

1st Half Yearly Monitoring Report

A. N. Sinha Institute of Social Studies, Patna on
MDM Scheme for the State of Bihar

For the Period of
1st April 2011 to 30st September 2011

Districts Covered

- 1. Arwal**
- 2. Katihar**
- 3. Muzaffarpur**
- 4. Patna**
- 5. Vaishali**



मध्याह्न भोजन योजना
Mid Day Meal Scheme

Sponsored by
Ministry of Human Resource Development
Govt. of India

Prof Ajay Kumar Jha, Ph D

Head of Division of Political Science & Public Administration
and

Nodal Officer

State Monitoring Institution for SSA, Bihar

A. N. Sinha Institute of Social Studies, Patna – 800 001

PREFACE

Mid Day Meal scheme is one of the flagship programmes of government of India in the field of social sector. It has to its credit many laurels. No wonder why it is the largest ever a school-lunch programme in the world. It currently caters to more than 12 crore children across the country. Needless to say that it has benefited poverty ridden populace of this country to the most. Not only in terms of providing food, it has in effect, contributed in expanding the base of school going children in rural areas. There may arguably be various other factors in expanding the number of school going children but its contribution is large enough without any further debate; this is for sure. The socially disadvantaged groups are supposed to be the real target groups of this programme. But the success of this programme is still highly debated, given the ground realities of field situations. Obviously, it needed some kind of monitoring and evaluation.

The MHRD chose to couple up such monitoring programme of MDM with SSA which is being presently conducted by various premier academic institutions of this country. A. N. Sinha Institute of Social Studies (ANSISS), Patna is one of them which has been entrusted with this job along with the monitoring of SSA in Bihar. Jamia Milia Islamia (JMI), New Delhi is also conducting it for half of the districts of Bihar along with us. In the 1st phase of 2010-11, four districts namely *Jamui, Lalhisarai, Munger and Sheikhpura* were taken up for the monitoring and supervision and the report was submitted to MHRD, Government of India. In the 2nd phase of 2010-11, next five districts namely *Arwal, Katihar, Muzaffarpur, Patna and Vaishali* were taken up for the monitoring and supervision.

The report for this phase was prepared after collecting the data obtained through monitoring visits of our team in sampled schools of selected districts and on the basis of the data as provided at the SPO and DPO levels.

The report has also been prepared with combined efforts and cooperation of the research team members working on this project. I acknowledge the efforts of our Senior Research Officer, **Dr. Surendra Prasad Jaiswal** and other three Research Officers namely **Ms. Mukta Sinha, Sri Mithilesh Kumar and Dr. Upendra Pd. Rajak**.

Special thanks are acknowledged to the Bihar Education Project Council, Patna. We also thank Sri Ravi Shankar Singh, the Programme Officer, for extending his full logistics support and cooperation to us. Our thanks are also due to Sri Rajesh Bhushan, IAS, the SPD, Bihar Education Project Council, Patna and also to the SPD of MDM, Patna.

The District Superintendents of Education, the BRCCs & CRCCs and the Head Masters, teachers, VSS members of the schools and other community members of coverage area of the schools, they all provided very active support to us. We express our thanks to all of them.

However, in the entire effort of our monitoring and evaluation, the Director of our Institute, Prof D. M. Diwakar provided an active administrative and erudite support to us without which the given study would never have been possible. I express my deepest thanks to him on successful completion of this part of our study.

AJAY KUMAR JHA

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List of Abbreviations

1. BEEOs = Block Extension Education Officers
2. BRC = Block Resource Centre
3. BRCC = Block Resource Centre Coordinator
4. CRC = Cluster Resource Centre
5. CRCC = Cluster Resource Centre Coordinator
6. DPC = District Programme Coordinator
7. DPO = District Project Office
8. DSE = District Superintendent of Education
9. EGS = Education Guarantee Scheme
10. EVs = Educational Volunteers
11. FCI = Food Corporation of India
12. IFA = Iron, Folic-acid and Vitamin-A
13. GOI = Government of India
14. HM = Head Master
15. MDM = Mid-Day Meal
16. MDMS = Mid-Day Meal System
17. MI = Monitoring Institution
18. MIS = Monitoring and Information System
19. MS = Middle Schools
20. MTA = Mother Teachers' Association
21. NA = Not Applicable
22. NGO = Non Government Organization
23. OBC = Other Backward Castes
24. PHC = Primary Health Centre
25. PS = Primary Schools
26. SC = Scheduled Castes
27. SDO = Sub Divisional Officer
28. SHG = Self Help Group
29. SMC = School Management Committee
30. SRG = State Resource Group
31. SPD = State Project Director
32. SPO = State Project Office
33. SSA = Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan
34. ST = Scheduled Tribes

- 35. TOR = Terms of Reference
- 36. TSC = Total sanitation Campaign
- 37. TSG = Technical Support Group
- 38. UC = Utilization Certificate
- 39. UEE = Universal Elementary Education
- 40. ULB = Urban Local Body
- 41. UPS = Upper Primary School
- 42. VEC = Village Education Committee
- 43. VER = Village Education Register
- 44. VSS = Vidyalaya Shiksha Samiti
- 45. WC = Work Completed
- 46. WER = Ward Education Register
- 47. WNC = Work Not Started
- 48. WP = Work in Progress

1st Half Yearly Monitoring Report of A. N. Sinha Institute of Social Studies, Patna on SSA for the State of Bihar for the period of 1st April 2011 to 30th September 2011

1. General Information:

S. No.	Information	Details																										
1.	Name of the monitoring institute	A. N. Sinha Institute of Social Studies, Patna																										
2.	Period of the report	1 st April 2011 to 30 th September 2011																										
3.	Fund Released for the period	Rs.7,75,000/-																										
4.	No. of Districts completed in the first round	5																										
5.	Districts' name	Arwal, Katihar, Muzaffarpur, Patna and Vaishali																										
6.	Date of visit to the Districts / Schools (Information is to be given district wise i.e District 1, District 2, District 3 etc)	1. Arwal (25 th February to 3 rd March 2012) 2. Katihar (8 th February to 18 th February 2012) 3. Muzaffarpur (8 th February to 18 th February 2012) 4. Patna (3 rd February to 17 th February 2012) 5. Vaishali (25 th February to 5 th March 2012)																										
7.	Total number of elementary schools (primary and upper primary to be counted separately) in the Districts Covered by MI (Information is to be given district wise i.e District 1, District 2, District 3 etc.)	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2">S. No.</th> <th rowspan="2">District</th> <th colspan="2">Type of Schools</th> </tr> <tr> <th>PS</th> <th>UPS</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>Arwal</td> <td>15</td> <td>25</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2</td> <td>Katihar</td> <td>13</td> <td>27</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3</td> <td>Muzaffarpur</td> <td>10</td> <td>30</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4</td> <td>Patna</td> <td>20</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5</td> <td>Vaishali</td> <td>14</td> <td>26</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	S. No.	District	Type of Schools		PS	UPS	1	Arwal	15	25	2	Katihar	13	27	3	Muzaffarpur	10	30	4	Patna	20	20	5	Vaishali	14	26
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9.	The percentage of schools covered in all the Districts allotted:	100% allotted schools of all categories covered in all the districts																										
10.	Type of schools visited:																											
A	Schools in Rural Areas	148																										
(a)	Primary Schools	52																										
(b)	Upper Primary Schools	-																										
(c)	Upper Primary Schools with Primary Classes	96																										
B	Schools in Urban Areas	52																										
(a)	Primary Schools	20																										
(b)	Upper Primary Schools	-																										
(c)	Upper Primary Schools with Primary Classes	32																										
C	NCLP Schools	-																										
D	School sanctioned with Kitchen cum Stores	149																										
E	Schools having Cook cum helpers engaged as per norm	None																										
11.	Number of schools visited by Nodal Officer of the Monitoring Institute:	135																										
12.	Whether the draft report has been shared with the Director of the nodal department implementing MDMS : YES / NO	Yes																										
13.	After submission of the draft report to the Director of the nodal department implementing MDMS whether the MI has received any Observations from the Directorate : YES / NO	No																										

2. Executive Summary of Arwal, Katihar, Muzaffarpur, Patna and Vaishali district report of MDM Scheme

1. Regularity in supply of hot cooked meal:

	Arwal District (1)	Katihar District (2)	Muzaffarpur District (3)	Patna District (4)	Vaishali District (5)
(a) Regularity in Serving MDM					
(i) Percentage of Schools serving hot cooked meal regularly.	In 72.5 % sampled schools of Arwal district were serving hot cooked meal regularly.	In 42.5 % sampled schools of Katihar district were serving hot cooked meal regularly.	In 55% sampled schools of Muzaffarpur district were serving hot cooked meal regularly.	In 75 % sampled schools of Patna district were serving hot cooked meal regularly.	In 92.5 % sampled schools of Vaishali district were serving hot cooked meal regularly.
(ii) If hot cooked meal is not served regularly, reasons thereof.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unavailability of rice in the schools • Lack of cooking cost • Cooks was on leave • Charge was not given by the previous HM • Due to opening of bank account 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unavailability of rice • Unavailability of rice cooking cost. • Irregular supply of foods by the NGO 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unavailability of rice • Lack of cooking cost • Contract of NGO was ended • Due to investigation on bad quality food items 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unavailability of rice • Unavailability of rice cooking cost. • Irregular supply of foods by the NGO 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unavailability of rice • Irregular supply of foods by the NGO
(iii) Is there any prescribed norm for consideration for irregularity in serving MDM	Guidelines were not available with the schools.	Guidelines were not available with the schools.	Guidelines were not available with the schools.	Guidelines were not available with the schools.	Guidelines were not available with the schools.
(iv) Quality and quantity of meal in the opinion of teachers, students or SMC members and any problems to children in	Children, parents and community members were not happy with quality and quantity of food. Bad quality of food materials were served often in unhygienic condition. Food was cooked	Children, parents and community members were not happy with quality and quantity of food. Bad quality of food materials were served often in unhygienic condition. Food	Children, parents and community members were not happy with quality and quantity of food. Bad quality of food materials were served often in unhygienic condition. Food	Children, parents and community members were not happy with quality and quantity of food. Bad quality of food materials were served often in unhygienic condition. Food	Children, parents and community members were not happy with quality and quantity of food. Bad quality of food materials were served often in unhygienic condition. Food

	Arwal District (1)	Katihar District (2)	Muzaffarpur District (3)	Patna District (4)	Vaishali District (5)
serving MDM.	and kept in open and dirty ground.	was cooked and kept in open and dirty ground.	was cooked and kept in open and dirty ground.	was cooked and kept in open and dirty ground.	was cooked and kept in open and dirty ground.
(b) Trends					
(i) Number of children enrolled in schools	25871	27657	21773	13788	17219
(ii) Number of children availed MDM as per MDM register	7504	3275	6313	4957	6108
(iii) Number of children availed MDM on the day of visit	7504	3275	6313	4957	6108
(iv) Number of children availed MDM on the previous day of visit	7741	5095	6585	5567	6430

2. Regularity in supply of Food grain:

	Arwal District (1)	Katihar District (2)	Muzaffarpur District (3)	Patna District (4)	Vaishali District (5)
(i) Is school/ implementing agency receiving food grain regularly? If there is delay in delivering food	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 90% sampled schools were not receiving food grains regularly in Arwal district. None availability of rice with dealer. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 77.5% sampled schools were not receiving food grains regularly in Katihar district. None availability of rice with dealer. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 52.5% sampled schools were not receiving food grains regularly in Muzaffarpur district. None availability of rice with dealer. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 52.5% sampled schools were not receiving food grains regularly in Patna district. None availability of rice with dealer. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 5% sampled schools were not receiving food grains regularly in Vaishali district. None availability of rice with dealer.

grains, what is the extent of delay and reasons for the same?					
(ii) Is the quality of food grain FAQ?	Average	Average	Average	Average	Average
(iii) Is buffer stock of one-month's requirement maintained?	Buffer stock of one month's requirement was not maintained by 72.5% sampled schools of Arwal district.	Buffer stock of one month's requirement was not maintained by any sampled schools of Katihar district.	Buffer stock of one month's requirement was not maintained by any sampled schools of Muzaffarpur district.	Buffer stock of one month's requirement was not maintained by 27.5% sampled schools of Patna district.	Buffer stock of one month's requirement was not maintained by 5% sampled schools of Vaishali district.
(iv) Is the food grains delivered at the school?	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

3. Payment of Cost of food grain to FCI:

	Arwal District (1)	Katihar District (2)	Muzaffarpur District (3)	Patna District (4)	Vaishali District (5)
(a) Enabling conditions:					
(i) Is payment of cost of food grain to FCI made monthly? Which the stipulated time?	Data not given	Data not given	Data not given	Data not given	Data not given
(ii) Has payment of cost of food grain to FCI made for the previous month	Data not given	Data not given	Data not given	Data not given	Data not given

	Arwal District (1)	Katihar District (2)	Muzaffarpur District (3)	Patna District (4)	Vaishali District (5)
(iii) Reasons for irregular payment, if any	Data not given	Data not given	Data not given	Data not given	Data not given

4. Regularity in Delivering Cooking Cost at the school level:

	Arwal District (1)	Katihar District (2)	Muzaffarpur District (3)	Patna District (4)	Vaishali District (5)
(i) Number of schools /implementing agency receiving cooking cost in advance regularly?	In 35 (87.5%) sampled schools of Arwal district were receiving cooking cost in advance regularly.	In 30 (75%) sampled schools of Katihar district were receiving cooking cost in advance regularly.	In 25 (62.5%) sampled schools of Muzaffarpur district were receiving cooking cost in advance regularly.	In 33 (82.5%) sampled schools of Patna district were receiving cooking cost in advance regularly.	In 2 (5%) sampled schools of Vaishali district were receiving cooking cost in advance regularly.
(ii) If there is delay in delivering cooking cost what is the extent of delay and reasons for it?	Block Resource Person of MDM did not provide cheque in time.	Block Resource Person of MDM did not provide cheque in time.	Block Resource Person of MDM did not provide cheque in time.	Block Resource Person of MDM did not provide cheque in time.	In rest sampled schools (95%) MDM was prepared and distributed by the NGO.
(iii) In case of delay, how school/ implementing agency manages to ensure that there is no disruption in the feeding programme?	The HM brings the related items on credit from local shopkeepers. Sometimes shopkeepers refused to provide related items of MDM to school which made it difficult to run MDM on regular basis.	The HM brings the related items on credit from local shopkeepers. Sometimes shopkeepers refused to provide related items of MDM to school which made it difficult to run MDM on regular basis.	The HM brings the related items on credit from local shopkeepers. Sometimes shopkeepers refused to provide related items of MDM to school which made it difficult to run MDM on regular basis.	The HM brings the related items on credit from local shopkeepers. Sometimes shopkeepers refused to provide related items of MDM to school which made it difficult to run MDM on regular basis.	The HM brings the related items on credit from local shopkeepers. Sometimes shopkeepers refused to provide related items of MDM to school which made it difficult to run MDM on regular basis.
(iv) Is cooking cost paid by Cash or through banking channel?	Through banking channel	Through banking channel	Through banking channel	Through banking channel	Through banking channel

5. Social Equity:

	Arwal District (1)	Katihar District (2)	Muzaffarpur District (3)	Patna District (4)	Vaishali District (5)
(a) In the classroom:					
(i) Sitting arrangement for the children during serving of MDM.	Students were encouraged to sit in queue with their plates and after that food items were served by the cooks. Tat-Patti or carpet was not available in schools for this purpose.	Students were encouraged to sit in queue with their plates and after that food items were served by the cooks. Tat-Patti or carpet was not available in schools for this purpose.	Students were encouraged to sit in queue with their plates and after that food items were served by the cooks. Tat-Patti or carpet was not available in schools for this purpose.	Students were encouraged to sit in queue with their plates and after that food items were served by the cooks. Tat-Patti or carpet was not available in schools for this purpose.	Students were encouraged to sit in queue with their plates and after that food items were served by the cooks. Tat-Patti or carpet was not available in schools for this purpose.
(ii) Did you observe any gender or caste or community discrimination in cooking or serving or seating arrangements?	All children were treated equally irrespective of gender/caste/community/disability in cooking or serving or seating arrangements.	All children were treated equally irrespective of gender/caste/community/disability in cooking or serving or seating arrangements.	All children were treated equally irrespective of gender/caste/community/disability in cooking or serving or seating arrangements.	All children were treated equally irrespective of gender/caste/community/disability in cooking or serving or seating arrangements.	All children were treated equally irrespective of gender/caste/community/disability in cooking or serving or seating arrangements.

6. Menu:

	Arwal District (1)	Katihar District (2)	Muzaffarpur District (3)	Patna District (4)	Vaishali District (5)
(i) Number of schools where menu is displayed on the wall and noticeable	In 38 (95%) sampled schools of Arwal district had displayed its weekly menu on the wall and noticeable.	In 37 (92.5%) sampled schools of Katihar district had displayed its weekly menu on the wall and noticeable.	In 35 (87.5%) sampled schools of Muzaffarpur district had displayed its weekly menu on the wall and noticeable.	In 37 (92.5%) sampled schools of Patna had displayed its weekly menu on the wall and noticeable.	In 38 (95%) sampled schools of Vaishali had displayed its weekly menu on the wall and noticeable.
(ii) Who decides the menu	District level officer of MDM decides the menu.	District level officer of MDM decides the menu.	District level officer of MDM decides the menu.	District level officer of MDM decides the menu.	District level officer of MDM decides the menu.

