

1. INTRODUCTION:

Mid Day Meal Programme was introduced in 1925 for disadvantaged children in Madras Municipal Corporation, where the children are not going to the school.

By the mid 1980's Kerala, Gujarat, Tamilnadu and Pondicherry States have universalized a cooked Mid Day Meal Program for children studying at primary level and in 1990-91 twelve States also started implementing the Mid Day Meal Programme for primary level children with their own resources.

The National Program of Nutritional Support to Primary Education (NP-NSPE) was launched as a centrally sponsored scheme on 15th August 1995 in 2408 blocks in the country for enhancement of enrolment, retention, improvement of attendance and quality of education and improving of nutritional levels among children. By the year 1997-98 the NP-NSPE was introduced in all districts of the country.

The Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in its direction in 2001 has linked the feeding Programme of the children to quality education Programme of Government. This was done to ensure that lesser number of children go to school hungry. This resulted in encouraging poor families to enroll their children in Government schools and thereby enable them to guarantee at least one square meal a day, called as Mid Day Meal. All State Governments in the country have to ensure that every child coming to a Government school gets one wholesome meal for lunch on school days.

Logistically, the problem was tackled through government schools that educate 60 per cent of the country's children, most of them being from below poverty-line. With parents (often single) going for wage labour early in the morning, the children usually come to school hungry because kitchen fires at home are only lit in the evenings after the father or the mother brings home the daily wage.

To address the issue, the Government of India, in its wisdom, launched the Mid Day Meal scheme, It was designed to provide nutritiously cooked afternoon

meal every day to every child enrolled in a Government school. The meal not only fights hunger, it brings a hungry child's attention back to the lessons, and it also encourages out-of-school children to get enrolled so that they can at least be assured of one wholesome meal every day.

The Mid Day Meal scheme is a well-intentioned Programme. Government of India has attempted to address the fundamental problems of Health, Nutrition, Education, and overall development of children in the country by implementing the Programme all over the country. It provides children with at least one nutritionally adequate meal a day. This program is known to lead to higher attention spans, better concentration, and improved child performance. School meal program also provides parents, a strong incentive to send children to school, thereby encouraging enrollment and reducing absenteeism and dropout rates. It supports Health, Nutrition, and Education goals and consequently will have a multi-pronged impact on a nation's overall social and economic development.

There is also evidence to suggest that apart from enhancing school attendance and child nutrition, mid day meals have an important social value and foster equality. As children learn to sit together and share a common meal, one can expect erosion of **caste prejudices** and **class inequality**. Moreover, cultural traditions and social structures often mean that girls are much more affected by hunger than boys. Thus the Mid Day Meal Programme can also **reduce the gender gap** in nutrition and education, since it enhances girl child school attendance.

The contribution of mid-day meals to food security and child nutrition particularly crucial in tribal areas where hunger is endemic. School feeding Programme is a direct approach to **improve the nutritional status of the children** who are in the stage of rapid physical & psychological development requiring special nutritional requirements. The effect of Mid Day Meal Programme is that it has lowered the widespread incidence of malnutrition primarily among children of poor families and to increase their access to education.

1.1 Brief History:

Mid Day Meal Programme in undivided Andhra Pradesh and now in the separate state of Telangana.

In a significant interim order dated 28 November 2001, the Supreme Court issued directions pertaining to 8 food-related schemes sponsored by the Central Government. Briefly, the order directs the Union and State Governments to implement these schemes fully as per official guidelines. This, in effect, converts the benefits of these schemes into legal entitlements. The paragraph relating to mid-day meals reads as follows:-

“Cooked Mid-Day Meal is to be provided in all the Government and Government Aided Primary Schools in all the states. In states, where the scheme is not operational, it is to be started in half the districts of the state (by order of poverty) by February 28th, 2002. By May 28, 2002, it is to be started in the rest of the districts too.”

In accordance to the Hon’ble Supreme Court of India directions in 2001, the Government of Andhra Pradesh introduced cooked Mid Day Meal Programme covers all the children studying in all Government, Local body and Government Aided Primary Schools. Subsequently it was extended to children enrolled in Education Guarantee Scheme (EGS) and Alternative & Innovative Education (AIE) Centers including, NCLP, Madarasa and Maqtaba supported under SSA. Children enrolled in all Government, Local Body, Private Aided Primary and Upper Primary schools are now provided with the nutritional support.

The Central Govt. provides support to States and Union Territories for the following components:

- 1) Food grains @ 100/150 gms (Primary / Upper Primary& NCLP) per child, to all the students studying in Government, Local Body and Government Aided schools, covered under the programme.
- 2) Cooking assistance.
- 3) Transportation cost @ Rs.750 per MT.
- 4) Honorarium to Cook cum Helpers @ Rs.1000/- P.M.
- 5) Assistance for management, monitoring and evaluation @ 1.8 per cent of components 1 to 3.

