

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION & LITERACY**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1272
TO BE ANSWERED ON 11.02.2019**

Mid Day Meal Scheme

1272. SHRIMATI MAUSAM NOOR:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) Whether the Government is intending to provide children of all States and Union Territories with full meals or additional items on special occasions like birthdays, marriages, anniversaries, days of national importance and other festivals and if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) whether the Government intends to encourage participation from the private sector to meet the resource requirements and to enhance dietary choices for children and if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER
MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(DR. SATYA PAL SINGH)**

- (a) : State Government of Gujarat initiated the concept of “Tithi Bhojan” in mid day meal programme. It is a community participation programme under which members of the community provide nutritious and healthy food to the children as an additional food item or full meal on special occasions such as festivals, anniversaries, birthdays, marriages, and days of national importance etc on voluntary basis. Tithi Bhojan is not a substitute to Mid-day Meal. This only supplements or complements Mid-day Meal. Government of India has also issued guidelines on “Tithi Bhojan” and requested all the States and UTs to circulate the guidelines to implementing agencies viz., Districts/ Blocks/Gram Panchayats/ Self Help Groups etc. for ensuring compliance under Mid Day Meal Scheme. States and UTs are also requested to encourage the concept by replicating the practice of Tithi Bhojan under Mid-Day Meal using the same nomenclature or adopt a local nomenclature suited to them. So far, 11 States and UTs have adopted concepts similar to Tithi Bhojan viz Assam (Sampriti Bhojan), Andhra Pradesh, Punjab (Priti bhojan), Daman & Diu (Tithi Bhojan), Karnataka (Shalegagi Naavu Neevu), Madhya Pradesh, Maharastra (Sneh Bhojan), Chandigarh (Tithi Bhojan), Puducherry (Anna Dhanam), Haryana (Beti ka Janamdin) and Uttarakhand (Tithi Bhojan).
- (b) : No, Madam.