	Arwal District (1)	Katihar District (2)	Muzaffarpur District (3)	Patna District (4)	Vaishali District (5)
(iii) Does daily menu include rice/ wheat, pulses (dal) and vegetable?	All sampled schools of Arwal district include rice preparation, dal and vegetables in their daily menu where it is being served while none of sampled schools of this district include wheat preparation in their daily menu. Green vegetables are rarely cooked in the sampled schools.	All sampled schools of Katihar district include rice preparation, dal and vegetables in their daily menu where it is being served while none of sampled schools of this district include wheat preparation in their daily menu. Green vegetables are rarely cooked in the sampled schools.	All sampled schools of Muzaffarpur district include rice preparation, dal and vegetables in their daily menu where it is being served while none of sampled schools of this district include wheat preparation in their daily menu. Green vegetables are rarely cooked in the sampled schools.	All sampled schools of Patna district include rice preparation, dal and vegetables in their daily menu where it is being served while none of sampled schools of this district include wheat preparation in their daily menu. Green vegetables are rarely cooked in the sampled schools.	All sampled schools of Vaishali district include rice preparation, dal and vegetables in their daily menu where it is being served while none of sampled schools of this district include wheat preparation in their daily menu. Green vegetables are rarely cooked in the sampled schools.
(iv) Number of schools where variety of foods is served daily	All (40) sampled schools of Arwal district were serving variety of foods.	All (40) sampled schools of Katihar district were serving variety of foods.	All (40) sampled schools of Muzaffarpur district were serving variety of foods.	All (40) sampled schools of Patna district were serving variety of foods.	All (40) sampled schools of Vaishali district were serving variety of foods.
(v) Number of schools where same food is served daily	None	None	None	None	None

7. Community Mobilization:

	Arwal District (1)	Katihar District (2)	Muzaffarpur District (3)	Patna District (4)	Vaishali District (5)
(i) Familiarity level of the SMC members with their roles and responsibilities and eligibility and entitlement of children as notified by the	VSS/MTA members were not properly aware with their roles and responsibilities as notified by the State Government.	VSS/MTA members were not properly aware with their roles and responsibilities as notified by the State Government.	VSS/MTA members were not properly aware with their roles and responsibilities as notified by the State Government.	VSS/MTA members were not properly aware with their roles and responsibilities as notified by the State Government.	VSS/MTA members were not properly aware with their roles and responsibilities as notified by the State Government.

	Arwal District (1)	Katihar District (2)	Muzaffarpur District (3)	Patna District (4)	Vaishali District (5)
State Government.					
(ii) Number of schools where there is a roaster of parents for daily monitoring and supervision of MDMS	None	None	None	None	None
(iii) Number of members received training regarding MDMS and its monitoring	None	None	None	None	None
(iv) Frequency of SMCs meetings held and issues related to MDMS discussed.	VSS/MTA meeting was not conducted in any of the sampled schools.	VSS/MTA meeting was not conducted in any of the sampled schools.	VSS/MTA meeting was not conducted in any of the sampled schools.	VSS/MTA meeting was not conducted in any of the sampled schools.	VSS/MTA meeting was not conducted in any of the sampled schools.
(v) Frequency monitoring and cooking and serving MDMS by SMC members	MDM programme was not frequently inspected by the VSS/MTA members of concerned schools.	MDM programme was not frequently inspected by the VSS/MTA members of concerned schools.	MDM programme was not frequently inspected by the VSS/MTA members of concerned schools.	MDM programme was not frequently inspected by the VSS/MTA members of concerned schools.	MDM programme was not frequently inspected by the VSS/MTA members of concerned schools.
(vi) Contribution made by the community for MDMS	No contribution	No contribution	No contribution	No contribution	No contribution
(vii) Extent of participation by SMC/PTA/MTA/ PRI/Urban local bodies	No Participation	No Participation	No Participation	No Participation	No Participation

8. MIS:

	Arwal District (1)	Katihar District (2)	Muzaffarpur District (3)	Patna District (4)	Vaishali District (5)
(i) Number of schools where MDM register is in place and maintained	MDM register was maintained by all (40) sampled schools.	MDM register was maintained by all (40) sampled schools.	MDM register was maintained by all (40) sampled schools.	MDM register was maintained by all (40) sampled schools.	MDM register was maintained by all (40) sampled schools.
(ii) Whether any training on maintaining MDM information is imparted to the teacher/head teacher?	Training was not given to the HM/teachers.	Training was not given to the HM/teachers.	Training was not given to the HM/teachers.	Training was not given to the HM/teachers.	Training was not given to the HM/teachers.
(iii) What is Mechanism of flow of Information from school to district and onwards?	Block Resource Person of MDM collects the data from schools every month and passes the information at district level.	Block Resource Person of MDM collects the data from schools every month and passes the information at district level.	Block Resource Person of MDM collects the data from schools every month and passes the information at district level.	Block Resource Person of MDM collects the data from schools every month and passes the information at district level.	Block Resource Person of MDM collects the data from schools every month and passes the information at district level.
(iv) What is the prevalent MIS System?	It is not being properly implemented.	It is not being properly implemented.	It is not being properly implemented.	It is not being properly implemented.	It is not being properly implemented.
(v) What is the interval of furnishing information from School to Block and onwards?	Monthly	Monthly	Monthly	Monthly	

9. Financial Management:

	Arwal District (1)	Katihar District (2)	Muzaffarpur District (3)	Patna District (4)	Vaishali District (5)
(i) Nature of financial records and registers maintained at the implementing agency level.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daily MDM register maintained by the implementing agency level. • Separate cash book and pass book was not maintained by the implementing agency level. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daily MDM register maintained by the implementing agency level. • Separate cash book and pass book was not maintained by the implementing agency level. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daily MDM register maintained by the implementing agency level. • Separate cash book and pass book was not maintained by the implementing agency level. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daily MDM register maintained by the implementing agency level. • Separate cash book and pass book was not maintained by the implementing agency level. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daily MDM register maintained by the implementing agency level. • Separate cash book and pass book was not maintained by the implementing agency level.
(ii) Mode of transfer of fund to the implementing agency level from the state or district levels.	Through banking channel	Through banking channel	Through banking channel	Through banking channel	Through banking channel
(iii) Type of account maintained and System for the withdrawal of fund from the SMC/VEC account.	Through Cheque	Through Cheque	Through Cheque	Through Cheque	Through Cheque
(iv) If the proposals for expenditure and expenditure statements are shared with the community. If yes, is there any instance of community expressing	No	No	No	No	No

	Arwal District (1)	Katihar District (2)	Muzaffarpur District (3)	Patna District (4)	Vaishali District (5)
objection/reservation about any transaction?					

10. School Health Programme:

	Arwal District (1)	Katihar District (2)	Muzaffarpur District (3)	Patna District (4)	Vaishali District (5)
(i) Number of schools where school Health Card maintained for each child? Who administers these medicines?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> School Health Card was maintained for each child in 37 (92.5%) sampled schools of Arwal district. The Medical Officer of PHC of concerned block administers these medicines (IFA, Vitamin - A dosages & de-worming). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> School Health Card was maintained for each child in 29 (72.5%) sampled schools of Katihar district. The Medical Officer of PHC of concerned block administers these medicines (IFA, Vitamin - A dosages & de-worming). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> School Health Card was maintained for each child in 33 (82.5%) sampled schools of Muzaffarpur district. The Medical Officer of PHC of concerned block administers these medicines (IFA, Vitamin - A dosages & de-worming). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> School Health Card was maintained for each child in 29 (72.5%) sampled schools of Patna district. The Medical Officer of PHC of concerned block administers these medicines (IFA, Vitamin - A dosages & de-worming). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> School Health Card was maintained for each child in 22 (55%) sampled schools of Vaishali district. The Medical Officer of PHC of concerned block administers these medicines (IFA, Vitamin - A dosages & de-worming).
(ii) What is the frequency of health check-up?	Health check-up of school students was not done in any sampled schools Arwal district during the last six months.	Health check-up of school students was not done in any sampled schools Katihar district during the last six months.	Health check-up of school students was not done in any sampled schools Muzaffarpur district during the last six months.	Health check-up of school students was not done in any sampled schools Patna district during the last six months.	Health check-up of school students was not done in any sampled schools Vaishali district during the last six months.
(iii) Number of children given Vitamin A	None	None	None	None	None
(iv) Number of children given IFA Tablets	IFA was given by any of the sampled schools only one time during the last six month.	IFA was given by any of the sampled schools only one time during the last six month.	IFA was given by any of the sampled schools only one time during the last six month.	IFA was given by any of the sampled schools only one time during the last six month.	IFA was given by any of the sampled schools only one time during the last six month.

	Arwal District (1)	Katihar District (2)	Muzaffarpur District (3)	Patna District (4)	Vaishali District (5)
(v) Number of children given de-worming tablets.	De-worming medicine was given to the children only one time in 92.5% sampled school of Arwal district during 2011-12.	De-worming medicine was given to the children only one time in 72.5% sampled school of Katihar district during 2011-12.	De-worming medicine was given to the children only one time in 82.5% sampled school of Muzaffarpur district during 2011-12.	De-worming medicine was given to the children only one time in 72.5% sampled school of Patna district during 2011-12.	De-worming medicine was given to the children only one time in 55% sampled school of Vaishali district during 2011-12.
(vi) Who administers these medicines?	Medical Officer of PHC.	Medical Officer of PHC.	Medical Officer of PHC.	Medical Officer of PHC.	Medical Officer of PHC.
(vi) Number of school where iodized salt is used	All (40) Sampled schools is used iodized salt.	All (40) Sampled schools is used iodized salt.	All (40) Sampled schools is used iodized salt.	All (40) Sampled schools is used iodized salt.	All (40) Sampled schools is used iodized salt.
(vii) Number of schools where children wash their hand before and after eating	In 7 (17.5%) sampled schools children were observed washing their hands before and after eating MDM.	In 5 (12.5%) sampled schools children were observed washing their hands before and after eating MDM.	In 6 (15%) sampled schools children were observed washing their hands before and after eating MDM.	In 5 (12.5%) sampled schools children were observed washing their hands before and after eating MDM.	In 7 (17.5%) sampled schools children were observed washing their hands before and after eating MDM.

11. Status of Cook cum Helpers:

	Arwal District (1)	Katihar District (2)	Muzaffarpur District (3)	Patna District (4)	Vaishali District (5)
(i) Number of school where cook cum helpers are engaged as per the norm of GOI or State Govt.	Cooks cum helpers were not engaged as per GOI norms in any sampled schools of Arwal district.	Cooks cum helpers were not engaged as per GOI norms in any sampled schools of Katihar district.	Cooks cum helpers were not engaged as per GOI norms in any sampled schools of Muzaffarpur district.	Cooks cum helpers were not engaged as per GOI norms in any sampled schools of Patna district.	Cooks cum helpers were not engaged as per GOI norms in any sampled schools of Vaishali district.
(ii) Who engages cook cum helpers in these schools	VSS/MTA of sampled schools	VSS/MTA of sampled schools/ NGO	VSS/MTA of sampled schools/Mahila Samakhya/ NGO	VSS/MTA of sampled schools/NGO	VSS/MTA of sampled schools/NGO

	Arwal District (1)	Katihar District (2)	Muzaffarpur District (3)	Patna District (4)	Vaishali District (5)
(iii) Number of schools served by centralized kitchen	None	In 10 (25%) sampled schools of Katihar district.	In 12 (30%) sampled schools of Muzaffarpur district.	In 6 (15%) sampled schools of Patna district.	In 38 (95%) sampled schools of Vaishali district.
(iv) Number of schools where SHG is involved	None	None	SHG (Mahila Samakhya) was involved in 5 (12.5%) sampled schools of Muzaffarpur district.	None	None
(v) What is remuneration paid to Cook cum helpers, mode of payment and intervals of payment?	Schools where MDM is cooked & served paid the honorarium of Rs.1000/- per month to cooks. The HM reported to MI members that the remuneration of cooks/helpers was paid by them through banking channel.	Schools where MDM is cooked & served paid the honorarium of Rs.1000/- per month to cooks. But in such schools where MDM was served by NGO, MDM cooks/helpers paid the honorarium Rs.500/- per month. The HM reported to MI members that the remuneration of cooks/helpers was paid by them through banking channel.	Schools where MDM is cooked & served paid the honorarium of Rs.1000/- per month to cooks. But in such schools where MDM was served by NGO, MDM cooks/helpers paid the honorarium Rs.500/- per month. The HM reported to MI members that the remuneration of cooks/helpers was paid by them through banking channel.	Schools where MDM is cooked & served paid the honorarium of Rs.1000/- per month to cooks. But in such schools where MDM was served by NGO, MDM cooks/helpers paid the honorarium Rs.500/- per month. The HM reported to MI members that the remuneration of cooks/helpers was paid by them through banking channel.	Schools where MDM is cooked & served paid the honorarium of Rs.1000/- per month to cooks. But in such schools where MDM was served by NGO, MDM cooks/helpers paid the honorarium Rs.500/- per month. The HM reported to MI members that the remuneration of cooks/helpers was paid by them through banking channel.
(vi) Social Composition of cooks cum helpers? (SC/ST/OBC/Minority/others)	Women cooks/helpers of SC/ST/OBC/Minority category were found in sampled schools of Arwal district. But one male of Minority category was found in P. S. Chulhan Bigha of this district.	Women cooks/helpers of SC/ST/OBC/Minority category were found in sampled schools of Katihar district.	Women cooks/helpers of SC/ST/OBC/Minority category were found in sampled schools of Muzaffarpur district.	Women cooks/helpers of SC/ST/OBC/Minority category were found in sampled schools of Patna district.	Women cooks/helpers of SC/ST/OBC/Minority category were found in sampled schools of Vaishali district.

12. Infrastructure:

	Arwal District (1)	Katihar District (2)	Muzaffarpur District (3)	Patna District (4)	Vaishali District (5)
(i) Number of school where pucca Kitchen cum Stores is available and in use	The pucca kitchen shed-cum-store was available and also in use in 34 (85%) of the sampled schools of Arwal district.	The pucca kitchen shed-cum-store was available and also in use in 39 (97.5%) of the sampled schools of Katihar district.	The pucca kitchen shed-cum-store was available and also in use in 17 (42.5%) of the sampled schools of Muzaffarpur district.	The pucca kitchen shed-cum-store was available and also in use in 7 (17.5%) of the sampled schools of Patna district.	The pucca kitchen shed-cum-store was available and also in use in 26 (65%) of the sampled schools of Vaishali district.
(ii) Number of schools where pucca kitchen cum store is not available	The pucca kitchen shed-cum-store was sanctioned in 6 (15%) sampled schools.	The pucca kitchen shed-cum-store was not sanctioned in 1 (2.5%) sampled schools.	The pucca kitchen shed-cum-store was not sanctioned in 18 (45%) sampled schools.	The pucca kitchen shed-cum-store was not sanctioned in 25 (62.5%) sampled schools.	The pucca kitchen shed-cum-store was not sanctioned in 7 (17.5%) sampled schools.

13. Staffing:

	Arwal District (1)	Katihar District (2)	Muzaffarpur District (3)	Patna District (4)	Vaishali District (5)
(i) Number of staff engaged at district level for management and monitoring of MDMS	8 staff was engaged at district level for management and monitoring of MDMS.	8 staff was engaged at district level for management and monitoring of MDMS	8 staff was engaged at district level for management and monitoring of MDMS	8 staff was engaged at district level for management and monitoring of MDMS	8 staff was engaged at district level for management and monitoring of MDMS
(ii) Number of staff engaged at block level for management and monitoring of MDMS	1 staff was engaged at district level for management and monitoring of MDMS.	1 staff was engaged at district level for management and monitoring of MDMS.	1 staff was engaged at district level for management and monitoring of MDMS.	1 staff was engaged at district level for management and monitoring of MDMS.	1 staff was engaged at district level for management and monitoring of MDMS.
(iii) Is there any	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

	Arwal District (1)	Katihar District (2)	Muzaffarpur District (3)	Patna District (4)	Vaishali District (5)
district level task force constituted?					

