

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION & LITERACY
LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO-217
ANSWERED ON - 18/12/2023

Mid-Day Meal Scheme in Tamil Nadu

***217. SHRI SELVAM G.:**

SHRI DHANUSH M. KUMAR:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of funds utilized by the State of Tamil Nadu allocated by the Central Government for Mid-day Meal Scheme (MDMS) during the last three years, year-wise including the current year;
- (b) whether quality food has been served under MDMS;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to improve and maintain the quality of food served under MDMS in the State?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION
(SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN)

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

Statement referred to in reply to parts (a) to (d) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 217 for 18.12.2023 raised by Shri Selvam G. and Shri Dhanush M. Kumar, Hon'ble MPs regarding Mid-Day Meal Scheme in Tamil Nadu

(a): The details of funds allocated/ released by Central Government and utilised by the State Government of Tamil Nadu under PM POSHAN Scheme during the last three years including current year is as follows:-

(Rs. in lakh)

S.No.	Financial Year	Central share released/made available to State Government	Amount utilized by State Government
1	2021-22	41012.50	42238.65
2	2022-23	48158.59	40284.40
3	2023-24 (up to 13-12-2023)	14712.24	8380.08

(b) to (d): PM POSHAN Scheme is a centrally sponsored scheme implemented in partnership with the States and UTs. The overall responsibilities for providing hot cooked and nutritious meal to the eligible children lies with the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations, in accordance with the Guidelines laid down by the Central Government. The States and UTs fix their menu according to their local needs. The following nutritional content is prescribed under the scheme Guidelines:-

Components	Primary	Upper Primary
Calories	450	700
Proteins	12 gms	20 gms

The following food items are prescribed for the children of primary and upper primary classes to meet nutritional norms under the scheme:

S. No.	Items	Primary	Upper Primary
		Food norms (in gms)	Food norms (in gms)
1.	Foodgrains (Rice / Wheat)	100	150
2.	Pulses	20	30
3.	Vegetables (Leafy & Others)	50	75
4.	Oil & Fat	5	7.5
5.	Salt & Condiments	As per need	As per need

The Government of India issued guidelines on quality, safety and hygiene in school level kitchens to all the States and UTs to address the quality issue. These guidelines inter-alia provide for instructions to schools to procure Agmark quality and branded items for preparation of hot cooked meal, 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.