The scheme in its first year of implementation, has led to the following positive outcomes:-

- 1) Elimination of classroom hunger
- 2) Increase in enrollment, more significantly of girls

3) Increase in daily attendance, particularly of girls and children from poorer sections

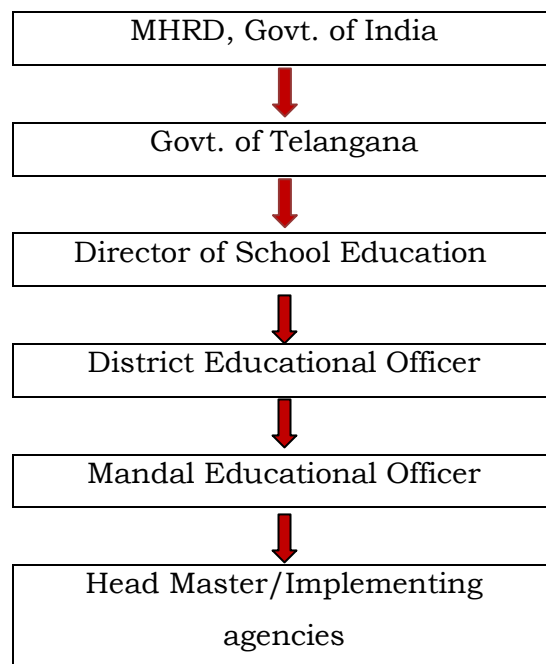
Impact of Mid Day Meal Scheme is significant:

- Mid Day Meal effectively alleviates classroom hunger and persuades poor families to send their children to school.
- The scheme has increased enrolment in schools.
- The Programme has reduced dropout rate.
- It has curbed teacher absenteeism and narrowed social distances.

The scope and effectiveness of Mid Day Meal Scheme has led to increased socialization among castes, addressed Malnutrition and women employment with the impact it has shown and the active convergence of other Departments like Health, Civil Supplies, Food Corporation of India, Sarva Siksha Abhiyan, Rural Development, Agriculture and Revenue Departments.

1.2 Management Structure:

The Mid Day Meal Programme Management structure in Telangana is as follows:



1.3 Process of Plan Formulation at State and District Level (2017-18):

The Planning process of 2017-18 in Telangana State started in January, 2017 and continued till February, 2017. The details are as follows:

Planning Schedule

SI. No	Activity	Level	Date
1	Orientation of District Educational Officers and Asst. Directors about Planning Process	State Level	20.01.2017
2	Orientation of Mandal Educational Officers on Planning Process.	District Level	21.01.2017
3	Organization of Head Masters of Primary, Upper Primary & High Schools	Mandal Level	23.01.2017
4	School level Planning Process meeting. Members Sarpanch, School Management Committee, Mothers Committee, Implementing Agencies & Head Master of the School as Convener	School Level / Habitation Level	24.01.2017

Meeting was conducted on dt.20.01.2017 with all the Assistant Directors and other staff dealing with Mid day Meal Scheme in the districts to discuss and analyze the AWP&B 2017-18 prepared so as to enable the District Educational Officers to furnish the final information.

In Telangana State superfine rice is being served in MDM in all the schools from 1-1-2015 onwards. Joint Collectors and DEOs have informed that the children are very happy in eating superfine rice and they are now consuming more quantity also.

Finally, the zone wise meetings were held with the Assistant Directors in a phased manner from 01.02.2017 to 04.02.2017 for final presentation of the AWP&B 2017-18 as follows:

Sl.No.	Names of the district	Date
1.	Adilabad, Asifabad, Nirmal, Mancherial, Karimnagar, Sircilla, Jagtial and Peddapally.	01.02.2017
2.	Nizamabad, Kamareddy, Khammam, Bhadrari, Nalgonda, Suryapet, Yadadri and Hyderabad.	02.02.2017
3.	Warangal Urban, Warangal Rural, Jayasnkari, Jangaon, Mahabubabad, Medak, Sangareddy and Siddipet.	03.02.2017
4	Mahabubnagar, Jogulamba Gadwal, Wanaparthy, Nagarkurnool, Rangareddy, Vikarabad and Medchal	04.02.2017

2. Description and assessment of the programme implemented in the current year (2016-17) and proposal for next year (2017-18) with reference to:

2.1 Regularity and wholesomeness of mid day meals served to children; interruptions if any and the reasons therefor problem areas for regular serving of meals and action taken to avoid interruptions in future

During the year 2016-17 the Mid Day Meal was served to school children regularly on all working days without any interruption.

The standardized menu suggested by the National Institute of Nutrition, Hyderabad and Home Science College, Agriculture University, Hyderabad were communicated to all the districts and they were allowed the flexibility to utilize locally available ingredients. Menu is flexible, with cooked rice, dal and vegetables, sambar, "Pulihora" (Tamarind rice) being generally the main menu. Egg is served twice a week and Banana is given to students who do not eat eggs. The implementing agencies are using the seasonally available vegetables and green leaves. The wholesomeness of the meal provided is checked at random by various officials visiting schools. One Teacher from the School on rotation has been instructed to taste the Meal compulsorily to ensure its wholesomeness before it is served to the children. One member of the School Management Committee (SMC) or any parent has also been requested to visit the school and ensure the quality of meal served every day.