14. Monitoring:

	Arwal District (1)	Katihar District (2)	Muzaffarpur District (3)	Patna District (4)	Vaishali District (5)
(i) How many district level steering cum monitoring committee meeting held in current financial year	Data not given	Data not given	Data not given	Data not given	
(ii)How many state level steering cum monitoring committee meeting held in the current financial year	14 times				

3. District Level Half Yearly Monitoring Report of Arwal, Katihar, Muzaffarpur, Patna and Vaishali

(A) Mid-Day Meal Scheme: Arwal District

3.1	Name of the District	Arwal
3.2	Date of visit to the District/EGS/Schools	25 th February to 3 rd March 2012

1	<p><u>REGULARITY IN SERVING MEAL:</u></p> <p>(i) Whether the school is serving hot cooked meal daily?</p> <p>In Arwal district, on the day of visit it was found that 29 (72.5%) sampled schools out of 40 sampled schools are serving hot cooked meals. In all sampled schools MDM was prepared and served by VSS/MTA.</p> <p>(ii) If there was interruption, what was the extent and reasons for the same?</p> <p>11 (27.5%) sampled schools of this district was not serving hot cooked meal regularly to their children due to unavailability of rice and coking cost. The breakup of reasons are as follows in respect of interruption of MDM in Arwal district where sampled schools are serving hot cooked meals on the day of visit and on the day previous date of visit to their students:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unavailability of rice in the schools : 5 (12.5%) • Lack of coking cost : 1 (2.5%) • Cooks was on leave : 2 (5.0%) • Charge was not given by the previous HM : 2 (5.0%) • Due to opening of Bank account : 1 (2.5%) 																						
2	<p><u>TRENDS:</u></p> <p>Extent of variation (As per school records vis-à-vis actual position/status on the day of visit)</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>No.</th> <th>Details</th> <th>Data</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>(i)</td> <td>Enrollment</td> <td>25,871</td> </tr> <tr> <td>(ii)</td> <td>No. of children opted for Mid Day Meal</td> <td>25,423</td> </tr> <tr> <td>(iii)</td> <td>No. of children attending the school on the day of visit</td> <td>10,895</td> </tr> <tr> <td>(iv)</td> <td>No. of children availing MDM as per MDM Register</td> <td>7,504</td> </tr> <tr> <td>(v)</td> <td>No. of children actually availing MDM on the day of visit</td> <td>7,504</td> </tr> <tr> <td>(v)</td> <td>No. of children availed MDM on the previous day</td> <td>7,741</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		No.	Details	Data	(i)	Enrollment	25,871	(ii)	No. of children opted for Mid Day Meal	25,423	(iii)	No. of children attending the school on the day of visit	10,895	(iv)	No. of children availing MDM as per MDM Register	7,504	(v)	No. of children actually availing MDM on the day of visit	7,504	(v)	No. of children availed MDM on the previous day	7,741
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	<p>The above table reveals that –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • About 42.1% students were present in the sampled schools on the day of visit and out of them only 29.0% were taking MDM on the day of visit. • On the other hand, about 29.9% were taking MDM on the day previous date of visit. <p>Major findings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • About 1.7% children of different schools of Arwal district has not opted MDM facilities provided by the government because poor quality of food material is being served by the schools as reported by children, parents and other community members of the coverage area of sampled schools. • MI members found that the poor quality of food items is being served in different schools of Arwal district. <p>Important steps should be taken by the concerned authority as early as possible to improve the quality and also regularize the MDM in the schools in respect to Right to Education.</p>
3	<p><u>REGULARITY IN DELIVERING FOOD GRAINS TO SCHOOL LEVEL:</u></p> <p>(i) Is school receiving food grain regularly? If there is delay in delivering food grains, what is the extent of delay and reasons for the same?</p> <p>36 (90%) sampled schools were not receiving food grains regularly. The HM of concerned schools informed the MI that the MDM remains closed for months because of non availability of rice with the dealer.</p> <p>(ii) Is buffer stock of one-month's requirement is maintained?</p> <p>The buffer stock of one month's requirement was not maintained by 29 (72.5%) sampled schools of Arwal district.</p> <p>(iii) Is the quantity of food grain supplied was as per the marked/indicated weight?</p> <p>The HM, teachers and community people reported to MI members that quantity of food grain supplied by dealers in sampled schools was not matched with the marked/ indicated weight. They were facing so many problems. But none of them has lodged complain in front of the higher authority. The MI members also observed that the bag of food grains (rice) was not properly packed by FCI.</p> <p>(iv) Is the food grains delivered at the school?</p> <p>The HM of sampled schools reported to MI members that the food grains are delivered at school by the concerned dealer.</p> <p>(v) Is the quality of food grain good?</p>
	<p>The quality of food grains was found average in all sampled schools.</p>
4	<p><u>REGULARITY IN DELIVERING COOKING COST TO SCHOOL LEVEL:</u></p> <p>(i) Is school/implementing agency receiving cooking cost in advance regularly? If there is delay in delivering cooking cost, what is the extent of delay and reasons for it?</p> <p>Majority of sampled schools (87.5%) of Arwal district were receiving cooking cost in advance regularly. But the HM of 5 (12.5%) sampled schools reported to MI members that</p>

	<p>they are not receiving cooking cost in advance regularly. Cooking cost (Rs.2.77 per head per day in primary schools and Rs.4.03 per head in upper primary schools) was released to majority of schools in advance by the concerned office of the district.</p>
	<p>(ii) In case of delay, how schools/implementing agency manages to ensure that there is no disruption in the feeding programme?</p>
	<p>In this regard some HMs of concerned schools reported to MI that they bring the related items on credit from local shopkeepers. Sometimes shopkeepers refused to provide related items of MDM to school which made it difficult to run MDM on regular basis.</p>
	<p>(iii) Is cooking cost paid by Cash or through banking channel?</p>
	<p>All the sampled schools received cooking cost for MDM through banking channel (i.e. account payee cheque).</p>
5	<p><u>SOCIAL EQUITY:</u></p> <p>(i) Did you observe any gender or caste or community discrimination in cooking or serving or seating arrangements?</p>
	<p>There was no caste / gender/ disability based discrimination seen during the serving the Mid-Day Meal to the students in sampled schools of Arwal district. All children were treated equally irrespective of caste, gender and disability.</p>
	<p>(ii) What is the system of serving and seating arrangements for eating?</p>
	<p>Students were encouraged to sit in queue with their plates and after that food items were served by the cooks. Tat-Patti or carpet was not available in schools for this purpose.</p>
6	<p><u>VARIETY OF MENU:</u></p> <p>(i) Has the school displayed its weekly menu at a place noticeable to community, and is it able to adhere to the menu displayed?</p>
	<p>Majority of sampled schools (95%) had displayed its weekly menu but they hardly adhered to the menu displayed.</p>
	<p>(ii) Who decides the menu?</p>
	<p>The State/District level officers of MDM decided the menu and a copy of such menu were provided to schools with a request to serve the MDM to their students according to the given menu.</p>
	<p>(iii) Is there variety in the food served or is the same food served daily?</p>
	<p>All sampled schools of Arwal district are serving variety of food. The food items i.e. khichari-chokha, rice-pulse & vegetables, rice-rajma, rice-nutrela etc. was served in sampled schools of this district where it is being served.</p>
	<p>(iv) Does the daily menu include rice / wheat preparation, dal and vegetables?</p>
	<p>All sampled schools of Arwal district include rice preparation, dal and vegetables in their daily menu where it is being served while none of sampled schools of this district include wheat preparation in their daily menu. Green vegetables are rarely cooked in the</p>

	sampled schools.
7	<p><u>QUALITY & QUANTITY OF MEAL:</u></p> <p>Feedback from children on –</p> <p>(i) Quality of meal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When the MI observers asked the children, parents and community members about the quality of mid-day meal which was served in the schools, it was discovered that they were not happy with quality of food. Bad quality of food materials were served often in unhygienic condition. Food was cooked and kept in open and dirty ground. • Adequate numbers of plates are not available in schools; therefore, many children bring their own plates for taking food. • MI Observers found that none of the sampled school’s children of Arwal district were happy with quality of meal which was served in their school. <p>(ii) Quantity of meal:</p> <p>When the MI observers asked the children, parents and community members about the quantity of mid-day meal which was served in the schools, it was discovered that they were not happy with quantity of food.</p> <p>(iii) If children were not happy, Please give reasons and suggestions to improve.</p> <p>Children were not happy with MDM because:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Poor quality of food materials is often served in unhygienic condition. • Food is cooked and kept in open and dirty ground. • They are forced to sit on the ground without any proper sitting arrangement like <i>tat-patti, carpet</i> etc. • Some children complained that they have to bring their own plates to eat the MDM. <p>Suggestions given by students for improvement in MDM:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better quality of rice should be provided to the school authority. • Better quality of pulse and green vegetables with proper quantity should be served by the school management. • Fruits/Salad also may be included in the MDM • Proper monitoring is necessary for maintaining the quality and quantity of meal. • Food items must be served by the concerned authority as per the menu. • Proper sitting arrangement also should be provided in the school. • Adequate utensils and plates should be available in the school for MDM facilities. <p>Suggestions given by teachers for improvement in MDM:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supply of rice should be regular • Separate staff should be appointed to look after MDM in the school. • @ Rs10/- per students should be given by the Govt. for better quality of meal. • Adequate utensils should be available in the school for preparing and serving the

	<p>MDM.</p> <p>Suggestions given by parents and community people for improvement in MDM:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Separate person should be appointed at CRC level to look after the MDM quantity and quality in the school. • Block level authority must visit once in a week to see the MDM facilities in the schools. • Concerned people must be punished for serving bad quality of meal • Better quality food should be provided to the children. • Green vegetables should also be given to the students in MDM • Supply of rice should be regular in the schools <p>Suggestions given MI for improvement in MDM:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food grains and cooking cost should be provided to the VSS/MTA of concerned school regularly. • Block level authority must visit twice in a month to see the MDM facilities in the schools. • Separate person should be appointed at CRC level to look after the quality of MDM in schools. • Green vegetables should also be given to the students in MDM. • Light food items may also be distributed among students at dismissal hours, so that the students may have incentive to wait till the school hours are over. • Food items amount should be increased to Rs10/- per students for better quality of meal. • Separate trained staff should be appointed to look after MDM in the school. • The gas facilities should be provided to the schools for cooking the food. • Adequate utensils and plates should be made available in the school for preparing and serving the MDM. • Fruits and Salad also should be given to the students for better nutrition at least twice in a week. • Provision should be made by the government for construction of a dining hall in each school where children take their meal in properly manner in hygienic condition. • MDM account should be separated from other schools account and it's operated by the school Adhoc committee (i.e. School HM & a senior teacher of the school). • The remuneration of cooks may be given @Rs.2000/- per month regular manner.
8	<p><u>SUPPLEMENTARY:</u></p> <p>(i) Is there school Health Card maintained for each child?</p> <p>Majority of sampled schools (92.5%) were maintained the health card for each child.</p> <p>(ii) What is the frequency of health check-up?</p> <p>Health check-up of school students was not done in any sampled schools of Arwal</p>

	district during the last six months.
	(iii) Whether children are given micronutrients (iron, folic acid, vitamin – A dosage) and de-worming medicine periodically?
	Micronutrients (Iron, folic acid & vitamin – A dosage) which are necessary for improving the health and proper growth of the children was not provided in any sampled schools of Arwal district, whereas de-worming medicine was given to the children only one time in 92.5% sampled schools of Arwal district during 2011-12.
	1. Who administers these medicines and at what frequency?
	The Medical Officer of Primary Health Center of concerned block administers these medicines. It was rarely distributed in different schools of concerned block as reported by HM, teachers, parents and community people of coverage area of schools.
9	<u>STATUS OF COOKS:</u>
	(i) Who cooks and serves the meal? (Cook cum helper appointed by the Department/VEC/ Self Help Group/NGO/Contractor)
	All sampled schools of Arwal district, MDM preparation and distribution are managed by the VSS/MTA of school. Hence the cook cum helper has been appointed by this agency for preparing Mid Day Meal.
	(ii) Is the number of cooks and helpers engaged in the school as per GOI norms?
	None of the schools visited have got any guidelines of Govt. of India with regard to the number of cooks to be engaged by them. Therefore, they are not engaging proper numbers of cooks.
	(iii) What is remuneration paid to cooks cum helpers and mode of payment?
	Schools where MDM is cooked & served paid the honorarium of Rs.1000/- per month to cooks. The HM reported to MI members that the remuneration of cooks/helpers was paid by them through banking channel. But their remuneration was not released by the concerned authority to the sampled schools from November, 2011.
	(iv) Is the remuneration paid to cooks cum helpers regularly?
	No, the remuneration of cooks/helpers was not paid regularly (i.e. once in a month). The cooks/helpers of sampled schools reported MI members that they did not receive their remuneration from November, 2011. The HM, teachers and community people has also authenticated this matter.
	(v) Specify the social composition of cooks cum helpers? (SC/ST/OBC/Minority)
	Women cooks/helpers of SC/OBC/Minority category were found in majority of sampled schools (97.5%) of Arwal district. But one male cook of Minority category was found in P. S. Chulhan Bigha of this district.
10	<u>INFRASTRUCTURE:</u>
	Is a pucca kitchen shed-cum-store:
	1. Constructed and in use
	2. Scheme under which kitchen sheds constructed – MDM/SSA/Others

	<p>3. Constructed but not in use (Reason for not using)</p> <p>4. Under construction</p> <p>5. Sanctioned, but construction not started</p> <p>6. Not sanctioned</p> <p>7. Any other (specify)</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The pucca kitchen shed-cum-store was available and also in use in 34 (85%) sampled schools of Arwal district and it was constructed under SSA scheme. In 6 (15%) schools pucca kitchen shed-cum-store was under construction stage.
11	<p>In case the pucca kitchen shed is not available, where is the food being cooked and where the food grains /other ingredients are being stored?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In such situation the food being cooked under thatched Kitchen shed or in the open places or in a separate classroom. The MDM food grains and other ingredients are kept in safe places inside the school (in the HM room/classroom).
12	<p>Whether potable water is available for cooking and drinking purpose?</p> <p>Potable water was available in all sampled schools of Arwal district. In some schools the hand pumps are not in proper condition and it needs to be repaired. It was observed by MI members that the available hand pump is not meeting the problems of potable water in the schools. Therefore, another hand pump was required in all sampled schools immediately so that children could drink water and wash their hands before and after taking their meal without facing any problem.</p>
13	<p>Whether utensils are available for cooking food? If available, is it adequate?</p> <p>In all sampled schools of Arwal district had adequate number of utensils for cooking MDM. The HM of sampled schools reported that Rs.5000/- had been released by the DPO to purchase the cooking utensils.</p>
14	<p>What is the kind of fuel used? (Gas based/firewood etc.)</p> <p>All sampled schools of Arwal district used firewood as fuel for cooking MDM where MDM was prepared in the school.</p>
15	<p><u>SAFETY & HYGIENE:</u></p> <p>General Impression of the environment, Safety and hygiene:</p> <p>(i) Are children encouraged to wash hands before and after eating?</p> <p>It was observed in sampled schools that teachers did not teach personal hygiene to children like washing hands before and after taking meals. Therefore, only in a few schools (17.5%) in Arwal district, the children were observed washing their hands before and after taking MDM.</p> <p>(ii) Do the children take meals in an orderly manner?</p> <p>There were only a few schools (17.5%) where children were found to take meals in an orderly manner in Arwal district. Due to lack of proper sitting arrangement and lack of</p>

	vacant places in the schools, children ate their meal here and there.																		
	(iii) Conservation of water?																		
	Children are not taught in school to conserve water while washing dishes in Arwal district. Therefore, none of the sample school's children of this district used the practice of conserving water while washing dishes.																		
	(iv) Is the cooking process and storage of fuel safe, not posing any fire hazard?																		
	The cooking process and storage of fuel is safe in all sampled schools.																		
16	COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION AND AWARENESS: Extent of participation by Parents/VSSs/VECs/Panchayats/Urban bodies in daily supervision, monitoring and participation.																		
	(i) Is any roster being maintained by the community members for supervision of the MDM																		
	Roster was not maintained by the community members for supervision of the MDM in any of the sampled schools of Arwal district.																		
	(ii) Are the parents/community members aware about the following?																		
	(a) Quantity of MDM per child:																		
	The parents/community members reported to MI that @100 gram rice per child per day for primary school (i.e. class I to V) and @150 gram rice per child per day for Upper Primary School (i.e. class VI to VIII) were released by the FCI to school.																		
	(b) Entitlement of quantity and types of nutrients in MDM per child as supplied in the menu:																		
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17	INSPECTION & SUPERVISION	
	(i) Has the mid day meal programme been inspected by any state/district/block level officers/officials?	
	According to HM of sampled schools, the MDM programme was supposed to be inspected by the state/ district/ block level officers/officials in sampled schools of this district. But it was rarely inspected by the state/district/block level officers/officials in sampled schools of this district.	
	(ii) The frequency of such inspection?	
	In Arwal district, MDM programme was not frequently inspected by the state/ district/ block level officers/ officials in sampled schools of this district. Block resource person of MDM visited respective schools of block once in a month only for data collection. The SDO/BEEOs/BRCCs of concerned block visited very few schools in a block of six months.	
	(iii) Remarks made by the visiting officers? If any?	
Since hardly any visit was conducted. No remarks found in visiting register or neither in MDM registers.		
18	IMPACT	
	(i) Has the mid day meal improved the enrollment, attendance of children in school, any improvement in general well being, nutritional status of children?	
	In fact the MDM has improved the enrollment and attendance of children in schools especially in rural areas. Comparatively at least the poor and below poverty line children were getting the kind of food which they would have otherwise not got at their homes. Thus, the MDM has attracted weaker sections of parents to send their children to school for education.	
	(ii) Is there any other incidental benefit to the children and school due to serving of mid-day-meal by VSS, VEC, PRI members?	
The MDM has attracted the weaker section parents to send their children to school for education. Poor women got part time employment for preparing and serving MDM in the nearest school.		

