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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3865
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06.04.2022

Home delivery of Mid-Day Meals during lockdown

3865 **Shri Mallikarjun Kharge:**

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

(a) the total budgetary allocation for the Mid-Day Meal Scheme (MDMS) and the PM POSHAN scheme for the last five years;

(b) the total number of students offered home delivery of Mid-Day Meals during the shutdown of schools due to COVID-19 restrictions; and

(c) the total number of students covered under the two schemes for the last five years?

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

(a): Government has approved the Centrally Sponsored Scheme 'Pradhan Mantri Poshan Shakti Nirman (PM POSHAN)' earlier known as 'National Programme for Mid-Day Meal in Schools' for providing hot cooked meal to eligible children in Government and Government – aided Schools from 2021-22 to 2025-26. The funds allocated/released under the Scheme for the last five years are given as under :

(Rs. in crore)

Years	Funds Allocated / Released
2016-17	9483.4
2017-18	9095.81
2018-19	9518.08
2019-20	9705.94
2020-21	12882.11

(b): During the COVID-19 pandemic, since schools were closed, all enrolled children are given Food Security Allowance comprising of food grains and cooking cost in the form of dry ration or cooking cost in cash as Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) by States and UTs during 2020-21 and 2021-22. About 11.80 crore children are benefited under the scheme studying in 11.20 lakh schools during this period. Now, progressively States are reopening schools and provision of hot cooked meal is being resumed.

(c): The number of students enrolled under the scheme for the last five years are given as under:-

Years	Students Enrolled
2016-17	12,93,29,887
2017-18	12,32,62,644
2018-19	12,03,53,729
2019-20	11,98,44,516
2020-21	11,80,16,530

*****