Cook cum Helper Serving MDM



On receiving complaint with regard to quantity/quality on the implementing agencies, immediate suitable action is being initiated against the defaulters. All the eligible children are covered under this Programme except a small percentage

who prefer home meal. Eggs / banana are served to children twice a week. Guidelines are issued for procuring eggs at the Village Level. National Egg Coordination Committee rates are taken as the maximum limit for eggs procurement and supply.

Caloric / Protein value of the midday meal provided along with menu prescribed

As per Government of India directions cooked meal is provided with a minimum content of 470 calories and 12 grams of protein on each working day of the school to children studying in classes I to V and 695 calories and 20 grams of protein content is provided per child on each working day of the school for classes VI to VIII. In addition, 160 calories egg is provided thrice in a week. Fool proof arrangements were made to ensure this by the State Government throughout the academic year 2016-17.

2.2 System for cooking, serving and supervising mid day meals in the schools:

The implementation of the Mid Day Meal Scheme at school level in rural areas is carried out mainly by SHGs, SMC, other agencies like NGOs with proven track record, Charitable Trusts, Parents, who are identified by the Mandal Revenue Officers (Tahsildars concerned). MROs are authorized to take action on the Agencies in case of any deviations or untoward happenings if any. In Urban areas, a committee headed by the Mandal Revenue Officer (MRO) identifies Community Development Societies, NGOs, Urban SHGs, DWACRA, School Management Committees and other Agencies as implementing agencies after verifying their antecedents.

The Headmaster certifies the daily attendance of the children and the quantity of rice utilized, and also maintains registers like Cash Book, Stock Register and issue Register under Joint Signature of cooking agency. The Head Masters also furnish Monthly Reports on the implementation of Mid Day Meal in the schools to the Mandal (Block) level and from there to the District level.

Mostly Women SHGs (invariably they are the mothers of the students) are involved in this programme. To encourage Community involvement and also to ensure proper care, cleanliness, wholesomeness etc., NGOs and other service oriented Organizations are also encouraged to take part in this endeavor.

The Headmaster of the school will supervise the mid day meal scheme and one teacher will be kept as incharge of MDM scheme. The following instructions are issued to all the DEOs for effective implementation of the scheme.

1. Care should be taken in cooking food in a hygienic atmosphere.
2. One teacher, one parent should taste the meal every day.
3. Every day 2 parents should come to school for observation in serving of MDM
4. Prepare roster for parents every month to visit the school to supervise MDM
5. Provide safe drinking water facility.

2.3 Details about weekly menu :

2.3.1 **Weekly menu – day wise:**

The menu for all days in a week is displayed at prominent place in all the schools.

PHOTO OF MENU

రోజు	మెను	పిల్లవానికి ఒక రోజు ఆహార పరిమాణము
1. సోమవారం	పప్పు, దారు, ఉడకబెట్టిన గ్రుడ్లు లేదా అరిసెండు	జియ్యం 100 గ్రామీన్
2. మంగళవారం	కూరగాయలు, రసం	పప్పులు 20 గ్రామీన్
3. బుధవారం	పప్పు, సాండాడు, ఉడకబెట్టిన గ్రుడ్లు లేదా అరిసెండు	కూరగాయలు 50 గ్రామీన్
4. గురువారం	కూరగాయలు, రసం	నూనె 05 గ్రామీన్
5. శుక్రవారం	పప్పు, సాండాడు	
6. శనివారం	కూరగాయలు, రసం	

భోజనానికి ముందు మరియు తర్వాత చేతులు సబ్బుతో కడిగి శుభ్రపరుచుకోవాలి
బడిలో నేర్పిన పాలిశుద్ధం - బంగారు భవితకు ఆధారం

2.3.2 **Addl. Food items provided (fruits/milk/any other items), if any from State/UT resources. Frequency of their serving along with per unit cost per day:**

Egg is served 3 days in a week and those who are not eating egg are provided banana.

2.3.3 Usage of double fortified salt:

Instructions are issued to the implementing agencies to use double fortified salt and they are procuring the same locally.

2.3.4 At what level menu is being decided/fixed:

Menu is decided commonly for all schools by the Department of School Education only with an option to modifications by the local SMC.

2.3.5 Provision of local variation in the menu, inclusion of locally available ingredients/items in the menu as per the liking/taste of the children:

There is no variation in the Menu. Menu is served by the Implementing agencies as directed by the Government/ Department of School Education.