List of schools visited in Arwal district:

Sl. No.	DISE Code	Name of School
1	10381003301	P. S. Paharpura
2	10380602601	P. S. Gulab Singh English
3	10381000601	P. S. Balaura
4	10380505502	P. S. Teri
5	10380505201	P. S. Simbhua
6	10380603304	Govt. P. S. Jaimangal Bigha
7	10380603303	Govt. P. S. Hansrajbag
8	10380502303	P. S. Kaler
9	10380704601	P. S. Chulahan Bigha
10	10381003001	M. S. Mali
11	10380503905	M. S. Mahendia Bazar
12	10380604101	Govt. M. S. Kochahasa
13	10380704001	Govt. M. S. Manikpur
14	10380704301	U. M. S. Mubarakpur
15	10380503301	Govt. M. S. Chanda
16	10380106801	M. S. Korium
17	10380104004	P. S. Malahi Patti
18	10380106703	P. S. Janakpundhar
19	10380104001	P. S. Arwal Hindi
20	10380104502	P. S. Muradpur Hujara
21	10380107201	Kanya M. S. Arwal
22	10380107202	U. M. S. Wasilpur
23	10380105902	U. M. S. Saidpur Dhawa
24	10380104501	U. M. S. Kagaji Muhala
25	10380502301	M. S. Kaler
26	10380100501	M. S. Baidarabad
27	10380608001	P. S. Sarmastapur
28	10380610001	P. S. Ramapur
29	10380705201	M. S. Nighwan
30	10380606001	U. M. S. Murari
31	10380603301	Govt. M. S. Karpi
32	10380502401	Govt. M. S. Kamta
33	10381002401	M. S. Khatangi
34	10381000801	U. M. Bithara
35	10381004301	M. S. Sonabhadra
36	10380608101	M. S. Sartelpa
37	10380603302	Kanya M. S. Karpi
38	10380702701	M. S. Kurtha
39	10381000401	M. S. Usari
40	10380505801	M. S. Bansi Kalyanpur

(B) Mid-Day Meal Scheme: Katihar district

3.1	Name of the District	Katihar
3.2	Date of visit to the District/EGS/Schools	8 th February to 18 th February 2012

1	<u>REGULARITY IN SERVING MEAL:</u>		
	(i) Whether the school is serving hot cooked meal daily?		
	<p>In Katihar district, on the day of visit it was found that 17 (42.5%) sampled schools out of 40 sampled schools are serving hot cooked meals. In 9 (22.5%) sampled schools, MDM was prepared and distributed by NGO while in 8 (20%) sampled schools MDM was prepared and served by VSS (i.e. MTA).</p>		
	(ii) If there was interruption, what was the extent and reasons for the same?		
	<p>23 (57.5%) sampled schools of this district was not serving hot cooked meal regularly to their children due to many reasons. The breakup of reasons are as follows in respect of interruption of MDM in Katihar district where sampled schools are serving hot cooked meals on the day of visit and on the day previous date of visit to their students:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unavailability of rice in the schools : 21 (52.5%) • Unavailability of rice and coking cost : 1 (2.5%) • Irregular supply of foods by the NGO : 1 (2.5%) 		
2	<u>TRENDS:</u>		
	Extent of variation (As per school records vis-à-vis actual position/status on the day of visit)		
	No.	Details	Data
	(i)	Enrollment	27657
	(ii)	No. of children opted for Mid Day Meal	23458
	(iii)	No. of children attending the school on the day of visit	15413
	(iv)	No. of children availing MDM as per MDM Register	3275
	(v)	No. of children actually availing MDM on the day of visit	3275
(vi)	No. of children availed MDM on the previous day	5095	

	<p>The above table reveals that –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • About 55.7% students were present in the sampled schools on the day of visit and out of them only 11.8% were taking MDM on the day of visit. • On the other hand, about 18.4% were taking MDM on the day previous date of visit. <p>Major findings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • About 15.2% children of different schools of Katihar district has not opted MDM facilities provided by the government because poor quality of food material is being served by the NGO as reported by children, parents and other community members of the coverage area of sampled schools. • MI members also found that the poor quality of food items is being served by the NGO in comparison to VSS/MTA in different schools of Katihar district. <p>Important steps should be taken by the concerned authority as early as possible to improve the quality and also regularize the MDM in the schools in respect to Right to Education.</p>
3	<p><u>REGULARITY IN DELIVERING FOOD GRAINS TO SCHOOL LEVEL:</u></p> <p>(i) Is school receiving food grain regularly? If there is delay in delivering food grains, what is the extent of delay and reasons for the same?</p> <p>Majority of sampled schools (77.5%) were not receiving food grains regularly. The HM of concerned schools informed the MI that the MDM remains closed for months because of non availability of rice with the dealer.</p> <p>(ii) Is buffer stock of one-month's requirement is maintained?</p> <p>The buffer stock of one month's requirement was not maintained by the sampled schools of Katihar district.</p> <p>(iii) Is the quantity of food grain supplied was as per the marked/indicated weight?</p> <p>The HM, teachers and community people reported to MI members that quantity of food grain supplied by dealers in sampled schools was not matched with the marked/ indicated weight. They were facing so many problems. But none of them has lodged complain in front of the higher authority. The MI members observed that the bag of food grains (rice) was not properly packed by FCI.</p> <p>(iv) Is the food grains delivered at the school?</p> <p>The HM of sampled schools reported to MI members that the food grains are delivered at school by the concerned dealer.</p> <p>(v) Is the quality of food grain good?</p>
	<p>The quality of food grains was found average in all sampled schools.</p>
4	<p><u>REGULARITY IN DELIVERING COOKING COST TO SCHOOL LEVEL:</u></p> <p>(i) Is school/implementing agency receiving cooking cost in advance regularly? If there is delay in delivering cooking cost, what is the extent of delay and reasons for it?</p> <p>Majority of sampled schools (75%) of Katihar district were receiving cooking cost in advance regularly. But the HM of 1 (2.5%) sampled schools reported to MI members that</p>

	<p>they are not receiving cooking cost in advance regularly. Cooking cost (Rs.2.77 per head per day in primary schools and Rs.4.03 per head in upper primary schools) was released to majority of schools in advance by the concerned office of the district.</p>
	<p>(ii) In case of delay, how schools/implementing agency manages to ensure that there is no disruption in the feeding programme?</p>
	<p>In this regard some HMs of concerned schools reported to MI that they bring the related items on credit from local shopkeepers. Sometimes shopkeepers refused to provide related items of MDM to school which made it difficult to run MDM on regular basis.</p>
	<p>(iii) Is cooking cost paid by Cash or through banking channel?</p>
	<p>All the sampled schools where MDM was cooked and served received cooking cost for MDM through banking channel (i.e. account payee cheque).</p>
5	<p><u>SOCIAL EQUITY:</u></p> <p>(i) Did you observe any gender or caste or community discrimination in cooking or serving or seating arrangements?</p>
	<p>There was no caste / gender/ disability based discrimination seen during the serving the Mid-Day Meal to the students in sampled schools of Katihar district. All children were treated equally irrespective of caste, gender and disability.</p>
	<p>(ii) What is the system of serving and seating arrangements for eating?</p>
	<p>Students were encouraged to sit in queue with their plates and after that food items were served by the cooks. Tat-Patti or carpet was not available in schools for this purpose.</p>
6	<p><u>VARIETY OF MENU:</u></p> <p>(i) Has the school displayed its weekly menu at a place noticeable to community, and is it able to adhere to the menu displayed?</p>
	<p>Majority of sampled schools (92.5%) had displayed its weekly menu but they hardly adhered to the menu displayed.</p>
	<p>(ii) Who decides the menu?</p>
	<p>The State/District level officers of MDM decided the menu and a copy of such menu were provided to schools with a request to serve the MDM to their students according to the given menu.</p>
	<p>(iii) Is there variety in the food served or is the same food served daily?</p>
	<p>In 17 (42.5%) sampled schools of Katihar district are serving variety of food. The food items i.e. khichari-chokha, rice-pulse & vegetables, rice-rajma, Rice-nutrela etc. was served in sampled schools of this district where it is being served.</p>
	<p>(iv) Does the daily menu include rice / wheat preparation, dal and vegetables?</p>
	<p>All sampled schools of Katihar district include rice preparation, dal and vegetables in their daily menu where it is being served while none of sampled schools of this district include wheat preparation in their daily menu. Green vegetables are rarely cooked in the sampled schools.</p>

7	<p><u>QUALITY & QUANTITY OF MEAL:</u></p> <p>Feedback from children on –</p> <p>(i) Quality of meal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When the MI observers asked the children, parents and community members about the quality of mid-day meal which was served in the schools, it was discovered that they were not happy with quality of food. Bad quality of food materials were served often in unhygienic condition. Food was cooked and kept in open and dirty ground. • Bad quality of food items is being served by NGO as reported by children, HM, school teachers and community members. • Adequate numbers of plates are not available in schools; therefore, many children bring their own plates for taking food. • MI Observers found that none of the sampled school's children of Katihar district were happy with quality of meal which was served in their school.
	<p>(ii) Quantity of meal:</p> <p>When the MI observers asked the children, parents and community members about the quantity of mid-day meal which was served in the schools, it was discovered that they were not happy with quantity of food.</p>
	<p>(iii) If children were not happy, Please give reasons and suggestions to improve.</p> <p>Children were not happy with MDM because:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bad quality of food materials is often served in unhygienic condition. • Food is cooked and kept in open and dirty ground. • They are forced to sit on the ground without any proper sitting arrangement like <i>tat-patti, carpet</i> etc. • Some children complained that they have to bring their own plates to eat the MDM. • Poor quality of food items is often served by the NGO. • The NGO is not providing hot cooked meal regularly in the school. • The NGO is not providing hot cooked meal timely in the school. <p>Suggestions given by students for improvement in MDM:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better quality of rice should be provided to the school authority. • Better quality of pulse and green vegetables with proper quantity should be served by the school management. • Fruits/Salad also may be included in the MDM • Proper monitoring is necessary for maintaining the quality and quantity of meal. • Food items must be served by the concerned authority as per the menu. • Proper sitting arrangement also should be provided in the school. • Adequate utensils and plates should be available in the school for MDM facilities. • In stead of NGOs, MDM should be prepared and served by the school management committee.

Suggestions given by teachers for improvement in MDM:

- Supply of rice should be regular
- Separate staff should be appointed to look after MDM in the school.
- @ Rs10/- per students should be given by the Govt. for better quality of meal.
- Adequate utensils and plates should be available in the school for preparing and serving the MDM.

Suggestions given by parents and community people for improvement in MDM:

- The services of NGO should be taken off immediately in respect of MDM because-
 - (a) Poor quality of food items is often served by the NGO irregular manner in the schools.
 - (b) The NGO is not providing hot cooked meal timely in the schools.
 - (c) The quality of food being served by NGO is so poor that the children refused to eat them in many schools.
- In stead of NGOs, MDM should be prepared and served by the school management committee. In this regard, responsibility should be given to the present VSS/MTA of concerned school.
- Separate person should be appointed at CRC level to look after the MDM quantity and quality in the school.
- Block level authority must visit once in a week to see the MDM facilities in the schools.
- Concerned people must be punished for serving bad quality of meal
- Better quality food should be provided to the children.
- Green vegetables should also be given to the students in MDM.
- Supply of rice should be regular in the schools.

Suggestions given MI for improvement in MDM:

- The NGO is not doing good job in relation to preparation and distribution of hot cooked meal as reported by the different level of authority as well as children and parents/community people of the coverage area.
- MDM should be prepared and served either school level or Panchayat level. In this regard, responsibility should be given to present VSS/MTA of concerned school or Panchayat level authority.
- Food grains and cooking cost should be provided to the VSS/MTA of concerned school regularly.
- Block level authority must visit twice in a month to see the MDM facilities in the schools.
- Separate person should be appointed at CRC level to look after the quality of MDM in schools.
- Green vegetables should also be given to the students in MDM.
- Light food items may also be distributed among students at dismissal hours, so that the students may have incentive to wait till the school hours are over.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food items amount should be increased to Rs10/- per students for better quality of meal. • Separate trained staff should be appointed to look after MDM in the school. • The gas facilities should be provided to the schools for cooking the food. • Adequate utensils and plates should be made available in the school for preparing and serving the MDM. • Fruits and Salad also should be given to the students for better nutrition at least twice in a week. • Provision should be made by the government for construction of a dining hall in each school where children take their meal in properly manner in hygienic condition. • MDM account should be separated from other schools account and it's operated by the school Adhoc committee (i.e. School HM & a senior teacher of the school) or present VSS/MTA (i.e. school HM & secretary of VSS/MTA of concerned school). • The remuneration of cooks may be given @Rs.2000/- per month regular manner.
8	<p><u>SUPPLEMENTARY:</u></p> <p>(i) Is there school Health Card maintained for each child?</p> <p>Majority of sampled schools (72.5%) were maintained the health card for each child.</p> <p>(ii) What is the frequency of health check-up?</p> <p>Health check-up of school students was not done in any sampled schools of Katihar district during the last six months.</p> <p>(iii) Whether children are given micronutrients (iron, folic acid, vitamin – A dosage) and de-worming medicine periodically?</p> <p>Micronutrients (Iron, folic acid & vitamin – A dosage) which are necessary for improving the health and proper growth of the children was not provided in any sampled schools of Katihar district, whereas de-worming medicine was given to the children only one time in 72.5% sampled schools of Katihar district during 2011-12.</p> <p>2. Who administers these medicines and at what frequency?</p> <p>The Medical Officer of Primary Health Center of concerned block administers these medicines. It was rarely distributed in different schools of concerned block as reported by HM, teachers, parents and community people of coverage area of schools.</p>
9	<p><u>STATUS OF COOKS:</u></p> <p>(ii) Who cooks and serves the meal? (Cook cum helper appointed by the Department/VEC/ Self Help Group/NGO/Contractor)</p> <p>Majority of sampled schools (77.5%) of Katihar district, MDM preparation and distribution are managed by the VSS of concerned school but in 9 (22.5%) sampled schools; MDM preparation and distribution are managed by the NGO. Hence the cook cum helper has been appointed by these agencies for preparing Mid Day Meal.</p> <p>(ii) Is the number of cooks and helpers engaged in the school as per GOI norms?</p> <p>None of the schools visited have got any guidelines of Govt. of India with regard to the</p>

	number of cooks to be engaged by them. Therefore, they are not engaging proper numbers of cooks.
	(iii) What is remuneration paid to cooks cum helpers and mode of payment?
	Schools where MDM is cooked & served paid the honorarium of Rs.1000/- per month to cooks. But in such schools where MDM was served by NGO, MDM cooks/helpers paid the honorarium Rs.500/- per month. The HM reported to MI members that the remuneration of cooks/helpers was paid by them through banking channel. But their remuneration was not released by the concerned authority to the sampled schools from November, 2011.
	(iv) Is the remuneration paid to cooks cum helpers regularly?
	No, the remuneration of cooks/helpers was not paid regularly (i.e. once in a month). The cooks/helpers of sampled schools reported MI members that they did not receive their remuneration from November 2011. The HM, teachers and community people has also authenticated this matter.
	(v) Specify the social composition of cooks cum helpers? (SC/ST/OBC/Minority)
	Women cooks/helpers of SC/OBC/Minority category were found in sampled schools of Katihar district.
10	<p><u>INFRASTRUCTURE:</u></p> <p>Is a pucca kitchen shed-cum-store:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Constructed and in use 2. Scheme under which kitchen sheds constructed – MDM/SSA/Others 3. Constructed but not in use (Reason for not using) 4. Under construction 5. Sanctioned, but construction not started 6. Not sanctioned 7. Any other (specify)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The pucca kitchen shed-cum-store was available and also in use in 39 (97.5%) of the sampled schools of Katihar district and it was constructed under SSA scheme. • The pucca kitchen shed-cum-store was not sanctioned in 1 (2.5%) sampled school.
11	<p>In case the pucca kitchen shed is not available, where is the food being cooked and where the food grains /other ingredients are being stored?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In such situation the food being cooked under thatched Kitchen shed or in the open places or in a separate classroom. • The MDM food grains and other ingredients are kept in safe places inside the school (in the HM room/classroom).
12	<p>Whether potable water is available for cooking and drinking purpose?</p> <p>Potable water was available in all sampled schools (100%) of Katihar district. In some schools the hand pumps are not in proper condition and it needs to be repaired. It was observed by MI members that the available hand pump is not meeting the problems of potable water in the schools. Therefore, another hand pump was required in all sampled</p>

	schools immediately so that children could drink water and wash their hands before and after taking their meal without facing any problem.
13	Whether utensils are available for cooking food? If available, is it adequate? Majority of sampled schools (87.5%) of Katihar district had adequate number of utensils for cooking MDM. The HM of sampled schools reported that Rs.5000/- had been released by the DPO to purchase the cooking utensils.
14	What is the kind of fuel used? (Gas based/firewood etc.) Majority of all sampled schools (100%) of Katihar district used firewood as fuel for cooking MDM where MDM was prepared in the school.
15	<u>SAFETY & HYGIENE:</u> General Impression of the environment, Safety and hygiene: (i) Are children encouraged to wash hands before and after eating? It was observed in sampled schools that teachers did not teach personal hygiene to children like washing hands before and after taking meals. Therefore only in a few schools (12.5%) in Katihar district, children were observed washing their hands before and after taking MDM. (ii) Do the children take meals in an orderly manner? There were only a few schools (12.5%) where children were found to take meals in an orderly manner in Katihar district. Due to lack of proper sitting arrangement and lack of vacant places in the schools, children ate their meal here and there. (iii) Conservation of water? Children are not taught in school to conserve water while washing dishes in Katihar district. Therefore, none of the sample school's children of this district used the practice of conserving water while washing dishes. (iv) Is the cooking process and storage of fuel safe, not posing any fire hazard? The cooking process and storage of fuel is safe in all sampled schools where MDM prepared in the school.
16	COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION AND AWARENESS: Extent of participation by Parents/VSSs/VECs/Panchayats/Urban bodies in daily supervision, monitoring and participation. (i) Is any roster being maintained by the community members for supervision of the MDM Roster was not maintained by the community members for supervision of the MDM in any of the sampled schools of Katihar district. (ii) Are the parents/community members aware about the following? (a) Quantity of MDM per child: The parents/community members reported to MI that @100 gram rice per child per day for primary school (i.e. class I to V) and @150 gram rice per child per day for Upper Primary School (i.e. class VI to VIII) were released by the FCI to school.

