

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION & LITERACY
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO- 3088
ANSWERED ON-20.08.2025

Mid-Day Meal workers scheme

3088 Dr. V. Sivadasan:

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

- (a) the number of Mid-Day Meal (MDM) workers in the country during last five years, State-wise, year-wise, gender-wise breakup (male/female) for each year;
- (b) the details of honorarium paid by Government during the said period, year-wise;
- (c) whether any honorarium is provided by State Governments to MDM workers, and if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and
- (d) whether there are any Government schools in the country without Mid-Day Meal workers, and if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

(SHRI JAYANT CHAUDHARY)

(a) to (d): Pradhan Mantri Poshan Shakti Nirman (PM POSHAN) Scheme is one of the foremost rights based Centrally Sponsored Scheme implemented in partnership with the States and Union Territories (UTs) for providing one hot cooked and nutritious meal to all children studying in Bal Vatika (just before class-I) and classes I to VIII of Government and Government-aided schools. The Scheme covers about 11 crore children in more than 10.35 lakh schools in all the States/ UTs. For FY 2025-26, budget allocation for the PM Poshan Scheme is Rs. 12,500 crore by Government of India and the State/ UT share as per the sharing pattern is around Rs. 8,500 crore including additional funds for Honorarium to Cook-cum-Helpers and Supplementary Nutrition items. The foodgrain allocation by Government of India is 24.15 lakh MTs which costs around Rs. 9000 crore. Thus overall allocation for the PM Poshan Scheme for FY 2025-26 is more than Rs. 30,000 crore including more than Rs. 21,500 crore made by Government of India.

The overall responsibility for smooth functioning of the scheme including providing hot cooked and nutritious meal to the eligible children as well as engagement of Cook-cum-Helpers (CCHs) lies with the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations. However, these CCHs are honorary workers who have come forward for rendering social services. As per guidelines of the Scheme, honorarium of Rs. 1000/- per month for 10 months in a year is prescribed for these CCHs in recognition of their services and the same is being continued. The State Governments and UT Administrations have the authority to enhance the honorarium by providing additional funds from their own resources and many State Governments and UT Administrations have supplemented the honorarium by providing additional funds. States/ UTs are implementing the Scheme through Centralized Kitchens utilizing the services of various Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and Self-Help

Groups (SHGs). State-wise details of CCHs under the Scheme are given at **Annexure-1**. The details of honorarium provided to CCHs under the PM POSHAN Scheme by the States and UTs are given at **Annexure-II**.

ANNEXURE-I**ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (A) TO (D) OF RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3088 FOR 20.08.2025 ASKED BY HON'BLE MP DR.
V. SIVADASAN REGARDING MID-DAY MEAL WORKERS SCHEME.****State/ UT-wise Cook-cum-Helpers**

S.No.	States/UTs	2020-21			2021-22		
		Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
1	A&N islands	152	569	721	152	569	721
2	Andhra Pradesh	5843	82453	88296	7852	80444	88296
3	Arunachal Pradesh	1956	3835	5791	2110	3821	5931
4	Assam	4948	114050	118998	4948	114050	118998
5	Bihar	95831	149485	245316	95427	149889	245316
6	Chandigarh	45	855	900	45	855	900
7	Chhattisgarh	17594	75826	93420	17592	75828	93420
8	Delhi	8575	9565	18140	8894	8768	17662
9	DNH &DD	172	1048	1220	133	930	1063
10	Goa	108	2621	2729	128	2601	2729
11	Gujarat	29464	66865	96329	30039	66290	96329
12	Haryana	720	29526	30246	727	29519	30246
13	Himachal Pradesh	3691	17841	21532	3534	17998	21532
14	Jammu & Kashmir	7320	25074	32394	8024	24370	32394
15	Jharkhand	150	79441	79591	189	79402	79591
16	Karnataka	0	117999	117999	0	118586	118586
17	Kerala	565	17108	17673	565	17108	17673
18	Ladakh	137	796	933	524	393	917
19	Lakshadweep	72	38	110	47	63	110
20	Madhya Pradesh	9991	208134	218125	10600	206137	216737
21	Maharashtra	10576	164760	175336	10567	164634	175201
22	Manipur	263	7224	7487	264	7223	7487
23	Meghalaya	5780	12767	18547	6272	12275	18547
24	Mizoram	1224	3671	4894	1175	3719	4894
25	Nagaland	1014	3609	4623	987	3636	4623
26	Orissa	4145	141377	145522	3025	109065	112090
27	Puducherry	471	560	1031	471	560	1031
28	Punjab	1273	48176	49449	1240	48259	49499
29	Rajasthan	11535	98387	109922	11535	98387	109922
30	Sikkim	856	1035	1891	856	1035	1891
31	Tamilnadu	6585	121545	128130	6585	121545	128130
32	Tealangana	7012	47220	54232	7008	47224	54232
33	Tripura	725	10303	11028	721	10307	11028
34	Uttar Pradesh	24649	365925	390574	19265	358254	377519
35	Uttarakhand	301	28886	29187	299	28888	29187
36	West Bengal	18984	229815	248799	8702	240097	248799
	Total	282725	2288390	2571115	270502	2252729	2523231

Cont...