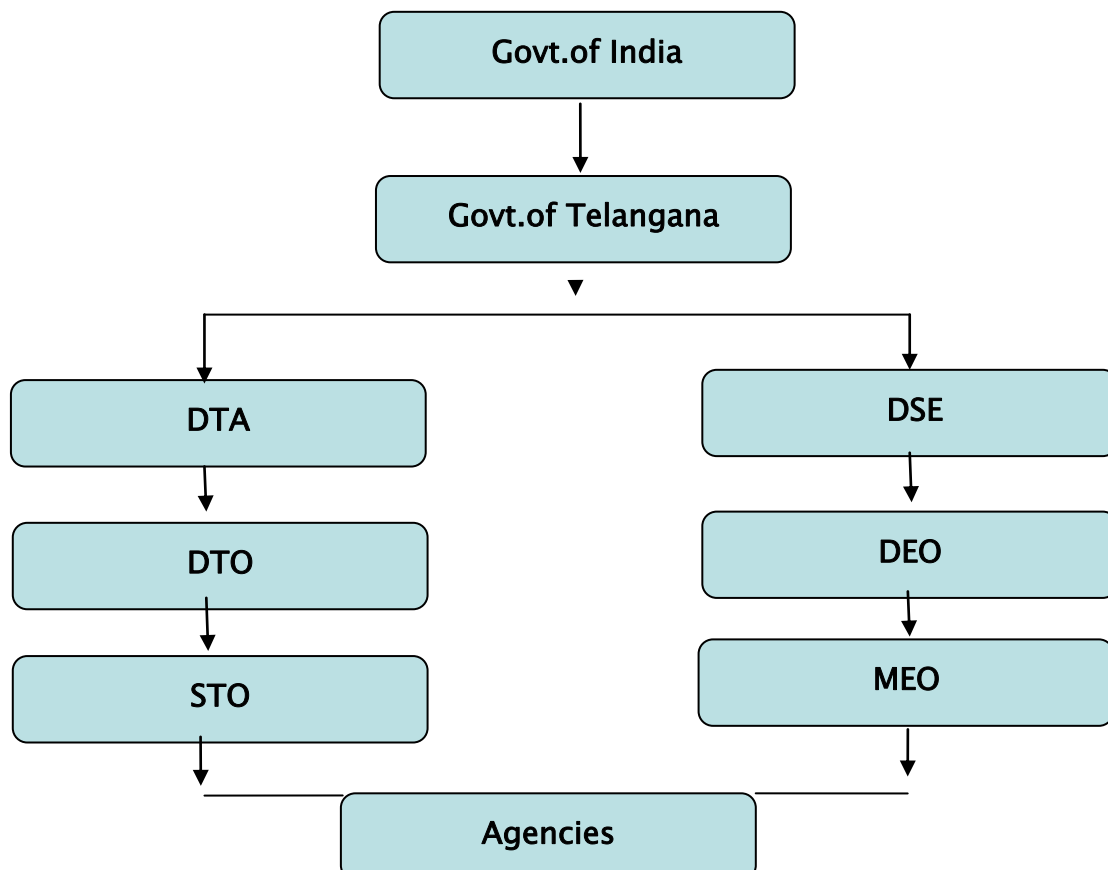
2.3.6: Time of serving meal:

Instructions are issued to serve Mid Day Meals between 12.30 Noon to 01:15 PM in the premises

2.4 Fund Flow Mechanism – System for release of funds (Central Share and State share):

2.4.1 Existing mechanism for release of funds up to school/ implementing agency levels:

The system for release of funds under Mid Day Meal (Central & State) is as follows:



2.4.2 Mode of release of funds at different levels:

The State Government releases the funds to the DEOs through Treasuries and the DEOs release the required budget to the Mandals. The Head Masters (HMs) raise the bills as per meals taken in their schools to the Mandal Educational Officers (MEO). The MEOs after scrutinizing the claims, release the amount to the agencies through Treasury. Entire transfer of funds from state to school level takes place through Treasuries and from Sub-Treasury to School/Agency accounts through e-transfer.

2.4.3 Dates when the fund was released to State Authority / Directorate / District / Block / Gram Panchayat and finally to the Cooking Agency / School:

S.No	State Govt.	Directorate	District	Block/ Mandal	School/Cooking agencies
1	14-04-2016	26-04-2016	30-04-2016	05-05-2016	School/Cooking agencies are paid by 5 th of every month
2	17-05-2016	25-05-2016	30-05-2016	01-06-2016	
3	12-07-2016	06-10-2016	25-10-2016	01-11-2016	
4	10-11-2016	29-12-2016	06-01-2017	08-01-2017	

2.4.4 Reasons for delay in release of funds at different levels:

There is occasional delay in release of funds, but care is being taken to release and credit funds to the Agencies in time.

2.4.4 In case of delay in release of funds from State/Districts, how the scheme has been implemented by schools/implementing agencies:

The implementing agencies are born the expenditure and supplying Mid Day Meal to the students in case of delay in release of funds.

2.4.5 Initiatives taken by the State for pre-positioning of funds with the implementing agencies in the beginning of the year:

The budget is being released regularly as and when the budget was received from the Govt. of India.

2.5 Food grains management:

2.5.1 Timelines for lifting of food grains from FCI Depot – District wise lifting calendar of food grains:

The Dist. Supply Office lifts the food grains from the FCI to the Dist. Godowns and then supplying Super Fine rice from Dist. Godowns to the School point monthly once.