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18	IMPACT																								

	<p>(i) Has the mid day meal improved the enrollment, attendance of children in school, any improvement in general well being, nutritional status of children?</p>
	<p>In fact the MDM has improved the enrollment and attendance of children in schools especially in rural areas. Comparatively at least the poor and below poverty line children were getting the kind of food which they would have otherwise not got at their homes. Thus, the MDM has attracted weaker sections of parents to send their children to school for education.</p>
	<p>(ii) Is there any other incidental benefit to the children and school due to serving of mid-day-meal by VSS, VEC, PRI members?</p>
	<p>The MDM has attracted the weaker section parents to send their children to school for education. Poor women got part time employment for preparing and serving MDM in the nearest school.</p>

List of schools visited in Katihar district:

Sl. No.	DISE Code	Name of Schools
1	10100100101	P. S. Hridayganj
2	10100100401	P. S. Rifuzi Colony
3	10100100402	P. S. Naya Tola Mirchaibari
4	10100101901	Bastiram Girl's P. S. Barabazar
5	10100102801	U. M. S. Verma Rifuzi Colony
6	10100101703	Urdu M. S. Kadwa Rampara
7	10100102201	U. M. S. Hawaii Adda
8	10100101001	Gandhi M. S. Railway Colony
9	10100302701	P. S. Ramnagar Bansi
10	10101402002	P. S. Bajitpur Santhali
11	10101601902	P. S. Baghmara Harijan
12	10101301402	P. S. Mansokha Santhal
13	10101402003	P. S. Argara Chandpur
14	10100700102	P. S. Thakurwari Sameli
15	10101304901	U. M. S. Maroncha
16	10101304101	M. S. Budhnagar
17	10101402101	Govt. M. S. Marangi
18	10100403601	Adarsh M. S. Dighari
19	10100404203	Buniyadi M. S. Kolashi
20	10100700105	U. M. S. Nawabganj Purabtola
21	10101603001	M. S. Nawabganj
22	10100300302	Adarsh M. S. Hasanganj
23	10101304101	M. S. Bastaul Pranpur
24	10100402302	Adarsh M. S. Marwa Najrachauki
25	10100100201	M. S. Mirchaibari
26	10101600701	M. S. Patni Narayanpur
27	10101307601	P. S. Kuchiyahi
28	10100417401	P. S. Pokhar Rishi Tola
29	10101603202	U. M. S. Katiganj Boulia
30	10100405601	M. S. Chandwa Rupaspur
31	10100200101	M. S. Dwashay
32	10100104001	M. S. Bathili
33	10100102905	M. S. Bhawara
34	10100300601	U. M. S. Itwa Hasanganj
35	10100403101	U. M. S. Rampur
36	10100103503	Uma Devi M. S. Katihar
37	10100102402	P. S. Mofarganj Gareritola
38	10100401502	M. S. Kheria
39	10100700301	M. S. Dumar
40	10101402001	M. S. Mohanpur

(C) Mid-Day Meal Scheme: Muzaffarpur District

3.1	Name of the District	Muzaffarpur
3.2	Date of visit to the District/EGS/Schools	8 th February to 18 th February 2012

1	<p><u>REGULARITY IN SERVING MEAL:</u></p> <p>(i) Whether the school is serving hot cooked meal daily?</p> <p>In Muzaffarpur district, 22 (55%) sampled schools out of 40 sampled schools are serving hot cooked meals. In 17 (42.5%) sampled schools MDM was prepared and served by VSS/MTA while 5 (12.5%) sampled schools, MDM was prepared and distributed by Mahila Samakhya.</p> <p>(ii) If there was interruption, what was the extent and reasons for the same?</p> <p>18 (45%) sampled schools of this district was not serving hot cooked meal regularly to their children due to many reasons. The breakup of reasons are as follows in respect of interruption of MDM in Muzaffarpur district where sampled schools are not serving hot cooked meals on the day of visit and on the day previous date of visit. to their students:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unavailability of rice in the schools : 8 (20.0%) • Lack of coking cost : 1 (2.5%) • Contract of NGO was ended : 7 (17.5%) • Due investigation on bad quality food items : 2 (5.0%) 																						
2	<p><u>TRENDS:</u></p> <p>Extent of variation (As per school records vis-à-vis actual position/status on the day of visit)</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>No.</th> <th>Details</th> <th>Data</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>(i)</td> <td>Enrollment</td> <td>21773</td> </tr> <tr> <td>(ii)</td> <td>No. of children opted for Mid Day Meal</td> <td>18974</td> </tr> <tr> <td>(iii)</td> <td>No. of children attending the school on the day of visit</td> <td>13262</td> </tr> <tr> <td>(iv)</td> <td>No. of children availing MDM as per MDM Register</td> <td>6313</td> </tr> <tr> <td>(v)</td> <td>No. of children actually availing MDM on the day of visit</td> <td>6313</td> </tr> <tr> <td>(v)</td> <td>No. of children availed MDM on the previous day</td> <td>6585</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		No.	Details	Data	(i)	Enrollment	21773	(ii)	No. of children opted for Mid Day Meal	18974	(iii)	No. of children attending the school on the day of visit	13262	(iv)	No. of children availing MDM as per MDM Register	6313	(v)	No. of children actually availing MDM on the day of visit	6313	(v)	No. of children availed MDM on the previous day	6585
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	<p>The above table reveals that –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • About 60.9% students were present in the sampled schools on the day of visit and out of them only 29.0% were taking MDM on the day of visit. • On the other hand, about 30.2% were taking MDM on the day previous date of visit. <p>Major findings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • About 12.9% children of different schools of Muzaffarpur district has not opted MDM facilities provided by the government because poor quality of food material is being served by the Mahila Samakhya/NGO as reported by children, parents and other community members of the coverage area of sampled schools. • MI members also found that the poor quality of food items is being served by the Mahila Samakhya/NGO in comparison to VSS/MTA in different schools of Muzaffarpur district. <p>Important steps should be taken by the concerned authority as early as possible to improve the quality and also regularize the MDM in the schools in respect to Right to Education.</p>
3	<p><u>REGULARITY IN DELIVERING FOOD GRAINS TO SCHOOL LEVEL:</u></p> <p>(i) Is school receiving food grain regularly? If there is delay in delivering food grains, what is the extent of delay and reasons for the same?</p> <p>Majority of sampled schools (52.5%) were not receiving food grains regularly. The HM of concerned schools informed the MI that the MDM remains closed for months because of non availability of rice with the dealer.</p> <p>(ii) Is buffer stock of one-month's requirement is maintained?</p> <p>The buffer stock of one month's requirement was not maintained by the sampled schools of Muzaffarpur district.</p> <p>(iii) Is the quantity of food grain supplied was as per the marked/indicated weight?</p> <p>The HM, teachers and community people reported to MI members that quantity of food grain supplied by dealers in sampled schools was not matched with the marked/ indicated weight. They were facing so many problems in this regard. But none of them has lodged complain in front of the higher authority. The MI members also observed that the bag of food grains (rice) was not properly packed by FCI.</p> <p>(iv) Is the food grains delivered at the school?</p> <p>The HM of sampled schools reported to MI members that the food grains are delivered at school by the concerned dealer.</p> <p>(v) Is the quality of food grain good?</p>
	<p>The quality of food grains was found average in all sampled schools.</p>
4	<p><u>REGULARITY IN DELIVERING COOKING COST TO SCHOOL LEVEL:</u></p> <p>(i) Is school/implementing agency receiving cooking cost in advance regularly? If there is delay in delivering cooking cost, what is the extent of delay and reasons for it?</p> <p>Majority of sampled schools (62.5%) of Muzaffarpur district were receiving cooking</p>

	<p>cost in advance regularly. But the HM of 1 (2.5%) sampled school reported to MI members that they are not receiving cooking cost in advance regularly. Cooking cost (Rs.2.77 per head per day in primary schools and Rs.4.03 per head in upper primary schools) was released to majority of schools in advance by the concerned office of the district.</p>
	<p>(ii) In case of delay, how schools/implementing agency manages to ensure that there is no disruption in the feeding programme?</p>
	<p>In this regard some HMs of concerned schools reported to MI that they bring the related items on credit from local shopkeepers. Sometimes shopkeepers refused to provide related items of MDM to school which made it difficult to run MDM on regular basis.</p>
	<p>(iii) Is cooking cost paid by Cash or through banking channel?</p>
	<p>All the sampled schools where MDM was cooked and served received cooking cost for MDM through banking channel (i.e. E-transfer).</p>
5	<p><u>SOCIAL EQUITY:</u></p> <p>(i) Did you observe any gender or caste or community discrimination in cooking or serving or seating arrangements?</p>
	<p>There was no caste / gender/ disability based discrimination seen during the serving the Mid-Day Meal to the students in sampled schools of Muzaffarpur district. All children were treated equally irrespective of caste, gender and disability.</p>
	<p>(ii) What is the system of serving and seating arrangements for eating?</p>
	<p>Students were encouraged to sit in queue with their plates and after that food items were served by the cooks. Tat-Patti or carpet was not available in schools for this purpose.</p>
6	<p><u>VARIETY OF MENU:</u></p> <p>(i) Has the school displayed its weekly menu at a place noticeable to community, and is it able to adhere to the menu displayed?</p>
	<p>Majority of sampled schools (87.5%) had displayed its weekly menu but they hardly adhered to the menu displayed.</p>
	<p>(ii) Who decides the menu?</p>
	<p>The State/District level officers of MDM decided the menu and a copy of such menu were provided to schools with a request to serve the MDM to their students according to the given menu.</p>
	<p>(iii) Is there variety in the food served or is the same food served daily?</p>
	<p>All sampled schools of Muzaffarpur district are serving variety of food. The food items i.e. khichari-chokha, rice-pulse & vegetables, rice-rajma, rice-nutrela etc. was served in sampled schools of this district where it is being served.</p>
	<p>(iv) Does the daily menu include rice / wheat preparation, dal and vegetables?</p>
	<p>All sampled schools of Muzaffarpur district include rice preparation, dal and vegetables in their daily menu where it is being served while none of sampled schools of this district include wheat preparation in their daily menu. Green vegetables are rarely cooked in the sampled schools.</p>

7	<p><u>QUALITY & QUANTITY OF MEAL:</u></p> <p>Feedback from children on –</p> <p>(i) Quality of meal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When the MI observers asked the children, parents and community members about the quality of mid-day meal which was served in the schools, it was discovered that they were not happy with quality of food. Bad quality of food materials were served often in unhygienic condition. Food was cooked and kept in open and dirty ground. • Bad quality of food items is being served by NGO as reported by children, HM, school teachers and community members. • Adequate numbers of plates are not available in schools; therefore, many children bring their own plates for taking food. • MI Observers found that none of the sampled school’s children of Muzaffarpur district were happy with quality of meal which was served in their school.
	<p>(ii) Quantity of meal:</p> <p>When the MI observers asked the children, parents and community members about the quantity of mid-day meal which was served in the schools, it was discovered that they were not happy with quantity of food.</p>
	<p>(iii) If children were not happy, Please give reasons and suggestions to improve.</p>
	<p>Children were not happy with MDM because:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bad quality of food materials is often served in unhygienic condition. • Food is cooked and kept in open and dirty ground. • They are forced to sit on the ground without any proper sitting arrangement like <i>tat-patti, carpet</i> etc. • Some children complained that they have to bring their own plates to eat the MDM. • Poor quality of food items is often served by the NGO. • The NGO is not providing hot cooked meal regularly in the school. • The NGO is not providing hot cooked meal timely in the school. <p>Suggestions given by students for improvement in MDM:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better quality of rice should be provided to the school authority. • Better quality of pulse and green vegetables with proper quantity should be served by the school management. • Fruits/Salad also may be included in the MDM • Proper monitoring is necessary for maintaining the quality and quantity of meal. • Food items must be served by the concerned authority as per the menu. • Proper sitting arrangement also should be provided in the school. • Adequate utensils and plates should be available in the school for MDM facilities. • In stead of NGOs, MDM should be prepared and served by the school management committee.

Suggestions given by teachers for improvement in MDM:

- Supply of rice should be regular
- Separate staff should be appointed to look after MDM in the school.
- @ Rs10/- per students should be given by the Govt. for better quality of meal.
- Adequate utensils and plates should be available in the school for preparing and serving the MDM.

Suggestions given by parents and community people for improvement in MDM:

- The services of NGO should be taken off immediately in respect of MDM because-
 - (d) Poor quality of food items is often served by the NGO irregular manner in the schools.
 - (e) The NGO is not providing hot cooked meal timely in the schools.
 - (f) The quality of food being served by NGO is so poor that the children refused to eat them in many schools.
- In stead of NGOs, MDM should be prepared and served by the school management committee. In this regard, responsibility should be given to the present VSS/MTA of concerned school.
- Separate person should be appointed at CRC level to look after the MDM quantity and quality in the school.
- Block level authority must visit once in a week to see the MDM facilities in the schools.
- Concerned people must be punished for serving bad quality of meal
- Better quality food should be provided to the children.
- Green vegetables should also be given to the students in MDM.
- Supply of rice should be regular in the schools.

Suggestions given MI for improvement in MDM:

- The NGO is not doing good job in relation to preparation and distribution of hot cooked meal as reported by the different level of authority as well as children and parents/community people of the coverage area.
- MDM should be prepared and served either school level or Panchayat level. In this regard, responsibility should be given to present VSS/MTA of concerned school or Panchayat level authority.
- Food grains and cooking cost should be provided to the VSS/MTA of concerned school regularly.
- Block level authority must visit twice in a month to see the MDM facilities in the schools.
- Separate person should be appointed at CRC level to look after the quality of MDM in schools.
- Green vegetables should also be given to the students in MDM.
- Light food items may also be distributed among students at dismissal hours, so that the students may have incentive to wait till the school hours are over.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food items amount should be increased to Rs10/- per students for better quality of meal. • Separate trained staff should be appointed to look after MDM in the school. • The gas facilities should be provided to the schools for cooking the food. • Adequate utensils and plates should be made available in the school for preparing and serving the MDM. • Fruits and Salad also should be given to the students for better nutrition at least twice in a week. • Provision should be made by the government for construction of a dining hall in each school where children take their meal in properly manner in hygienic condition. • MDM account should be separated from other schools account and it's operated by the school Adhoc committee (i.e. School HM & a senior teacher of the school) or present VSS/MTA (i.e. school HM & secretary of VSS/MTA of concerned school). • The remuneration of cooks may be given @Rs.2000/- per month regular manner.
8	<p><u>SUPPLEMENTARY:</u></p> <p>(i) Is there school Health Card maintained for each child?</p> <p>Majority of sampled schools (82.5%) were maintained the health card for each child.</p> <p>(ii) What is the frequency of health check-up?</p> <p>Health check-up of school students was not done in any sampled schools of Muzaffarpur district during the last six months.</p> <p>(iii) Whether children are given micronutrients (iron, folic acid, vitamin – A dosage) and de-worming medicine periodically?</p> <p>Micronutrients (Iron, folic acid & vitamin – A dosage) which are necessary for improving the health and proper growth of the children was not provided in any sampled schools of Muzaffarpur district, whereas de-worming medicine was given to the children only one time in 82.5% sampled schools of Muzaffarpur district during 2011-12.</p> <p>4. Who administers these medicines and at what frequency?</p> <p>The Medical Officer of Primary Health Center of concerned block administers these medicines. It was rarely distributed in different schools of concerned block as reported by HM, teachers, parents and community people of coverage area of schools.</p>
9	<p><u>STATUS OF COOKS:</u></p> <p>(iii) Who cooks and serves the meal? (Cook cum helper appointed by the Department/VEC/ Self Help Group/NGO/Contractor)</p> <p>Majority of sampled schools (65%) of Muzaffarpur district, MDM preparation and distribution are managed by the VSS of concerned school but in 14 (35%) sampled schools; MDM preparation and distribution are managed by the NGO. Hence the cook cum helper has been appointed by these agencies for preparing Mid Day Meal.</p> <p>(ii) Is the number of cooks and helpers engaged in the school as per GOI norms?</p> <p>None of the schools visited have got any guidelines of Govt. of India with regard to the</p>

