

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION  
DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION AND LITERACY  
**LOK SABHA**  
**STARRED QUESTION NO-47**  
ANSWERED ON - 06/02/2023

**MID-DAY MEAL SCHEME**

\*47. ADV. A.M. ARIFF:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it has come to the notice of the Government that the head teachers of the schools are facing hardship due to the non-revision of per student allocation for the implementation of Mid-Day Meal (MDM) scheme on the one hand and the soaring prices of LPG and essential commodities on the other hand, if so, the details thereof and action taken thereon;
- (b) whether the Government intends to increase the per student allocation for MDM scheme across the country, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the monthly honorarium for cooks under MDM scheme has not been revised since 2009;
- (d) if so, whether the Government intends to increase the same and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the details of changes made in the allocation per student for MDM in primary and secondary sections separately since 2014?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF EDUCATION  
(SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN)

**(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the table of the House.**

**Statement referred to in reply to parts (a) to (e) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 47 for 06.02.2023 raised by Adv. A.M. Ariff, Hon'ble MP regarding Mid-Day Meal Scheme.**

(a) & (b): Under the PM POSHAN Scheme (earlier known as Mid-Day Meal Scheme), the Central Government revised the material cost on the basis of the Consumer Price Index (CPI) by increasing 9.6% over and above the existing material cost in 2022. The revised material cost per day per child for Bal Vatika and Primary classes as well as Upper Primary classes are Rs. 5.45 and Rs. 8.17 as against the prior cost of Rs. 4.97 and Rs. 7.45 respectively w.e.f 01.10.2022. The material cost, earlier known as cooking cost, includes the cost of vegetables, pulses, oil, condiments & fuel.

In addition to above, the Central Government provides 100% funding for foodgrains, transport assistance, and Management/Monitoring Expenses. Including the cost of foodgrains current cost per student for PM POSHAN Scheme is Rs. 11.38 and Rs. 16.25 respectively for primary and upper primary level.

(c) & (d): Under the Scheme, honorarium is provided to Cook-cum Helpers (CCHs) for preparing and serving hot cooked meals at schools. These CCHs are honorary workers who have come forward for rendering social services. As per guidelines of the Scheme, uniform 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 honorarium expenditure is shared between the Central Government and States and UTs as per the approved sharing pattern. Moreover, the State Governments and UT Administrations also supplement the honorarium by providing additional funds from their own resources.

(e): The details of changes made in material cost (earlier known as cooking cost) for Primary classes and Upper Primary classes since 2014 are given at Annexure.

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**Annexure**

**Statement referred to in reply to parts (e) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 47 for 06.02.2023 raised by Adv. A.M. Arif, Hon'ble MP regarding Mid-Day Meal Scheme.**

Details of changes made in material cost (earlier known as cooking cost) for Primary classes and Upper Primary classes since 2014-15

Year	Material Cost (earlier known as cooking cost)	
	Primary	Upper Primary
2014-15	Rs.3.59	Rs.5.38
2015-16	Rs. 3.86	Rs. 5.78
2016-17 and 2017-18	Rs.4.13	Rs.6.18
2018-19	Rs. 4.35	Rs. 6.51
2019-20	Rs. 4.48	Rs. 6.71
2020-21 and 2021-22	Rs. 4.97	Rs. 7.45
2022-23	Rs 5.45	Rs 8.17