closed due to COVID-19 pandemic;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether Government has any plans for utilizing the unspent amount to address the deficit in nutrition of school children caused by absence of Mid-Day Meals?

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

(a)to (c): During the current pandemic, since schools were closed, all enrolled children are given Food Security Allowance (FSA) comprising of food grains and cooking cost under National Food Security Act, 2013 by States and UTs under PM POSHAN Scheme (earlier known as Mid-Day Meal Scheme). As all the enrolled students are given FSA, the central assistance released under the scheme is increased significantly to Rs. 12874.01 crore for the year 2020-21 as compared to Rs. 9700.04 crore released in previous year i.e. 2019-20.