State/ UT-wise Cook-cum-Helpers

S.No.	States/UTs	2022-23			2023-24		
		Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
1	A&N islands	152	569	721	152	569	721
2	Andhra Pradesh	7501	80795	88296	0	88296	88296
3	Arunachal Pradesh	2046	3953	5999	2011	3742	5753
4	Assam	4517	114481	118998	5495	113503	118998
5	Bihar	95618	149698	245316	90556	154760	245316
6	Chandigarh	60	840	900	63	837	900
7	Chhattisgarh	37387	56033	93420	16595	76825	93420
8	Delhi	3293	14369	17662	9081	11509	20590
9	DNH &DD	497	693	1190	61	1096	1157
10	Goa	138	2441	2579	168	2650	2818
11	Gujarat	30211	66118	96329	30223	66106	96329
12	Haryana	61	30185	30246	80	29733	29813
13	Himachal Pradesh	3521	18011	21532	3597	17935	21532
14	Jammu & Kashmir	7979	24415	32394	7983	24411	32394
15	Jharkhand	191	79095	79286	58	79228	79286
16	Karnataka	0	121816	121816	0	122461	122461
17	Kerala	515	17158	17673	1093	16580	17673
18	Ladakh	184	705	889	209	715	924
19	Lakshadweep	12	98	110	0	9	9
20	Madhya Pradesh	3889	208529	212418	3670	206561	210231
21	Maharashtra	10567	164634	175201	19060	156141	175201
22	Manipur	216	7271	7487	166	6384	6550
23	Meghalaya	6024	12752	18776	5968	14127	20095
24	Mizoram	146	4748	4894	1178	3705	4883
25	Nagaland	987	3636	4623	781	3842	4623
26	Orissa	2944	109146	112090	2968	109122	112090
27	Puducherry	471	560	1031	471	560	1031
28	Punjab	1191	48258	49449	1333	48116	49449
29	Rajasthan	12110	97812	109922	21207	138857	160064
30	Sikkim	855	1036	1891	858	1033	1891
31	Tamilnadu	3997	124133	128130	6585	121545	128130
32	Tealangana	6215	48017	54232	6215	47986	54201
33	Tripura	924	10328	11252	896	11392	12288
34	Uttar Pradesh	20601	353566	374167	21925	352933	374858
35	Uttarakhand	118	26852	26970	103	26867	26970
36	West Bengal	7643	241156	248799	7864	240935	248799
	Total	272782	2243906	2516688	268675	2301069	2569744

Cont...

State/ UT-wise Cook-cum-Helpers

S.No.	States/UTs	2024-25		
		Male	Female	Total
1	A&N islands	153	568	721
2	Andhra Pradesh	0	88296	88296
3	Arunachal Pradesh	2011	3742	5753
4	Assam	7473	101170	108643
5	Bihar	85706	159610	245316
6	Chandigarh	64	836	900
7	Chhattisgarh	15090	78330	93420
8	Delhi	9231	11659	20890
9	DNH &DD	61	1096	1157
10	Goa	149	2691	2840
11	Gujarat	30456	65927	96383
12	Haryana	80	29942	30022
13	Himachal Pradesh	3323	18154	21477
14	Jammu & Kashmir	7389	25005	32394
15	Jharkhand	144	79142	79286
16	Karnataka	0	121637	121637
17	Kerala	781	16892	17673
18	Ladakh	170	754	924
19	Lakshadweep	6	14	20
20	Madhya Pradesh	3217	203647	206864
21	Maharashtra	17902	157299	175201
22	Manipur	168	6414	6582
23	Meghalaya	5245	14850	20095
24	Mizoram	790	4093	4883
25	Nagaland	746	3877	4623
26	Orissa	2747	109343	112090
27	Puducherry	471	560	1031
28	Punjab	1182	44018	45200
29	Rajasthan	15384	100019	115403
30	Sikkim	859	1032	1891
31	Tamilnadu	6585	121545	128130
32	Tealangana	6215	47986	54201
33	Tripura	768	11520	12288
34	Uttar Pradesh	19595	352697	372292
35	Uttarakhand	108	25949	26057
36	West Bengal	8031	222202	230233
	Total	252300	2232516	2484816

ANNEXURE-II

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (A) TO (D) OF RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3088 FOR 20.08.2025 ASKED BY HON'BLE MP DR. V. SIVADASAN REGARDING MID-DAY MEAL WORKERS SCHEME.

State/ UT-wise Honorarium of Cook cum Helper per month

S.No.	States/UTs	Cooks-cum-Helpers - Honorarium Per Month (in Rs)	Additional Honorarium per month to cook-cum-helpers provided by States/ UTs (in Rs)*
1	Andhra Pradesh	3000	2000
2	Arunachal Pradesh	2000	1000
3	Assam	1500	500
4	Bihar	1650	650
5	Chhattisgarh	2000	1000
6	Goa	1000	0
7	Gujarat	3250	2250
8	Haryana	7000	6000
9	Himachal Pradesh	4500	3500
10	Jharkhand	3000	2000
11	Karnataka	3700	2700
12	Kerala	12000	11000
13	Madhya Pradesh	4000	3000
14	Maharashtra	2500	1500
15	Manipur	1000	0
16	Meghalaya	2000	1000
17	Mizoram	3000	2000
18	Nagaland	1000	0
19	Odisha	2000	1000
20	Punjab	3000	2000
21	Rajasthan	2143	1143
22	Sikkim	1000	0
23	Tamil Nadu	4100-12500	3100-11500
24	Telangana	3000	2000
25	Tripura	2500	1500
26	Uttar Pradesh	2000	1000
27	Uttarakhand	3000	2000
28	West Bengal	2000	1000
29	A&N Islands	1000	0
30	Chandigarh	4500	3500
31	D&N and D & Diu	6461	5461
32	Delhi	1000	0
33	Jammu & Kashmir	1000	0
34	Ladakh	1000	0
35	Lakshadweep	18000-20200	17000-19200
36	Puducherry	10000	9000

*Source-Information received in Annual Work Plan & Budget submitted by States/ UTs