	<p>number of cooks to be engaged by them. Therefore, they are not engaging proper numbers of cooks.</p>
	<p>(iii) What is remuneration paid to cooks cum helpers and mode of payment?</p>
	<p>Schools where MDM is cooked & served paid the honorarium of Rs.1000/- per month to cooks. But in such schools where MDM was served by NGO, MDM cooks/helpers paid the honorarium Rs.500/- per month. The HM reported to MI members that the remuneration of cooks/helpers was paid by them through banking channel. But their remuneration was not released by the concerned authority to the sampled schools from October-November 2011.</p>
	<p>(iv) Is the remuneration paid to cooks cum helpers regularly?</p>
	<p>No, the remuneration of cooks/helpers was not paid regularly (i.e. once in a month). The cooks/helpers of sampled schools reported MI members that they did not receive their remuneration from October-November, 2011. The HM, teachers and community people has also authenticated this matter.</p>
	<p>(v) Specify the social composition of cooks cum helpers? (SC/ST/OBC/Minority)</p>
	<p>Women cooks/helpers of SC/ST/OBC/Minority category were found in sampled schools of Muzaffarpur district.</p>
10	<p><u>INFRASTRUCTURE:</u></p> <p>Is a pucca kitchen shed-cum-store:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Constructed and in use 2. Scheme under which kitchen sheds constructed – MDM/SSA/Others 3. Constructed but not in use (Reason for not using) 4. Under construction 5. Sanctioned, but construction not started 6. Not sanctioned 7. Any other (specify)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The pucca kitchen shed-cum-store was available and also in use in 17 (42.5%) sampled schools of Muzaffarpur district and it was constructed under SSA scheme. • The pucca kitchen shed-cum-store was constructed but not in use in 2 (5%) sampled school of Muzaffarpur district. The HM of concerned school reported to MI members that- the size of the pucca kitchen shed-cum-store was not adequate as per the requirement. Therefore, additional room was engaged. • In 2 (5%) schools pucca kitchen shed-cum-store was under construction stage. • 1 (2.5%) sampled schools has received amount for construction a Kitchen shed. But the construction of pucca kitchen shed-cum store was not started by the concerned schools. • The pucca kitchen shed-cum-store was not sanctioned in 18 (45%) sampled schools.
11	<p>In case the pucca kitchen shed is not available, where is the food being cooked and where the food grains /other ingredients are being stored?</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In such situation the food being cooked under thatched Kitchen shed or in the open places or in a separate classroom.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The MDM food grains and other ingredients are kept in safe places inside the school (in the HM room/classroom).
12	<p>Whether potable water is available for cooking and drinking purpose?</p> <p>Potable water was available in majority of sampled schools (97.5%) of Muzaffarpur district. In some schools the hand pumps are not in proper condition and it needs to be repaired. It was observed by MI members that the available hand pump is not meeting the problems of potable water in the schools. Therefore, another hand pump was required in all sampled schools immediately so that children could drink water and wash their hands before and after taking their meal without facing any problem.</p>
13	<p>Whether utensils are available for cooking food? If available, is it adequate?</p> <p>Majority of sampled schools (87.5%) of Muzaffarpur district had adequate number of utensils for cooking MDM. The HM of sampled schools reported that Rs.5000/- had been released by the DPO to purchase the cooking utensils.</p>
14	<p>What is the kind of fuel used? (Gas based/firewood etc.)</p> <p>All sampled schools of Muzaffarpur district used firewood as fuel for cooking MDM where MDM was prepared in the school.</p>
15	<p><u>SAFETY & HYGIENE:</u></p> <p>General Impression of the environment, Safety and hygiene:</p> <p>(i) Are children encouraged to wash hands before and after eating?</p> <p>It was observed in sampled schools that teachers did not teach personal hygiene to children like washing hands before and after taking meals. Therefore only in a few schools (15%) in Muzaffarpur district, children were observed washing their hands before and after taking MDM.</p> <p>(ii) Do the children take meals in an orderly manner?</p> <p>There were only a few schools (15%) where children were found to take meals in an orderly manner in Muzaffarpur district. Due to lack of proper sitting arrangement and lack of vacant places in the schools, children ate their meal here and there.</p> <p>(iii) Conservation of water?</p> <p>Children are not taught in school (15%) to conserve water while washing dishes in Muzaffarpur district. Therefore, none of the sample school's children of this district used the practice of conserving water while washing dishes.</p> <p>(iv) Is the cooking process and storage of fuel safe, not posing any fire hazard?</p> <p>The cooking process and storage of fuel is safe in all sampled schools where MDM prepared in the school.</p>
16	<p>COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION AND AWARENESS:</p> <p>Extent of participation by Parents/VSSs/VECs/Panchayats/Urban bodies in daily supervision, monitoring and participation.</p> <p>(i) Is any roster being maintained by the community members for supervision of the MDM</p>

	<p>Roster was not maintained by the community members for supervision of the MDM in any of the sampled schools of Muzaffarpur district.</p>																						
	<p>(ii) Are the parents/community members aware about the following?</p> <p>(a) Quantity of MDM per child:</p>																						
	<p>The parents/community members reported to MI that @100 gram rice per child per day for primary school (i.e. class I to V) and @150 gram rice per child per day for Upper Primary School (i.e. class VI to VIII) were released by the FCI to school.</p>																						
	<p>(b) Entitlement of quantity and types of nutrients in MDM per child as supplied in the menu:</p>																						
	<p>According to menu, the cooks/helpers have to cook rice @100 gram rice per child per day for primary school and @150 gram rice per child per day for Upper Primary School. Also, they prepared other things likes vegetables, dal, rajama, karhi, nutrella, chokha etc. as per the menu.</p>																						
	<p>(c) General awareness about the overall implementation of MDM programme:</p>																						
	<p>The parents/community members were found aware of regarding the MDM programme. But they did not visit frequently in schools to look after the MDM programme.</p>																						
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17	<p>INSPECTION & SUPERVISION</p> <p>(i) Has the mid day meal programme been inspected by any state/district/block level officers/officials?</p> <p>According to HM of sampled schools, the MDM programme was supposed to be inspected by the state/ district/ block level officers/officials in sampled schools of this district. But it was rarely inspected by the state/district/block level officers/officials in sampled schools of this district.</p>																						
	<p>(ii) The frequency of such inspection?</p> <p>In Muzaffarpur district, MDM programme was not frequently inspected by the state/ district/ block level officers/ officials in sampled schools of this district. Block resource person of MDM visited respective schools of block once in a month only for data collection.</p>																						

	<p>The SDO/BEEOs/BRCCs of concerned block visited very few schools in a block of six months.</p>
	<p>(iii) Remarks made by the visiting officers? If any?</p>
	<p>Since hardly any visit was conducted. No remarks found in visiting register or neither in MDM registers.</p>
18	<p>IMPACT</p> <p>(i) Has the mid day meal improved the enrollment, attendance of children in school, any improvement in general well being, nutritional status of children?</p> <p>In fact the MDM has improved the enrollment and attendance of children in schools especially in rural areas. Comparatively at least the poor and below poverty line children were getting the kind of food which they would have otherwise not got at their homes. Thus, the MDM has attracted weaker sections of parents to send their children to school for education.</p> <p>(ii) Is there any other incidental benefit to the children and school due to serving of mid-day-meal by VSS, VEC, and PRI members?</p> <p>The MDM has attracted the weaker section parents to send their children to school for education. Poor women got part time employment for preparing and serving MDM in the nearest school.</p>

List of schools visited in Muzaffarpur district:

Sl. No.	DISE Code	Name of School
1	10140904001	M. S. Bauchaha
2	10140616804	M. S. Madhuwan Kanti
3	10141408801	M. S. Tulsimohanpur Sakra
4	10141202802	M. S. Gaighat
5	10140213001	M. S. Motipur
6	10141406501	M. S. Sakra
7	10140601601	M. S. Kasba Kanti
8	10140602501	M. S. Sain Kanti
9	10141409502	M. S. Sarmasपुर Sakra
10	10140208402	M. S. Balika Baruraj Motipur
11	10140509801	U. M. S. Jagdishpur Kudhani
12	10141410601	U. M. S. Ali Sarai Sakra
13	10140806602	U. M. S. Block Compound Musahari
14	10140601607	U. M. S. Girls Kothia Kanti
15	10140203701	M. S. Pipara Bisho Motipur
16	10141406701	M. S. Chandanpatti Sakra
17	10140510801	M. S. Chadhuwa Kurahni
18	10141102701	M. S. Katra
19	10140906801	M. S. Kanahara Bochaha
20	10140601606	P. S. Balak Kothia Kanti
21	10140813403	P. S. Akhara Ghat Bandh Muzaffarpur
22	10140601602	P. S. Kanti Harijantola
23	10140601605	P. S. Gosaitola Kanti
24	10140814401	Marwari M. S. Purani Bazar Muzaffarpur
25	10140813303	U. M. S. Navyubak Akharaghat
26	10140814703	U. M. S. (Minority) Harisabha
27	10140813501	U. M. S. (Girls) Chandwara Urdu
28	10141202815	P. S. Musahari Addapokhar Jarang
29	10140616603	P. S. Sarmasपुर Pasitola Kanti
30	10140600201	P. S. Gausi Chhapra Kanti
31	10140602602	P. S. Sain Devanand Urdu Kanti
32	10140108603	P. S. Balthi Sahebganj
33	10140510802	P. S. Charahuwa Purab Tola Kudhani
34	10140910001	U. M. S. Kanhara Musahartola Bochaha
35	10140905901	M. S. Adigopalpur Bochaha
36	10140600601	U. M. S. Kusun Nagar Kanti
37	10140602001	U. M. S. Ratnupur Kanti
38	10140106501	M. S. Parsauni Raisi Sahebganj
39	10140512901	U. M. S. Sakri Kurahani
40	10141413201	M. S. Block Compound Sakra

(D) Mid-Day Meal Scheme: Patna district

3.1	Name of the District	Patna
3.2	Date of visit to the District/EGS/Schools	3rd February to 17th February 2012

1	<p><u>REGULARITY IN SERVING MEAL:</u></p> <p>(i) Whether the school is serving hot cooked meal daily?</p> <p>In Patna district, on the day of visit it was found that 30 (75%) sampled schools out of 40 sampled schools are serving hot cooked meals. In 25 (62.5%) sampled schools MDM was prepared and served by VSS/MTA while 5 (12.5%) sampled schools, MDM was prepared and distributed by NGO.</p> <p>(ii) If there was interruption, what was the extent and reasons for the same?</p> <p>10 (25%) sampled schools of this district was not serving hot cooked meal regularly to their children due to many reasons. The breakup of reasons are as follows in respect of interruption of MDM in Patna district where sampled schools are serving hot cooked meals on the day of visit to their students:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unavailability of rice in the schools : 7 (17.5%) • Unavailability of rice and coking cost : 2 (5.0%) • Irregular supply of foods by the NGO : 1 (2.5%) 																						
2	<p><u>TRENDS:</u></p> <p>Extent of variation (As per school records vis-à-vis actual position/status on the day of visit)</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: center;">No.</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Details</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Data</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">(i)</td> <td>Enrollment</td> <td style="text-align: center;">13788</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">(ii)</td> <td>No. of children opted for Mid Day Meal</td> <td style="text-align: center;">12587</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">(iii)</td> <td>No. of children attending the school on the day of visit</td> <td style="text-align: center;">5456</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">(iv)</td> <td>No. of children availing MDM as per MDM Register</td> <td style="text-align: center;">4957</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">(v)</td> <td>No. of children actually availing MDM on the day of visit</td> <td style="text-align: center;">4957</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">(vi)</td> <td>No. of children availed MDM on the previous day</td> <td style="text-align: center;">5567</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>The above table reveals that –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • About 39.6% students were present in the sampled schools on the day of visit and out of them only 36% were taking MDM on the day of visit. • On the other hand, about 40.4% were taking MDM on the day previous date of visit. <p>Major findings:</p>		No.	Details	Data	(i)	Enrollment	13788	(ii)	No. of children opted for Mid Day Meal	12587	(iii)	No. of children attending the school on the day of visit	5456	(iv)	No. of children availing MDM as per MDM Register	4957	(v)	No. of children actually availing MDM on the day of visit	4957	(vi)	No. of children availed MDM on the previous day	5567
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> About 8.7% children of different schools of Patna district has not opted MDM facilities provided by the government because poor quality of food material is being served by the NGO as reported by children, parents and other community members of the coverage area of sampled schools. MI members also found that the poor quality of food items is being served by the NGO in comparison to VSS/MTA in different schools of Patna district. <p>Important steps should be taken by the concerned authority as early as possible to improve the quality and also regularize the MDM in the schools in respect to Right to Education.</p>
3	<p><u>REGULARITY IN DELIVERING FOOD GRAINS TO SCHOOL LEVEL:</u></p> <p>(i) Is school receiving food grain regularly? If there is delay in delivering food grains, what is the extent of delay and reasons for the same?</p> <p>About 21 (52.5%) sampled schools of Patna district were not receiving food grains regularly. The HM of concerned schools informed the MI that the MDM remains closed for months because of non availability of rice with the dealer.</p> <p>(ii) Is buffer stock of one-month's requirement is maintained?</p> <p>The buffer stock of one month's requirement was not maintained by 11 (27.5%) sampled schools of Patna district.</p> <p>(iii) Is the quantity of food grain supplied was as per the marked/indicated weight?</p> <p>The HM, teachers and community people reported to MI members that quantity of food grain supplied by dealers in sampled schools was not matched with the marked/ indicated weight. They were facing so many problems. But none of them has lodged complain in front of the higher authority. The MI members also observed that the bag of food grains (rice) was not properly packed by FCI.</p> <p>(iv) Is the food grains delivered at the school?</p> <p>The HM of sampled schools reported to MI members that the food grains are delivered at school by the concerned dealer.</p> <p>(v) Is the quality of food grain good?</p> <p>The quality of food grains was found average in all sampled schools.</p>
4	<p><u>REGULARITY IN DELIVERING COOKING COST TO SCHOOL LEVEL:</u></p> <p>(i) Is school/implementing agency receiving cooking cost in advance regularly? If there is delay in delivering cooking cost, what is the extent of delay and reasons for it?</p> <p>Majority of sampled schools (82.5%) of Patna district were receiving cooking cost in advance regularly. But the HM of 2 (5.0%) sampled schools reported to MI members that they are not receiving cooking cost in advance regularly. Cooking cost (Rs.2.77 per head per day in primary schools and Rs.4.03 per head in upper primary schools) was released to majority of schools in advance by the concerned office of the district.</p> <p>(ii) In case of delay, how schools/implementing agency manages to ensure that there is no disruption in the feeding programme?</p> <p>In this regard some HMs of concerned schools reported to MI that they bring the related</p>

	<p>items on credit from local shopkeepers. Sometimes shopkeepers refused to provide related items of MDM to school which made it difficult to run MDM on regular basis.</p>
	<p>(iii) Is cooking cost paid by Cash or through banking channel?</p>
	<p>All the sampled schools where MDM was cooked and served received cooking cost for MDM through banking channel (i.e. account payee cheque).</p>
5	<p><u>SOCIAL EQUITY:</u></p> <p>(i) Did you observe any gender or caste or community discrimination in cooking or serving or seating arrangements?</p>
	<p>There was no caste / gender/ disability based discrimination seen during the serving the Mid-Day Meal to the students in sampled schools of Patna district. All children were treated equally irrespective of caste, gender and disability.</p>
	<p>(ii) What is the system of serving and seating arrangements for eating?</p>
	<p>Students were encouraged to sit in queue with their plates and after that food items were served by the cooks. Tat-Patti or carpet was not available in schools for this purpose.</p>
6	<p><u>VARIETY OF MENU:</u></p> <p>(i) Has the school displayed its weekly menu at a place noticeable to community, and is it able to adhere to the menu displayed?</p>
	<p>Majority of sampled schools (92.5%) had displayed its weekly menu but they hardly adhered to the menu displayed.</p>
	<p>(ii) Who decides the menu?</p>
	<p>The State/District level officers of MDM decided the menu and a copy of such menu were provided to schools with a request to serve the MDM to their students according to the given menu.</p>
	<p>(iii) Is there variety in the food served or is the same food served daily?</p>
	<p>All sampled schools of Patna district are serving variety of food. The food items i.e. khichari-chokha, rice-pulse & vegetables, rice-rajma, rice-nutrela etc. was served in sampled schools of this district where it is being served.</p>
	<p>(iv) Does the daily menu include rice / wheat preparation, dal and vegetables?</p>
	<p>All sampled schools of Patna district include rice preparation, dal and vegetables in their daily menu where it is being served while none of sampled schools of this district include wheat preparation in their daily menu. Green vegetables are rarely cooked in the sampled schools.</p>
7	<p><u>QUALITY & QUANTITY OF MEAL:</u></p> <p>Feedback from children on –</p> <p>(i) Quality of meal:</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> When the MI observers asked the children, parents and community members about the quality of mid-day meal which was served in the schools, it was discovered that they were not happy with quality of food. Bad quality of food materials were served

<p>often in unhygienic condition. Food was cooked and kept in open and dirty ground.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bad quality of food items is being served by NGO as reported by children, HM, school teachers and community members. • Adequate numbers of plates are not available in schools; therefore, many children bring their own plates for taking food. • MI Observers found that none of the sampled school's children of Patna district were happy with quality of meal which was served in their school.
<p>(ii) Quantity of meal:</p>
<p>When the MI observers asked the children, parents and community members about the quantity of mid-day meal which was served in the schools, it was discovered that they were not happy with quantity of food.</p>
<p>(iii) If children were not happy, Please give reasons and suggestions to improve.</p>
<p>Children were not happy with MDM because:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bad quality of food materials is often served in unhygienic condition. • Food is cooked and kept in open and dirty ground. • They are forced to sit on the ground without any proper sitting arrangement like <i>tat-patti, carpet</i> etc. • Some children complained that they have to bring their own plates to eat the MDM. • Poor quality of food items is often served by the NGO. • The NGO is not providing hot cooked meal regularly in the school. • The NGO is not providing hot cooked meal timely in the school. <p>Suggestions given by students for improvement in MDM:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better quality of rice should be provided to the school authority. • Better quality of pulse and green vegetables with proper quantity should be served by the school management. • Fruits/Salad also may be included in the MDM • Proper monitoring is necessary for maintaining the quality and quantity of meal. • Food items must be served by the concerned authority as per the menu. • Proper sitting arrangement also should be provided in the school. • Adequate utensils and plates should be available in the school for MDM facilities. • Instead of NGOs, MDM should be prepared and served by the school management committee. <p>Suggestions given by teachers for improvement in MDM:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supply of rice should be regular • Separate staff should be appointed to look after MDM in the school. • @ Rs10/- per students should be given by the Govt. for better quality of meal. • Adequate utensils and plates should be available in the school for preparing and

serving the MDM.

