

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION AND LITERACY
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO- 2426
ANSWERED ON- 03.08.2026

Menu Control under PM POSHAN

2426. Shri Abhishek Banerjee:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether implementing agencies under PM POSHAN are contractually bound to follow State-approved menus and prescribed nutrition norms, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the number of requests received from Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs), trusts, centralised kitchens or private agencies to alter menus, exclude eggs or remove other protein items, State-wise and year-wise;
- (c) the number of such requests approved, rejected or kept pending, with reasons recorded;
- (d) whether the preference of an implementing agency can override a State-approved menu or local dietary practice, if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the details of safeguards adopted to ensure that menu restrictions do not reduce prescribed nutrition standards?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

(SHRI JAYANT CHAUDHARY)

(a) to (e): Education is part of the Concurrent List of the Constitution and most of the Government Schools and School Boards are under the administration of the State Government and Union Territory (UT) Administrations. PM POSHAN Scheme is implemented in partnership with the State Governments and UT Administrations. The overall responsibility for providing hot and nutritious meal to all children studying in Bal Vatika (just before class 1) and classes I to VIII of Government and Government aided schools lies with the State Governments and UT Administrations. The States and UTs 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.

The Government of India has issued detailed guidelines on quality, safety and hygiene to ensure serving of good quality nutritious meal under the Scheme. These guidelines are available on official website <https://pmposhan.education.gov.in> .