2.5.2: System for ensuring lifting of FAQ food grains (Joint Inspections at the time of lifting etc):

The HM of the school with the assistance of another teacher weighs the Rice bags as per allotment and ensure whether it is correct or not and keep the stock in the store room.

2.5.3 Is there any incident when FAQ food grain was not provided by FCI. If so, the action taken by the State/District to get such food grain replaced with FAQ food grain. How the food grain of FAQ was provided to implementing agencies till replacement of inferior quality of food grain from FCI was arranged.:

There are no such incidents.

2.5.4 System for transportation and distribution of food grains:

The food grains are being transported from District godowns to MLS points and from the MLS points to School Point as per indent.

2.5.5 Whether unspent balance of food grains with the schools is adjusted from the allocation of the respective implementing agencies (Schools/ SHGs/Centralized Kitchens) Number of implementing agencies receiving food grains at doorstep level.

From 01-01-2015 onwards, as per the policy of the state government, the Dist. Administration have made arrangements route-wise to supply the superfine rice from Mandal Level Supply (MLS) point in a separate vehicle to the school point.

2.5.6 Storage facility at different levels in the State/District/Blocks/Implementing agencies after lifting of food grains from FCI dept:

Yes, Indents are placed based on the requirement and the opening balance available.

2.5.7: Challenges faced and plan to overcome them:

From 01-01-2015, the superfine rice is being supplied at the doorstep of all the schools in the State.

Where there are no store rooms, possibilities are being explored to convert addl. Class rooms in excess into kitchen shed cum store room by making required alterations.

The food grains required for the MDM programme are allocated by Govt. of India through Food Corporation of India. The distribution of the food grains has been decentralized and the District Educational Officers are nominated as Nodal Officers at District level to execute all the issues pertaining to lifting, ensuring quality of food grains, payment of cost of food grains and submission of monthly reports.

Govt. of India have allocated the food grains for all the four quarters of 2016-17 for Primary, Upper Primary (including NCLP centers) as follows:

As on 31.12.2016

Sl.No	Quarter	Quantity allocated in MTs		Quantity Lifted in MTs(till Dec.2016)	
		Primary	Upper Primary (incl NCLP)	Primary	Upper Primary (incl NCLP)
1.	1 st Quarter	3930.46	3372.45	40746.40	
2.	2 nd Quarter	9040.10	7749.16		
3.	3 rd Quarter	5349.89	5807.49		
4.	4 th Quarter	5349.89	5807.49		
5.	Drought	2891.13	2605.72		
6.	O/B	3983.354	2581.27		
TOTAL		30544.824	27923.581		

2.6 Payment of cost of food grains to FCI:

2.6.1 System for payment of cost of food grains to FCI; whether payments made at district level or State level:

Under MDM food grain charges budget is being released from the State to the Districts. District units of the FCI submitting bills to the District Educational Officers (DEOs) quarterly basis. Accordingly, the District Educational Officer is making payments to the Area manager of the FCI of the concerned districts as per the rates fixed by the state Government.

2.6.2 Status of pending bills of FCI of the previous year(s) and the reasons for pendency:

Budget released to clear the bills upto December 2016.

2.6.3 Timelines for liquidating the pending bills of previous year(s).

There are no pending bills of previous years.

2.6.4 Whether meetings are held regularly in the last week of the month by the District Nodal Officers with FCI as per guidelines dated 10.02.2010 to resolve the issues relating to lifting quality of food grains and payment of the bills:

The meetings are being conducted at District Level under the Chairmanship of Joint Collector who is the Collector of Civil Supplies and reviewing the issues regarding the lifting quality of food grains and payment of the bills.

2.6.5 Whether the District Nodal Officers are submitting the report of such meeting to State Head Quarter by 7th of next month:

The meetings are being conducted regularly and if any issues are there they are submitting their reports.

2.6.6. The process of reconciliation of payment with the concerned offices of FCI:

There is no difference of amount as per the bills of the FCI and payment made by the department.

2.6.7: Relevant issues regarding payment to FCI:

There are no issues except delay in certain cases due to delay in the process of release of budget.

2.6.8: Whether there is any delay in payment of cost of food grains to FCI and steps taken to rectify the same:

There is no delay in payment of cost of food grains to the FCI

2.7 Cook-cum-Helpers (CCHs) :-

2.7.1 Whether the State follows the norms prescribed by MHRD for the engagement of cook-cum-helpers or it has its own norms:

The State of Telangana is following the norms prescribed by MHRD **for the engagement of cook-cum-helpers.**

2.7.2 In case, the State follows different norms, the details of norms follows may be indicated:

Does not arise.

2.7.3 Is there any difference in the number of cook-cum-helpers eligible for engagement as per norms and the CCH actually engaged:

There is a less number (946) of Cook cum helpers are engaged than the approved by the Government of India.