Suggestions given by parents and community people for improvement in MDM:

- The services of NGO should be taken off immediately in respect of MDM because-
 - (g) Poor quality of food items is often served by the NGO irregular manner in the schools.
 - (h) The NGO is not providing hot cooked meal timely in the schools.
 - (i) The quality of food being served by NGO is so poor that the children refused to eat them in many schools.
- Instead of NGOs, MDM should be prepared and served by the school management committee. In this regard, responsibility should be given to the present VSS/MTA of concerned school.
- Separate person should be appointed at CRC level to look after the MDM quantity and quality in the school.
- Block level authority must visit once in a week to see the MDM facilities in the schools.
- Concerned people must be punished for serving bad quality of meal
- Better quality food should be provided to the children.
- Green vegetables should also be given to the students in MDM.
- Supply of rice should be regular in the schools.

Suggestions given MI for improvement in MDM:

- The NGO is not doing good job in relation to preparation and distribution of hot cooked meal as reported by the different level of authority as well as children and parents/community people of the coverage area.
- MDM should be prepared and served either school level or Panchayat level. In this regard, responsibility should be given to present VSS/MTA of concerned school or Panchayat level authority.
- Food grains and cooking cost should be provided to the VSS/MTA of concerned school regularly.
- Block level authority must visit twice in a month to see the MDM facilities in the schools.
- Separate person should be appointed at CRC level to look after the quality of MDM in schools.
- Green vegetables should also be given to the students in MDM.
- Light food items may also be distributed among students at dismissal hours, so that the students may have incentive to wait till the school hours are over.
- Food items amount should be increased to Rs10/- per students for better quality of meal.
- Separate trained staff should be appointed to look after MDM in the school.
- The gas facilities should be provided to the schools for cooking the food.
- Adequate utensils and plates should be made available in the school for preparing and serving the MDM.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fruits and Salad also should be given to the students for better nutrition at least twice in a week. • Provision should be made by the government for construction of a dining hall in each school where children take their meal in properly manner in hygienic condition. • MDM account should be separated from other schools account and it's operated by the school Adhoc committee (i.e. School HM & a senior teacher of the school) or present VSS/MTA (i.e. school HM & secretary of VSS/MTA of concerned school). • The remuneration of cooks may be given @Rs.2000/- per month regular manner.
8	<p><u>SUPPLEMENTARY:</u></p> <p>(i) Is there school Health Card maintained for each child?</p> <p>Majority of sampled school (72.5%) were maintained the health card for each child.</p> <p>(ii) What is the frequency of health check-up?</p> <p>Health check-up of school students was not done in any sampled schools of Patna district during the last six months.</p> <p>(iii) Whether children are given micronutrients (iron, folic acid, vitamin – A dosage) and de-worming medicine periodically?</p> <p>Micronutrients (Iron, folic acid & vitamin – A dosage) which are necessary for improving the health and proper growth of the children was not provided in any sampled schools of Patna district, whereas de-worming medicine was given to the children only one time in 72.5% sampled schools of Patna district during 2011-12.</p> <p>5. Who administers these medicines and at what frequency?</p> <p>The Medical Officer of Primary Health Center of concerned block administers these medicines. It was rarely distributed in different schools of concerned block as reported by HM, teachers, parents and community people of coverage area of schools.</p>
9	<p><u>STATUS OF COOKS:</u></p> <p>(iv) Who cooks and serves the meal? (Cook cum helper appointed by the Department/VEC/ Self Help Group/NGO/Contractor)</p> <p>Majority of sampled schools (87.5%) of Patna district, MDM preparation and distribution are managed by the VSS of concerned school but in 5 (12.5%) sampled schools; MDM preparation and distribution are managed by the NGO. Hence the cook cum helper has been appointed by these agencies for preparing Mid Day Meal.</p> <p>(ii) Is the number of cooks and helpers engaged in the school as per GOI norms?</p> <p>None of the schools visited have got any guidelines of Govt. of India with regard to the number of cooks to be engaged by them. Therefore, they are not engaging proper numbers of cooks.</p> <p>(iii) What is remuneration paid to cooks cum helpers and mode of payment?</p> <p>Schools where MDM is cooked & served paid the honorarium of Rs.1000/- per month to cooks. But in such schools where MDM was served by NGO, MDM cooks/helpers paid the honorarium Rs.500/- per month. The HM reported to MI members that the remuneration of</p>

	cooks/helpers was paid by them through banking channel. But their remuneration was not released by the concerned authority to the sampled schools from September-October, 2011.
	(iv) Is the remuneration paid to cooks cum helpers regularly?
	No, the remuneration of cooks/helpers was not paid regularly (i.e. once in a month). The cooks/helpers of sampled schools reported MI members that they did not receive their remuneration from September-October, 2011. The HM, teachers and community people has also authenticated this matter.
	(v) Specify the social composition of cooks cum helpers? (SC/ST/OBC/Minority)
	Women cooks/helpers of SC/ST/OBC/Minority category were found in sampled schools of Patna district.
10	<p><u>INFRASTRUCTURE:</u></p> <p>Is a pucca kitchen shed-cum-store:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Constructed and in use 2. Scheme under which kitchen sheds constructed – MDM/SSA/Others 3. Constructed but not in use (Reason for not using) 4. Under construction 5. Sanctioned, but construction not started 6. Not sanctioned 7. Any other (specify)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The pucca kitchen shed-cum-store was available and also in use in 7 (17.5%) of the sampled schools of Patna district and it was constructed under SSA scheme. • The pucca kitchen shed-cum-store was constructed but not in use in 2 (5%) sampled schools of Patna district. The HM of concerned schools reported to MI members that the size of the pucca kitchen shed-cum-store was not adequate as per the requirement. Therefore, additional room was engaged. • In 4 (10%) schools pucca kitchen shed-cum-store was under construction stage. • 2 (5%) sampled schools has received amount for construction of a Kitchen shed. But the construction of pucca kitchen shed-cum store was not started by the concerned schools. • The pucca kitchen shed-cum-store was not sanctioned in 25 (62.5%) sampled schools.
11	In case the pucca kitchen shed is not available, where is the food being cooked and where the food grains /other ingredients are being stored?
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In such situation the food being cooked under thatched Kitchen shed or in the open places or in a separate classroom. • The MDM food grains and other ingredients are kept in safe places inside the school (in the HM room/classroom).
12	Whether potable water is available for cooking and drinking purpose?
	Potable water was available in majority of sampled schools (77.5%) of Patna district. In some schools the hand pumps are not in proper condition and it needs to be repaired. It was

	observed by MI members that the available hand pump was not meeting the problems of potable water in the schools. Therefore, another hand pump required in all sampled schools immediately so that children could drink water and wash their hands before and after taking their meal without facing any problem.
13	Whether utensils are available for cooking food? If available, is it adequate? Majority of sampled schools (82.5%) of Patna district had adequate number of utensils for cooking MDM. The HM of sampled schools reported that Rs.5000/- had been released by the DPO to purchase the cooking utensils.
14	What is the kind of fuel used? (Gas based/firewood etc.) All sampled schools of Patna district used firewood as fuel for cooking MDM where MDM was prepared in the school.
15	<u>SAFETY & HYGIENE:</u> General Impression of the environment, Safety and hygiene: (i) Are children encouraged to wash hands before and after eating? It was observed in sampled schools that teachers did not teach personal hygiene to children like washing hands before and after taking meals. Therefore, only in a few schools (12.5%) in Patna district, children were observed washing their hands before and after taking MDM. (ii) Do the children take meals in an orderly manner? There were only a few schools (12.5%) where children were found to take meals in an orderly manner in Patna district. Due to proper lack of sitting arrangement and lack of vacant places in the schools, children ate their meal here and there. (iii) Conservation of water? Children are not taught in school to conserve water while washing dishes in Patna district. Therefore, none of the sample school's children of this district used the practice of conserving water while washing dishes. (iv) Is the cooking process and storage of fuel safe, not posing any fire hazard? The cooking process and storage of fuel is safe in all sampled schools.
16	<u>COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION AND AWARENESS:</u> Extent of participation by Parents/VSSs/VECs/Panchayats/Urban bodies in daily supervision, monitoring and participation. (i) Is any roster being maintained by the community members for supervision of the MDM Roster was not maintained by the community members for supervision of the MDM in any of the sampled schools of Patna district. (ii) Are the parents/community members aware about the following? (a) Quantity of MDM per child: The parents/community members reported to MI that @100 gram rice per child per day for primary school (i.e. class I to V) and @150 gram rice per child per day for Upper

	Primary School (i.e. class VI to VIII) were released by the FCI to school.																								
	(b) Entitlement of quantity and types of nutrients in MDM per child as supplied in the menu:																								
	According to menu, the cooks/helpers have to cook rice @100 gram rice per child per day for primary school and @150 gram rice per child per day for Upper Primary School. Also, they prepared other things like's vegetables, dal, rajama, karhi, nutrella, chokha etc. as per the menu.																								
	(c) General awareness about the overall implementation of MDM programme:																								
	The parents/community members were found aware of regarding the MDM programme. But they did not visit frequently in schools to look after the MDM programme.																								
	(d) Sources of awareness about the MDM scheme:																								
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17	INSPECTION & SUPERVISION																								
	(i) Has the mid day meal programme been inspected by any state/district/block level officers/officials?																								
	According to HM of sampled schools, the MDM programme was supposed to be inspected by the state/ district/ block level officers/officials in sampled schools of this district. But it was rarely inspected by the state/district/block level officers/officials in sampled schools of this district.																								
	(ii) The frequency of such inspection?																								
	In Patna district, MDM programme was not frequently inspected by the state/ district/ block level officers/ officials in sampled schools of this district. Block resource person of MDM visited respective schools of block once in a month only for data collection. The SDO/BEEOs/BRCCs of concerned block visited very few schools in a block of six months.																								
	(iii) Remarks made by the visiting officers? If any?																								
	Since hardly any visit was conducted. No remarks found in visiting register or neither in MDM registers.																								
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	<p>general well being, nutritional status of children?</p>
	<p>In fact the MDM has improved the enrollment and attendance of children in schools especially in rural areas. Comparatively at least the poor and below poverty line children were getting the kind of food which they would have otherwise not got at their homes. Thus, the MDM has attracted weaker sections of parents to send their children to school for education.</p>
	<p>(ii) Is there any other incidental benefit to the children and school due to serving of mid-day-meal by VSS, VEC, and PRI members?</p>
	<p>The MDM has attracted the weaker section parents to send their children to school for education. Poor women got part time employment for preparing and serving MDM in the nearest school.</p>

List of schools visited in Patna district:

Sl. No.	DISE Code	Name of School
1	10281306001	M. S. Dhanarua
2	10281401815	U. M. S. Maksoodpur Fatuha
3	10281100101	M. S. Punpun
4	10281202501	Abheyas M. S. Masaurhi
5	10280108902	Kanya M. S. Raj Bhawan Patna
6	10280104006	Balak M. S. Shastrinagar Patna
7	10281002801	U. M. S. Shahpur
8	10280808504	M. S. Nasariganj Danapur
9	10281401811	P. S. Kewalatar Fatuha
10	10280103701	M. S. Rajapur Mainpura
11	10281101306	U. M. S. Chanduwara Punpun
12	10281405202	M. S. Buddh Chak Fatuha
13	10281203601	M. S. Hurari Masaurhi
14	10281502103	U. M. S. Noorichak Daniyawan
15	10281304602	P. S. Rasulpur Dhanarua
16	10281002201	U. M. S. Chipura Khurd Sampatchak
17	10281502002	M. S. Pir Barauhna Daniyama
18	10281203502	M. S. Ghorhuaan Masaurhi
19	10281603201	U. M. S. Arai Benipur Khusrupur
20	10280104607	P. S. Ambedkar Nagar Jhuggi-Jhopari
21	10281401816	B. M. Kanya M. S. Fatuha
22	10281401812	P. S. Raipura Fatuha
23	10280104007	Navin M. S. Rajbansi Nagar Patna
24	10281601303	P. S. Mustafapur Jhuggi Jhopari Khusrupur
25	10281101302	P. S. Dumari Hindi
26	10281203801	P. S. Thalpara Masaurhi
27	10281310501	P. S. Sewdaha Dhanarua
28	10281502101	P. S. Hasanpur Kanya Daniyawan
29	10281101304	Urdu P. S. Jat Dumari Punpun
30	10281302907	P. S. Tota Bigha Dhanarua
31	10281002702	P. S. Brahmapur Sampatchak
32	10280807701	P. S. Shradhanand Takiyapar Danapur
33	10280909702	P. S. Jaganpura Phulwarisharif
34	10281002901	P. S. Kanauji Sampatchak
35	10280909703	P. S. Sorangpur Phulwarisharif
36	10281002002	P. S. Bhelwara Chamartoli Sampatchak
37	10281210101	P. S. Kansara Masaurhi
38	10281305101	P. S. Chistipur Dhanarua
39	10281001802	M. S. Chainpur
40	10280808002	Urdu P. S. Nariyal Ghat Danapur

(E) Mid-Day Meal Scheme: Vaishali District

3.1	Name of the District	Vaishali
3.2	Date of visit to the District/EGS/Schools	25th February to 5th March 2012

1	<u>REGULARITY IN SERVING MEAL:</u>		
	(i) Whether the school is serving hot cooked meal daily?		
	<p>In Vaishali district, on the day of visit it was found that 37 (92.5%) sampled schools out of 40 sampled schools are serving hot cooked meals. In 36 (90%) sampled schools, MDM was prepared and distributed by NGO while in 1 (2.5%) sampled schools MDM was prepared and served by VSS (i.e. MTA).</p>		
	(ii) If there was interruption, what was the extent and reasons for the same?		
<p>3 (12.5%) sampled schools of this district was not serving hot cooked meal regularly to their children due to many reasons. The breakup of reasons are as follows in respect of interruption of MDM in Vaishali district where sampled schools are serving hot cooked meals on the day of visit to their students:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unavailability of rice in the schools : 1 (2.5%) • Irregular supply of foods by the NGO : 2 (5.0%) 			
2	<u>TRENDS:</u>		
	Extent of variation (As per school records vis-à-vis actual position/status on the day of visit)		
	No.	Details	Data
	(i)	Enrollment	17219
	(ii)	No. of children opted for Mid Day Meal	12132
	(iii)	No. of children attending the school on the day of visit	8109
	(iv)	No. of children availing MDM as per MDM Register	6108
	(v)	No. of children actually availing MDM on the day of visit	6108
(v)	No. of children availed MDM on the previous day	6430	
<p>The above table reveals that –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • About 47.1% students were present in the sampled schools on the day of visit and out of them only 35.5% were taking MDM on the day of visit. • On the other hand, about 37.3% were taking MDM on the day previous date of visit. <p>Major findings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • About 29.5% children of different schools of Vaishali district has not opted MDM facilities provided by the government because poor quality of food material is being 			

	<p>served by the NGO as reported by children, parents and other community members of the coverage area of sampled schools.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MI members also found that the poor quality of food items is being served by the NGO in comparison to VSS/MTA in different schools of Vaishali district. <p>Important steps should be taken by the concerned authority as early as possible to improve the quality and also regularize the MDM in the schools in respect to Right to Education.</p>
3	<p><u>REGULARITY IN DELIVERING FOOD GRAINS TO SCHOOL LEVEL:</u></p> <p>(i) Is school receiving food grain regularly? If there is delay in delivering food grains, what is the extent of delay and reasons for the same?</p> <p>2 (5%) sampled schools of Vaishali district were not receiving food grains regularly. The HM of concerned schools informed the MI that the MDM remains closed for months because of non availability of rice with the dealer.</p> <p>(ii) Is buffer stock of one-month's requirement is maintained?</p> <p>The buffer stock of one month's requirement was not maintained by 2 (5%) sampled schools of Vaishali district.</p> <p>(iii) Is the quantity of food grain supplied was as per the marked/indicated weight?</p> <p>The HM, teachers and community people reported to MI members that quantity of food grain supplied by dealers in sampled schools was not matched with the marked/ indicated weight. They were facing so many problems. But none of them has lodged complain in front of the higher authority. The MI members also observed that the bag of food grains (rice) was not properly packed by FCI.</p> <p>(iv) Is the food grains delivered at the school?</p> <p>The HM of sampled schools reported to MI members that the food grains are delivered at school by the concerned dealer.</p> <p>(v) Is the quality of food grain good?</p> <p>The quality of food grains was found average in all sampled schools.</p>
4	<p><u>REGULARITY IN DELIVERING COOKING COST TO SCHOOL LEVEL:</u></p> <p>(i) Is school/implementing agency receiving cooking cost in advance regularly? If there is delay in delivering cooking cost, what is the extent of delay and reasons for it?</p> <p>2 (5%) sampled schools of Vaishali district were receiving cooking cost in advance regularly. Cooking cost (Rs.2.77 per head per day in primary schools and Rs.4.03 per head in upper primary schools) was released to majority of schools in advance by the concerned office of the district.</p> <p>(ii) In case of delay, how schools/implementing agency manages to ensure that there is no disruption in the feeding programme?</p> <p>In this regard some HMs of concerned schools reported to MI that they bring the related items on credit from local shopkeepers. Sometimes shopkeepers refused to provide related items of MDM to school which made it difficult to run MDM on regular basis.</p>

