

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 247
TO BE ANSWERED ON 24.06.2019**

Mid-Day Meal Scheme

247. SHRI RAHUL RAMESH SHEWALE:
SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB:

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

- (a) the number of complaints received by the Government for substandard food quality being provided in Mid-Day Meal Scheme during each of the last three years and the current year, State/UT and Year-wise;
- (b) the number of children hospitalised and died after eating such food across the country during the said period, State/UT and Year-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has conducted any enquiry in this regard and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the Government has announced any compensation to the parents of children who have hospitalised and died after eating such mid-day meal during the said period and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the other corrective steps taken/ being taken by the Government in this regard?

**ANSWER
MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK')**

- (a): A total number of 35 complaints from 15 States and UTs regarding substandard food quality have been reported during the last three years and current year. The States and UTs wise details of the complaints is at Annexure-I.

(b) to (e): A total number of 930 children were reported ill and none of them died after eating such food in the country during the last three years and current year. The State and UT-wise details are given at Annexure-II. The overall responsibility for providing cooked and nutritious Mid Day Meal to the eligible children lies with State Governments and UTs Administrations. Respective State Governments and UT Administrations were requested to furnish Action Taken Report (ATR) in the matter. As per Action Taken Reports (ATRs) received from States and UTs, action such as issuing warning against the official responsible, terminating the contract of concerned NGOs / Organisations, initiating criminal proceedings and imposing penalties against the defaulting persons/organisations have been taken by the concerned State Governments and UT Administrations.

In addition, to address the issue, the Government of India has issued guidelines on quality, safety and hygiene in school level kitchens to all the States and UTs. These guidelines, inter-alia, provide for instructions to schools to procure Agmark quality and branded items for preparation of mid day meals, tasting of meals by 2-3 adult members of School Management Committee including at least one teacher before serving to children and to put in place a system of testing of food samples by accredited laboratories. Further, the MDM Rules, 2015 provide for mandatory testing of food samples by Government recognized laboratories to ensure that the meals meet nutritional standards and quality. The Government has also adopted an elaborate monitoring mechanism at Central, State and District levels to ensure quality food is served to children under the Scheme.

Annexure-I

Annexure referred to in reply to part (a) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 247 for 24.06.2019 raised by Shri Rahul Ramesh Shewale, Shri Bhartruhari Mahtab regarding Mid-Day Meal scheme.

State/UT and year wise details of poor / sub standard food quality complaints reported under MDMS during the last three years and current year

Sl. No.	State/UT	Substandard Food Quality complaints				Total
		2016	2017	2018	2019 (as on 17.06.2019)	
1	Andhra Pradesh	1				1
2	Bihar	2				2
3	Chhattisgarh	1				1
4	Delhi	1	1	2		4
5	Gujarat		1	1		2
6	Haryana	1	1			2
7	J&K	1				1
8	Jharkhand	2				2
9	Maharashtra	2			1	3
10	Odisha	1				1
11	Punjab	1	1			2
12	Tamil Nadu		1		1	2
13	Telangana	1				1
14	Uttar Pradesh	5	1	3		9
15	West Bengal	2				2
	Total	21	6	6	2	35

Annexure referred to in reply to part (b) to (e) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 247 for 24.06.2019 raised by Shri Rahul Ramesh Shewale, Shri Bhartruhari Mahtab regarding Mid-Day Meal scheme.

Number of Children reported ill after consuming substandard quality mid-day meal under MDMS during the last three years and current year

S. No.	States and UTs	Children reported ill				
		2016	2017	2018	2019 (As on 17.06.2019)	Total
1.	Andhra Pradesh	44	-	-	-	44
2.	Bihar	54	-	-	-	54
3.	Chhattisgarh	60	-	-	-	60
4.	Delhi	-	9	29	-	38
5.	Gujarat	-	-	9	-	9
6.	J&K	25	-	-	-	25
7.	Jharkhand	259	-	-	-	259
8.	Maharashtra	201	-	-	-	201
9.	Odisha	8	-	-	-	8
10.	Tamil Nadu	-	35	-	43	78
11.	Uttar Pradesh	153	1	-	-	154
	Total	804	45	38	43	930