2.7.4: System and mode of payment of honorarium, hon. to cook – cum helpers and implementing agencies viz. NGOs/SHGs/Trust/Centralized kitchens etc:

Funds are released from the State to the DEOs and the DEOs release the budget to the Mandals. The HMs submit bills to the Mandal. The MEOs submit bills in the Sub Treasuries and the amount of honorarium is paid to the Cook cum helper to their bank account.

2.7.5 Whether the CCH were paid monthly basis:

Yes

2.7.6 Whether there was any instance regarding irregular payment of honorarium to cook-cum-helpers and reason thereof. Measures taken to rectify the problem:

Does not arise

2.7.7 Rate of honorarium to cook-cum helpers:

Each cook cum helper is paid Rs 1000/- per month

2.7.8: No .of cook cum helpers having bank accounts:

All the CCHs are having bank accounts. No one is paid honorarium in cash.

2.7.9: Number of cook-cum-helpers receiving honorarium through their bank accounts:

Payment is being made to Cook-cum-helpers through their bank accounts only and no cash transactions are made.

2.7.10 : Provisions for health checkups of cook cum helpers:

Local doctors while examining the students are also conducting health checks of cook cum helpers.

2.7.11 Whether cook-cum-helpers are wearing head gears and gloves at the time of cooking of meals

Instructions are issued to all the DEOs to issue necessary instructions to all the Head Masters to see that cook-cum-helpers take all precautionary measures to prepare food in a safe manner, in hygienic atmosphere including wearing head gears and gloves at the time of cooking meals and keep the surroundings clean and tidy.

2.7.12 Modalities for appointment of cook-cum-helpers engaged at school level and working at centralized kitchens, in case of schools being served through centralized kitchens :

There are (2) Non Governmental Organizations serving MDM in 3 districts i.e. Hyderabad, Ranga Reddy and Medak districts covering 1435 schools.

Implementing agencies viz. NGOs / SHGs / trust / centralized kitchens etc:

Centralized Kitchen		SHG		NGO		Trust	
No. of centralized Kitchen	No. of schools covered	No. of SHG working	No. of schools covered	No. of NGO working	No. of schools covered	No. of Trust working	No. of schools covered
2	1435	226240	26240	1	478	1	957

The details of fund releases during 2016-17 are given here under:

(Rs. in lakhs)

Directorate / Authority				District*			
Amount			Date	Amount			Date
Gen	SC	ST		Gen	SC	ST	
4681.81	961.01	581.34	26/04/2016	4681.81	961.01	581.34	30/04/2016
6710.81	1377.49	833.28	06/10/2016	6710.81	1377.49	833.28	25/10/2016
7844.19	1610.13	974.01	29/12/2016	7844.19	1610.13	974.01	06/01/2017
2334.69	479.87	293.39	25/05/2016	2334.69	479.87	293.39	30/05/2016

Block				Grampanchayath/School			
Amount			Date	Amount			Date
Gen	SC	ST		Gen	SC	ST	
4681.81	961.01	581.34	05/05/2016	4681.81	961.01	581.34	06/05/2016
6710.81	1377.49	833.28	01/11/2016	6710.81	1377.49	833.28	03/11/2016
7844.19	1610.13	974.01	08/01/2017	7844.19	1610.13	974.01	10/01/2017
2334.69	479.87	293.39	01/06/2016	2334.69	479.87	293.39	05/06/2016

Bills are claimed by the MEO as per the bills submitted by the HMs.

The Government of Telangana is placing required funds readily available at the beginning of the year itself even before the Government of India releases their share.

2.7.13 : Whether any steps have been taken to enroll cook-cum-helpers under any social security schemes, i.e. Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana. Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana etc. and number of cooks benefitted through the same:

Not commenced so far.

2.8 Procurement and storage of cooking ingredients and condiments:

2.8.1 System for procuring (good quality Agmark/FPO) pulses, vegetables including leafy ones, salt, condiments, etc and other commodities, oil etc. and other commodities:

There are no procurements at state, district and Mandal levels. Instructions are issued to procure good quality (Agmark/FPO) fresh pulses, vegetables including leafy ones, salt, condiments, etc and other commodities from local market.

2.8.2 Whether First In First Out (FIFO) method has been adopted for using MDM ingredients such as pulses, oil/fats, condiments salt etc. or not:

Instructions are issued to use fresh pulses and not to use old stock of pulses and condiments.

2.8.3 Arrangements for safe storage of ingredients and condiments in kitchens:

Instructions are issued to the Head Masters through the DEOs to see that the Implementing agencies store the ingredients and condiments in Iron boxes duly locked and are not accessible to the rats, other stray animals and children.

2.8.4 Steps taken to ensure implementation of guidelines dated 13.02.2015 on food safety and hygiene in school level kitchens under MidDay Meal Scheme:

Instructions are issued to all the Headmasters to the District Educational Officers to maintain food safety and hygiene in school level kitchens under Mid Day Meal Scheme.

2.9 Fuel used for cooking of Mid Day Meals – LPG, smokeless chulha, firewood & others:

The instructions have been issued to all the DEOs to see that the Mid Day Meal should be prepared by using LPG stoves and smokeless chulha. In remote villages the MDM is being prepared by using firewood due to non availability of LPG.