	(iii) Is cooking cost paid by Cash or through banking channel?
	All the sampled schools where MDM was cooked and served received cooking cost for MDM through banking channel (i.e. account payee cheque).
5	<u>SOCIAL EQUITY:</u>
	(i) Did you observe any gender or caste or community discrimination in cooking or serving or seating arrangements?
	There was no caste / gender/ disability based discrimination seen during the serving the Mid-Day Meal to the students in sampled schools of Vaishali district. All children were treated equally irrespective of caste, gender and disability.
	(ii) What is the system of serving and seating arrangements for eating?
	Students were encouraged to sit in queue with their plates and after that food items were served by the cooks. Tat-Patti or carpet was not available in schools for this purpose.
6	<u>VARIETY OF MENU:</u>
	(i) Has the school displayed its weekly menu at a place noticeable to community, and is it able to adhere to the menu displayed?
	Majority of sampled schools (95%) had displayed its weekly menu but they hardly adhered to the menu displayed.
	(ii) Who decides the menu?
	The State/District level officers of MDM decided the menu and a copy of such menu were provided to schools with a request to serve the MDM to their students according to the given menu.
	(iii) Is there variety in the food served or is the same food served daily?
	All sampled schools of Vaishali district are serving variety of food. The food items i.e. khichari-chokha, rice-pulse & vegetables, rice-rajma, rice-nutrela etc. was served in sampled schools of this district where it is being served.
	(iv) Does the daily menu include rice / wheat preparation, dal and vegetables?
	All sampled schools of Vaishali district include rice preparation, dal and vegetables in their daily menu where it is being served while none of sampled schools of this district include wheat preparation in their daily menu. Green vegetables are rarely cooked in the sampled schools.
7	<u>QUALITY & QUANTITY OF MEAL:</u>
	Feedback from children on –
	(i) Quality of meal:
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> When the MI observers asked the children, parents and community members about the quality of mid-day meal which was served in the schools, it was discovered that they were not happy with quality of food. Bad quality of food materials were served often in unhygienic condition. Food was cooked and kept in open and dirty ground. Bad quality of food items is being served by NGO as reported by children, HM,

<p>school teachers and community members.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adequate numbers of plates are not available in schools; therefore, many children bring their own plates for taking food. • MI Observers found that none of the sampled school's children of Vaishali district were happy with quality of meal which was served in their school.
<p>(ii) Quantity of meal:</p>
<p>When the MI observers asked the children, parents and community members about the quantity of mid-day meal which was served in the schools, it was discovered that they were not happy with quantity of food.</p>
<p>(iii) If children were not happy, Please give reasons and suggestions to improve.</p>
<p>Children were not happy with MDM because:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bad quality of food materials is often served in unhygienic condition. • Food is cooked and kept in open and dirty ground. • They are forced to sit on the ground without any proper sitting arrangement like <i>tat-patti, carpet</i> etc. • Some children complained that they have to bring their own plates to eat the MDM. • Poor quality of food items is often served by the NGO. • The NGO is not providing hot cooked meal regularly in the school. • The NGO is not providing hot cooked meal timely in the school. <p>Suggestions given by students for improvement in MDM:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better quality of rice should be provided to the school authority. • Better quality of pulse and green vegetables with proper quantity should be served by the school management. • Fruits/Salad also may be included in the MDM • Proper monitoring is necessary for maintaining the quality and quantity of meal. • Food items must be served by the concerned authority as per the menu. • Proper sitting arrangement also should be provided in the school. • Adequate utensils and plates should be available in the school for MDM facilities. • In stead of NGOs, MDM should be prepared and served by the school management committee. <p>Suggestions given by teachers for improvement in MDM:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supply of rice should be regular • Separate staff should be appointed to look after MDM in the school. • @ Rs10/- per students should be given by the Govt. for better quality of meal. • Adequate utensils and plates should be available in the school for preparing and serving the MDM. <p>Suggestions given by parents and community people for improvement in MDM:</p>

- The services of NGO should be taken off immediately in respect of MDM because-
 - (j) Poor quality of food items is often served by the NGO irregular manner in the schools.
 - (k) The NGO is not providing hot cooked meal timely in the schools.
 - (l) The quality of food being served by NGO is so poor that the children refused to eat them in many schools.
- In stead of NGOs, MDM should be prepared and served by the school management committee. In this regard, responsibility should be given to the present VSS/MTA of concerned school.
- Separate person should be appointed at CRC level to look after the MDM quantity and quality in the school.
- Block level authority must visit once in a week to see the MDM facilities in the schools.
- Concerned people must be punished for serving bad quality of meal
- Better quality food should be provided to the children.
- Green vegetables should also be given to the students in MDM.
- Supply of rice should be regular in the schools.

Suggestions given MI for improvement in MDM:

- The NGO is not doing good job in relation to preparation and distribution of hot cooked meal as reported by the different level of authority as well as children and parents/community people of the coverage area.
- MDM should be prepared and served either school level or Panchayat level. In this regard, responsibility should be given to present VSS/MTA of concerned school or Panchayat level authority.
- Food grains and cooking cost should be provided to the VSS/MTA of concerned school regularly.
- Block level authority must visit twice in a month to see the MDM facilities in the schools.
- Separate person should be appointed at CRC level to look after the quality of MDM in schools.
- Green vegetables should also be given to the students in MDM.
- Light food items may also be distributed among students at dismissal hours, so that the students may have incentive to wait till the school hours are over.
- Food items amount should be increased to Rs10/- per students for better quality of meal.
- Separate trained staff should be appointed to look after MDM in the school.
- The gas facilities should be provided to the schools for cooking the food.
- Adequate utensils and plates should be made available in the school for preparing and serving the MDM.
- Fruits and Salad also should be given to the students for better nutrition at least twice

	<p>in a week.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision should be made by the government for construction of a dining hall in each school where children take their meal in properly manner in hygienic condition. • MDM account should be separated from other schools account and it's operated by the school Adhoc committee (i.e. School HM & a senior teacher of the school) or present VSS/MTA (i.e. school HM & secretary of VSS/MTA of concerned school). • The remuneration of cooks may be given @Rs.2000/- per month regular manner.
8	<p><u>SUPPLEMENTARY:</u></p> <p>(i) Is there school Health Card maintained for each child?</p> <p>Majority of sampled school (55%) were maintained the health card for each child.</p> <p>(ii) What is the frequency of health check-up?</p> <p>Health check-up of school students was not done in any sampled schools of Vaishali district during the last six months.</p> <p>(iii) Whether children are given micronutrients (iron, folic acid, vitamin – A dosage) and de-worming medicine periodically?</p> <p>Micronutrients (Iron, folic acid & vitamin – A dosage) which are necessary for improving the health and proper growth of the children was not provided in any sampled schools of Vaishali district, whereas de-worming medicine was given to the children only one time in 55% sampled schools of Vaishali district during 2011-12.</p> <p>6. Who administers these medicines and at what frequency?</p> <p>The Medical Officer of Primary Health Center of concerned block administers these medicines. It was rarely distributed in different schools of concerned block as reported by HM, teachers, parents and community people of coverage area of schools.</p>
9	<p><u>STATUS OF COOKS:</u></p> <p>(v) Who cooks and serves the meal? (Cook cum helper appointed by the Department/VEC/ Self Help Group/NGO/Contractor)</p> <p>Majority of sampled schools (95%) of Vaishali district, MDM preparation and distribution are managed by the VSS of concerned school but in 2 (5%) sampled schools; MDM preparation and distribution are managed by the NGO. Hence the cook cum helper has been appointed by these agencies for preparing Mid Day Meal.</p> <p>(ii) Is the number of cooks and helpers engaged in the school as per GOI norms?</p> <p>None of the schools visited have got any guidelines of Govt. of India with regard to the number of cooks to be engaged by them. Therefore, they are not engaging proper numbers of cooks.</p> <p>(iii) What is remuneration paid to cooks cum helpers and mode of payment?</p> <p>Schools where MDM is cooked & served paid the honorarium of Rs.1000/- per month to cooks. But in such schools where MDM was served by NGO, MDM cooks/helpers paid the honorarium Rs.500/- per month. The HM reported to MI members that the remuneration of cooks/helpers was paid by them through banking channel. But their remuneration was not</p>

	released by the concerned authority to the sampled schools from September-October, 2011.
	(iv) Is the remuneration paid to cooks cum helpers regularly?
	No, the remuneration of cooks/helpers was not paid regularly (i.e. once in a month). The cooks/helpers of sampled schools reported MI members that they did not receive their remuneration from September-October, 2011. The HM, teachers and community people has also authenticated this matter.
	(v) Specify the social composition of cooks cum helpers? (SC/ST/OBC/Minority)
	Women cooks/helpers of SC/ST/OBC/Minority category were found in sampled schools of Vaishali district.
10	<p><u>INFRASTRUCTURE:</u></p> <p>Is a pucca kitchen shed-cum-store:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 8. Constructed and in use 9. Scheme under which kitchen sheds constructed – MDM/SSA/Others 10. Constructed but not in use (Reason for not using) 11. Under construction 12. Sanctioned, but construction not started 13. Not sanctioned 14. Any other (specify)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The pucca kitchen shed-cum-store was available and also in use in 26 (65%) sampled schools of Vaishali district and it was constructed under SSA scheme. • The pucca kitchen shed-cum-store was constructed but not in use in 4 (10%) sampled schools of Vaishali district. The HM of concerned schools reported to MI members that- the size of the pucca kitchen shed-cum-store was not adequate as per the requirement. Therefore, additional room was engaged. • In 1 (2.5%) school pucca kitchen shed-cum-store was under construction stage. • 2 (5%) sampled schools has received amount for construction of a Kitchen shed. But the construction of pucca kitchen shed-cum store was not started by the concerned schools. • The pucca kitchen shed-cum-store was not sanctioned in 7 (17.5%) sampled schools.
11	<p>In case the pucca kitchen shed is not available, where is the food being cooked and where the food grains /other ingredients are being stored?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In such situation the food being cooked under thatched Kitchen shed or in the open places or in a separate classroom. • The MDM food grains and other ingredients are kept in safe places inside the school (in the HM room/classroom).
12	<p>Whether potable water is available for cooking and drinking purpose?</p> <p>Potable water was available in majority of sampled schools (87.5%) of Vaishali district In some schools the hand pumps are not in proper condition and it needs to be repaired. It was observed by MI members that the available hand pump is not meeting the problems of</p>

	potable water in the schools. Therefore, another hand pump was required in all sampled schools immediately so that children could drink water and wash their hands before and after taking their meal without facing any problem.
13	<p>Whether utensils are available for cooking food? If available, is it adequate?</p> <p>Majority of sampled schools (20%) of Vaishali district had adequate number of utensils for cooking MDM. The HM of sampled schools reported that Rs.5000/- had been released by the DPO to purchase the cooking utensils.</p>
14	<p>What is the kind of fuel used? (Gas based/firewood etc.)</p> <p>2 (5%) sampled schools of Vaishali district used firewood as fuel for cooking MDM where MDM was prepared in the school.</p>
15	<p><u>SAFETY & HYGIENE:</u></p> <p>General Impression of the environment, Safety and hygiene:</p> <p>(i) Are children encouraged to wash hands before and after eating?</p> <p>It was observed in sampled schools that teachers did not teach personal hygiene to children like washing hands before and after taking meals. Therefore only in a few schools (17.5%) in Vaishali district, children were observed washing their hands before and after taking MDM.</p> <p>(ii) Do the children take meals in an orderly manner?</p> <p>There were only a few schools (17.5%) where children were found to take meals in an orderly manner in Vaishali district. Due to lack of proper sitting arrangement and lack of vacant places in the schools, children ate their meal here and there.</p> <p>(iii) Conservation of water?</p> <p>Children are not taught in school to conserve water while washing dishes in Vaishali district. Therefore, none of the sample school's children of this district used the practice of conserving water while washing dishes.</p> <p>(iv) Is the cooking process and storage of fuel safe, not posing any fire hazard?</p> <p>The cooking process and storage of fuel is safe in all sampled schools.</p>
16	<p><u>COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION AND AWARENESS:</u></p> <p>Extent of participation by Parents/VSSs/VECs/Panchayats/Urban bodies in daily supervision, monitoring and participation.</p> <p>(i) Is any roster being maintained by the community members for supervision of the MDM</p> <p>Roster was not maintained by the community members for supervision of the MDM in any of the sampled schools of Vaishali district.</p> <p>(ii) Are the parents/community members aware about the following?</p> <p>(a) Quantity of MDM per child:</p> <p>The parents/community members reported to MI that @100 gram rice per child per day for primary school (i.e. class I to V) and @150 gram rice per child per day for Upper</p>

	Primary School (i.e. class VI to VIII) were released by the FCI to school.																								
	(b) Entitlement of quantity and types of nutrients in MDM per child as supplied in the menu:																								
	According to menu, the cooks/helpers have to cook rice @100 gram rice per child per day for primary school and @150 gram rice per child per day for Upper Primary School. Also, they prepared other things like's vegetables, dal, rajama, karhi, nutrella, chokha etc. as per the menu.																								
	(c) General awareness about the overall implementation of MDM programme:																								
	The parents/community members were found aware of regarding the MDM programme. But they did not visit frequently in schools to look after the MDM programme.																								
	(d) Sources of awareness about the MDM scheme:																								
	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>9. Newspaper/Magazine</td> <td>54.5%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>10. Villagers/Friends/Relatives</td> <td>88.5%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>11. Teachers</td> <td>100.0%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>12. School (where the child is studying)</td> <td>100.0%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>13. Radio</td> <td>43.5%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>14. Television</td> <td>21.5%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>15. Website</td> <td>4.5%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>16. Any other:</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td> (a) Anganwari Sevika</td> <td>24.5%</td> </tr> <tr> <td> (b) Gram Pradhan/Mukhiya/Ward members</td> <td>6.5%</td> </tr> <tr> <td> (c) Cooks/helpers</td> <td>38.5%</td> </tr> <tr> <td> (d) Children</td> <td>100.0%</td> </tr> </table>	9. Newspaper/Magazine	54.5%	10. Villagers/Friends/Relatives	88.5%	11. Teachers	100.0%	12. School (where the child is studying)	100.0%	13. Radio	43.5%	14. Television	21.5%	15. Website	4.5%	16. Any other:		(a) Anganwari Sevika	24.5%	(b) Gram Pradhan/Mukhiya/Ward members	6.5%	(c) Cooks/helpers	38.5%	(d) Children	100.0%
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17	INSPECTION & SUPERVISION																								
	(i) Has the mid day meal programme been inspected by any state/district/block level officers/officials?																								
	According to HM of sampled schools, the MDM programme was supposed to be inspected by the state/ district/ block level officers/officials in sampled schools of this district. But it was rarely inspected by the state/district/block level officers/officials in sampled schools of this district.																								
	(ii) The frequency of such inspection?																								
	In Vaishali district, MDM programme was not frequently inspected by the state/ district/ block level officers/ officials in sampled schools of this district. Block resource person of MDM visited respective schools of block once in a month only for data collection. The SDO/BEEOs/BRCCs of concerned block visited very few schools in a block of six months.																								
	(iii) Remarks made by the visiting officers? If any?																								
	Since hardly any visit was conducted. No remarks found in visiting register or neither in MDM registers.																								
18	IMPACT																								

	<p>(i) Has the mid day meal improved the enrollment, attendance of children in school, any improvement in general well being, nutritional status of children?</p>
	<p>In fact the MDM has improved the enrollment and attendance of children in schools especially in rural areas. Comparatively at least the poor and below poverty line children were getting the kind of food which they would have otherwise not got at their homes. Thus, the MDM has attracted weaker sections of parents to send their children to school for education.</p>
	<p>(ii) Is there any other incidental benefit to the children and school due to serving of mid-day-meal by VSS, VEC, and PRI members?</p>
	<p>The MDM has attracted the weaker section parents to send their children to school for education. Poor women got part time employment for preparing and serving MDM in the nearest school.</p>

List of schools visited in Vaishali district:

Sl. No.	DISE Code	Name of School
1	10180104901	M. S. Subhai Vaishali
2	10181108201	U. M. S. Hari Prasad Jandaha
3	10181403201	U. M. S. Ismailpur
4	10180109401	P. S. Karnpura
5	10180906101	M. S. Vhatauli Lalganj
6	10180105901	M. S. Chawk Hajipur
7	10181401601	M. S. Kakarhara Vaishali
8	10181403103	P. S. Rahiyapur Purbi
9	10180105801	P. S. Urdu Maszid Chouk
10	10180109101	P. S. Mohabbatpur
11	10181100102	P. S. Sanskrit Jandaha
12	10180105005	P. S. Subhai
13	10180905302	M. S. Kartahan Bujurg Lalganj
14	10181504501	M. S. Madarna
15	10180900901	M. S. Jagarnath Basant
16	10180011503	M. S. Panapur Shilauthar
17	10180605301	M. S. Kariheo
18	10181401701	M. S. Dhabauli Utri
19	10180106302	M.S. Chhoti Yussufpur
20	10180105301	Kanya M. S. Hatsarganj
21	10180910902	M. S. Kanya Repura
22	10181203702	P. S. Bluar Sahdei Bujurg
23	10181510001	P. S. Machhuatoli Vaishali
24	10180607301	P. S. Kanya Chakdadan
25	10181402001	P. S. Mohiddinpur
26	10180117102	P. S. Jethui
27	10181402101	M. S. Panapur Kusiyari Bidupur
28	10180606701	U. M. S. Harpur Gangaram Mahua
29	10181501101	Adarsh M. S. Chakramdas
30	10180905002	M. S. Gurmia Lalganj
31	10181203701	Adarsh M. S. Sahdei Bujurg
32	10180605404	U. M. S. Mirjapur
33	10181502204	Adarsh M. S. Chakalhdad
34	10180906701	P. S. Pajhia Lalganj
35	10180106803	M. S. Chakvara Vaishali
36	10180105703	M. S. BaghmaliDakshni Hajipur
37	10180607101	U. M. S. Chainpur
38	10181015202	Kanya M. S. Hathsarganj Hajipur
39	10180910701	P. S. Agarpur
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