

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION AND LITERACY

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-1079
ANSWERED ON - 29/07/2024

PM POSHAN Scheme

1079 **Dr. Thirumaavalavan Tholkappiyan:**

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is implementing Prime Minister's Overarching Scheme for Holistic Nourishment (PM-POSHAN) Scheme in schools;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with salient features and objectives;
- (c) the details of funds released to State Government of Tamil Nadu under this scheme during the last three years, district-wise;
- (d) whether the State Government also contributes in the Scheme;
- (e) if so, the contribution provided by it during the last three years and current year;
- (f) whether the Government provides breakfast and lunch in the schools under the Scheme;
- (g) whether there is any menu fixed for food prepared under the Scheme and if so, the details thereof; and
- (h) the per student amount provided by the Government under the scheme?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

(SHRI JAYANT CHAUDHARY)

(a) and (b): Pradhan Mantri Poshan Shakti Nirman (PM POSHAN) Scheme is one of the foremost rights based Centrally Sponsored Schemes implemented in partnership with States and UTs providing one hot cooked and nutritious meal to the eligible children. This Scheme is implemented across the country covers all children of Bal Vatika (just before class I) and Classes I-VIII studying in Government and Government-Aided Schools. The objectives of PM POSHAN Scheme are to address two of the pressing problems for majority of children in India, viz. hunger and education. The Salient features of the Scheme are as under:

- (i) Inclusion of Bal Vatika: The provision of hot cooked meal to children of pre-schools or Bal Vatika (before class I) in primary schools also, in addition to children of classes I to VIII studying in Government and Government-aided schools.

- (ii) **Tithi Bhojan:** Tithi Bhojan is a community participation programme in which people provide special food to children on special occasions/festivals in addition to regular meal.
- (iii) **School Nutrition Gardens:** Under the Scheme, development of School Nutrition Gardens in schools is being promoted, to give children first hand experience with nature and gardening.
- (iv) **Social Audit:** Social Audit in all districts is made mandatory under the Scheme. Social Audit is collective monitoring of a scheme by people's active involvement covering issues of equity, equality and expenditure management.
- (v) **Vocal for local:** Under 'Vocal for local' States and Union Territory Administrations are encouraged to decide menu suitable to the local conditions within the prescribed nutrition and food norms and to procure locally grown food items like millets, vegetables, condiments etc. from Farmers' Producers Organizations, Federation of Women's Self-Help Groups etc. so as to promote local employment generation and economic development while simultaneously improving the nutrition standards.
- (vi) **Special Focus:** Adequate provision for supplementary nutrition in aspirational districts / tribal districts / districts with identified high cases of malnutrition etc.
- (vii) **Disaster Management:** Provision of hot cooked meal or Food Security Allowance to children when schools are closed due to a disaster impacting the State/Union Territory, part of State/Union Territory, some States/Union Territory or whole country as maybe declared by the State/Central Government under its powers as Disaster Management Authority.

(c) to (e): PM POSHAN Scheme is implemented in partnership with the States and Union Territory Administrations. The existing cost sharing ratio between the Centre and States & UTs with Legislature is 60:40, for North-Eastern Regions (NER)/Himalayan States including J&K is 90:10 and in Union Territories without legislature is 100%. The Central Government releases Central Assistance to the State Government and State Government releases matching State share. During the years 2021-22, 2022-23 and 2023-24, an amount of Rs. 23264.94 lakh, Rs. 47700.10 lakh and Rs. 39852.49 lakh respectively, as Central Assistance was released to the State of Tamil Nadu under the Scheme. The district-wise details of funds released by the State (Central Share and State Share) during the last three years is given at Annexure.

(f) and (g): One hot cooked meal is provided under the PM POSHAN Scheme to all eligible children on all school working days. The overall responsibilities for providing cooked and nutritious mid-day 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, in order to meet the following nutritional content as prescribed in the scheme guidelines.

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

(h): Under the Scheme, the material cost per day per child for Bal Vatika & Primary classes and Upper Primary classes is Rs. 5.45 and Rs. 8.17 respectively. In addition to above, the Central Government provides 100% funding for foodgrains, transport assistance, and Management/Monitoring Expenses. The current costs per student per meal including the cost of food grains, under PM POSHAN Scheme are Rs. 11.38 for Primary & Bal Vatika and Rs. 16.25 for Upper Primary level respectively.

Annexure referred to in reply to part (c) to (e) of Lok Sabha Un-Starred Question No. 1079 for 29.07.2024 asked by Hon'ble MP Dr. Thirumaavalavan Tholkappian on PM POSHAN Scheme.

Details of funds released by State Government of Tamil Nadu at District Level under PM POSHAN Scheme

(Rs. in crore)

Sl. No	Name of the District	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
1	Ariyalur	9.84	10.1	11.39
2	Chennai	14.07	15.49	17.08
3	Coimbatore	19.89	20.7	23.88
4	Cuddalore	24.69	26.24	28.33
5	Dharmapuri	17.87	19.09	19.55
6	Dindigul	22.96	22.77	24.18
7	Erode	17.68	17.92	21.15
8	Kancheepuram	27.44	29.28	11.77
9	Chengalpattu			20.14
10	Kanyakumari	9.83	12.63	12.52
11	Karur	10.28	10.46	11.63
12	Krishnagiri	25.54	27.18	28.12
13	Madurai	24.39	24.87	27.14
14	Nagapattinam	17.36	17.08	9.04
15	Mayiladuthurai			10.02
16	Namakkal	14.23	14.99	15.98
17	The Nilgiris	4.87	4.9	5.31
18	Perambalur	6.5	7.05	7.38
19	Pudukkottai	23.49	23.56	25.57
20	Ramnad	14.69	13.73	14.79
21	Salem	33.42	34.64	38.5
22	Sivagangai	14.39	14.98	16.51
23	Thanjavur	22.55	22.91	27.31
24	Theni	12.3	12.1	12.97
25	Thiruchirapalli	25.07	25.46	28.18
26	Thiruvallur	23.99	25.79	27.69
27	Thiruvarur	13.86	13.99	15.16
28	Thirunelveli	29.85	30.28	15.1
29	Tenkasi			16.32
30	Tirupur	18	18.87	22.89
31	Thiruvannamalai	31.65	32.33	34.89
32	Tuticorin	16.54	16.64	19.28
33	Vellore	39.68	41.92	15
34	Ranipet			13.45
35	Thirupathur			15.52
36	Villupuram	42.57	44.12	25.95
37	Kallakurichi			21.12
38	Virudhunagar	19.56	19.06	20.85
	Total	649.06	671.19	731.69