2.10 Steps taken by State to increase use of LPG as mode of fuel in MDM:

A copy of GoI MHRD F.No.1-1/2016/Desk (MDM) dt. 24-01-2017 has been communicated to all the District Educational Officers with a request to take necessary action for providing subsidy LPG gas to the schools under MDM scheme.

2.11 kitchen-cum-store

2.11.1 Procedure and Status of construction of kitchen-cum-store:

Kitchen sheds are sanctioned to all schools whose strength is above 20 students. The construction work is entrusted to the Panchayat Raj and Rural Development Department in respect of rural areas and to SSA in respect of urban areas.

2.11.2 Whether any standardized model of kitchen cum stores is used for construction:

The model communicated by the Government has been furnished to all the District Educational Officers to take further action in the matter.

2.11.3: Details of the construction agency and role of community in this work:

Kitchen sheds are sanctioned to all schools whose strength is above 20 students. The construction work is entrusted to the Panchayat Raj and Rural Development Department in respect of rural areas and to SSA in respect of urban areas. There are no local contributions for completion of construction

2.11.4 Kitchen cum stores constructed through convergence, if any:

The Panchayat Raj and Rural Development has given assurance for construction of kitchen cum stores rooms in 7080 rural areas schools in convergence with MGNREGS funds.

2.11.5 Progress of construction of kitchen cum stores during this year and target for the next year.

I Phase: Government have sanctioned 19710 kitchen sheds @ Rs.60,000/- Unit cost with financial assistance of Rs.14811.15 lakhs in Primary and Upper Primary Schools in the State under Mid Day Meal Programme in three phases from the years 2006-07 to 2007-08. Out of which 10077 have been completed by the Education and Welfare Infrastructure Development Corporation and Panchayat Raj Department.

Construction of Kitchen Shed in progress



OUT SIDE VIEW



II Phase : Government have sanctioned 10698 kitchen sheds @ Rs. 1,50,000/- with financial assistance of Rs.86.58 crores in the State under Mid Day

Meal Programme in Phase II till 2013-14. The APEWIDC and Panchayat Raj Department are taking up construction.

2.11.6 The reasons for slow pace of construction kitchen cum stores if applicable:

The unit cost for construction of kitchen-cum-store room is insufficient as worked out by the SSA-Engineering wing and it is decided that the additional fund component can be met as Labour Component under MGNREGS at the District Level. The proposals for approval of enhanced unit cost is under consideration of the Government.

2.11.7 How much interest has been earned on the unutilized central assistance lying in the bank account of the State/ Implementing agencies:

2.12 Kitchen devices:

2.12.1 Procedure of procurement of kitchen devices from funds released under the Mid Day Meal Programme:

32,993 kitchen devices were already sanctioned; amount was sanctioned from 2006-07 to 2013-14 at the district level by the District Level Procurement Committee headed by the Joint Collector procures the Kitchen Devices calling for open tenders.

2.12.2 Status of procurement of kitchen devices:

2.12.3 Procurement of kitchen devices through convergence or community/CSR: NIL

2.12.4 Availability of eating plates, source of procurement of eating plates.

Plates are being donated by the local politicians, philanthropists, old students and other donors. In majority of schools plates are stored in schools. However in some schools the plates are taken by the children to their home and bringing daily for MDM purpose.

2.13 Measures taken to rectify:

2.13.1. Inter-district low and uneven utilization of food grains and cooking cost:

No such cases in the State.

- I. The allocations received from Govt. of India are being distributed to the districts taking into account number of children opted MDM, monthly average and number of working days in a month. The allocations are made separately for Primary & Upper Primary Schools.

II. Cooking cost is released to district, month wise allocations, by State authorities basing on actual requirements. Amount is drawn based on actual number of meals served in a month as certified by Head Master and as attested by Mandal level officers. Advance payments are not released to cooking agencies.

2.13.2 Intra-district mismatch in utilization of food grains and cooking cost:

No such cases in the State.

District administration is allocating and restricting lifting of foodgrains on the basis of monthly / fortnightly reports of Mandal level officers. Accordingly, a watch is kept on the amounts released as cooking cost based on attendance registers and stock registers maintained at school level.

2.13.3 Mismatch of data reported through various sources (QPR, AWP& B, MIS etc)

Instructions have been issued to all the DEOs to rectify and to reconcile the data entered into MIS. Follow up action is being taken to rectify the discrepancies.

2.14 Quality of food:

2.14.1. System of tasting of food by teachers/community, maintenance of tasting register at school level:

The Teacher who is designated for monitoring MDM scheme (on rotation basis) taste the food before serving. Instructions were also issued that all inspecting officers must taste food at the time of their visit to the schools. In all the schools the HMs/Teachers are tasting MDM every day and recording in registers.

All the District Educational Officers, Mandal Educational Officers and Head Master were requested to avoid open air cooking, to keep Cooking place away from classrooms, totally avoid serving meals from cooking point, hand washing, etc., In all the schools the HMs and Teachers are supervising the hand washing of children with soap before and after meals.

