

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION  
DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION AND LITERACY  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-1939**  
ANSWERED ON- 17/12/2025  
**Mid-Day Meal Scheme now PM POSHAN**

1939 SHRI SANJAY SINGH:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of schools covered for PM POSHAN during last five years, State-wise;
- (b) the number of average meal days served;
- (c) the number of students actually benefitting versus those enrolled;
- (d) the number of cases of food contamination, food poisoning or substandard meal quality reported and the actions taken against responsible officials or contractors; and
- (e) funds allocated and spent?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

(SHRI JAYANT CHAUDHARY)

(a) to (e): 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 overall responsibility for providing hot cooked and nutritious meal to the eligible children lies with the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations. 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 State-wise number of schools covered during last five years under the Scheme is at **Annexure**. Under the Scheme, meal is served to children for an average of 220 days per year. Under the Scheme, against the enrolment of 11 crore students on an average 8.5 crore students are availing hot cooked meal on daily basis in more than 10.35 lakh schools in all States/ UTs.

During 2025-26 a total of three (03) cases of food contamination, food poisoning and substandard meal quality were reported. All the children reported ill during these incidents were treated and discharged from hospital and no casualty was reported. The actions in these cases include warning to the concerned NGOs and officers responsible, initiation of departmental proceedings against Principals, Head Masters, suspension and transfer of erring officials and Cook-cum-Helpers, cancellation of contract of suppliers and providing compensation to the beneficiaries if and when required.

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**ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (A) TO (E) OF RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1939 FOR 17.12.2025 ASKED BY HON'BLE MP SHRI SANJAY SINGH REGARDING MID-DAY MEAL SCHEME NOW PM POSHAN.**

**Schools covered under PM POSHAN Scheme**

<b>S.No.</b>	<b>States/UTs</b>	<b>2020-21</b>	<b>2021-22</b>	<b>2022-23</b>	<b>2023-24</b>	<b>2024-25</b>
1	Andhra Pradesh	45545	45180	44392	44150	43915
2	Arunachal Pradesh	2780	2829	2763	2569	2542
3	Assam	53427	51956	50342	44340	44106
4	Bihar	70180	70333	70392	70869	68357
5	Chhattisgarh	44986	45331	45585	45860	45733
6	Goa	1468	1469	1247	1231	1224
7	Gujarat	34788	32545	32523	32519	32265
8	Haryana	14397	14430	14409	14254	14210
9	Himachal Pradesh	15513	15512	15602	15193	14688
10	Jammu & Kashmir	22205	21952	21845	18142	17959
11	Jharkhand	35773	35590	35537	35480	35496
12	Karnataka	54359	54174	53882	53284	52810
13	Kerala	12324	12325	12037	12024	12025
14	Madhya Pradesh	112908	111757	110058	109212	88204
15	Maharashtra	86499	85718	85648	85616	85299
16	Manipur	3476	3287	3303	3310	3314
17	Meghalaya	11678	11226	11214	11214	11110
18	Mizoram	2511	2495	2495	2499	2507
19	Nagaland	2067	1993	1935	1928	1919
20	Odisha	55525	51146	50862	50618	50483
21	Punjab	19735	19729	19694	19601	19620
22	Rajasthan	66341	67327	67760	70044	68480
23	Sikkim	868	867	867	869	869
24	Tamilnadu	43246	43190	43094	43131	43038
25	Telangana	27329	27380	27303	28807	25901
26	Tripura	6524	6475	4465	4441	4383
27	Uttarakhand	17045	16906	16865	16692	16432
28	Uttar Pradesh	167193	141996	142152	141834	141832
29	West Bengal	83945	83945	83504	82549	81789
30	A&N Islands	332	333	333	333	326
31	Chandigarh	122	122	121	120	116
32	D&N Haveli, Daman & Diu	368	364	335	320	313
33	Delhi	3046	3055	2786	2790	2794
34	Ladakh	817	817	803	793	820
35	Lakshadweep	39	31	30	30	29
36	Puducherry	426	426	424	424	424
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1119785</b>	<b>1084211</b>	<b>1076607</b>	<b>1067098</b>	<b>1035332</b>