All the Joint collectors were also requested for effective implementation for monitoring MDM by taking every care for supply of clean and nutritious food to children.

Teachers supervising MDM – Students washing hands before Meal



Teachers Serving MDM



2.14.2 Maintenance of roster of parents, community for the presence of at least two parents in the school on each day at the time of serving and tasting of mid day meal:

Instructions have been issued to all the District Educational Officers to see that Every day 2 parents should come to school for observation in serving of MDM, Prepare roster for parents every month to visit the school to supervise MDM and one teacher and one parent should taste the meal every day before serving the MDM to the students

2.14.3 Testing of food sample by any recognized labs for prescribed nutrition and presence of contaminants such as microbes, e-coli:

The National collateral management services limited has been identified as lab for testing of samples. 58 samples have collected from 8

districts during the year 2016-17 and submitted the report. As per report all are as per norms.

2.14.4 Engagement of recognized labs for the testing of meals:

The National collateral management services limited has been identified as lab for testing of samples

2.14.5 Details of protocol for testing of Meals, frequency of lifting and testing of samples:

For testing of food samples of Mid Day Meal one lab namely National Collateral Management Services Ltd. Hyderabad has been selected. At first instance six Districts have been taken up for collection and for testing of food samples. Two parameters (a) Nutritional (b) Microbiological Contents.

2.14.6 Details of samples taken for testing and the results there of:

The samples are collected from the schools with effect from 29.07.016 to 09.08.2016. The samples are tested by the lab and reported that, they are as per norms.

2.14.7 Steps taken to ensure implementation for guidelines issued with regard to quality of food:

Instructions were issued to all the Headmasters to maintain quality, food safety and hygiene. The training is being important to all the CCHS on preparation of Mid Day Meals.

2.15 Involvement of NGOs/Trusts :

2.15.1 Modalities for engagement of NGOs/Trusts for serving of MDM through centralized kitchen:

The State Govt. has involved NGOs in the implementation of MDM scheme.

- The Govt. vide Memo No.16064/Prog.I/A2/2008 dt:20.10.2008 have accorded permission to Akshaya Patra Foundation to set up a Centralized Kitchen at Ramachandrapuram in Sangareddy Revenue Division and to supply Mid Day Meal for (87) High Schools in (7) mandals viz. Ramachandrapuram, Patancheru, Sangareddy, Kondapur, Sadasivpet, Jinnaram and Munipally covering 24,378 students for the academic year 2008-09. Further, the Govt. vide Memo No.9180/Prog.I/A2/2009 dt:30.07.2009 have accorded permission

to Akshaya Patra Foundation to set up a Centralized Kitchen at Patancheru and to supply Mid Day Meal for (89) High Schools in (7) mandals viz. Ramachandrapuram, Patancheru, Sangareddy, Kondapur, Sadasivpet, Jinnaram and Municipally covering 24,719 students and also to 7000 students additionally in (32) Primary Schools of (03) mandals i.e. Kondapur, RCPuram and Jinnaram during the academic year 2009-10. During the academic years 2010-11, 2011-12 the supply of MDM was extended to Akshaya Patra Foundation for the above said (7)mandals only and during the year 2012-13, four (4) additional mandals viz. Raikode, Pulkal, Hathnoora and Andole were also allotted to Akshaya Patra Foundation as per Govt. Memo No.13617/SE.Prog.I/A1/2012 dt:02.08.2012. During the year 2013-14, a total number of (439) schools covering (59348) students of I to X Classes in the above said (11) mandals were extended to Akshaya Patra Foundation.

- The 5th Joint Review Mission inspected the implementation of MDM Scheme in the schools and centralized kitchen of Akshaya Patra Foundation in Medak district from 28.06.2013 to 01.07.2013 and made the following recommendation in respect of Akshaya Patra Foundation in Medak district at Chapter-4 of the report, which is extracted below.

‘The Mission strongly recommends to discontinue the serving of MDM through the centralized kitchen in the schools where construction of kitchen is possible or where it is already existed and go on with the school based kitchen at the earliest.’

- Accordingly, a detailed report was called for from the District Educational Officer, Medak and action is being taken on the report. Instructions are being issued to the District Educational Officer, Medak to see that for all the rural schools agencies have to be appointed from the academic year 2017-18 where ever kitchen-cum-stores is available.

The NGO-wise and district-wise no. of schools covered and CCHs engaged by the NGOs and at school point are as follows:

Sl.No.	District	Name of the NGO	No. of NGO working	No. of children covered
1	RANGAREDDY	Manna Trust	1	8045
2	HYDERABAD	Manna Trust		97906
3	MEDAK	Akshaya Patra	1	62997
TOTAL			2	168948

2.15.2 Whether NGOs/Trusts are serving meal in rural areas:

Yes in 4 rural mandals in Medak District .

2.15.3 Maximum distance and time taken for delivery of food from centralized kitchen and school:

Maximum 110 Kms in Medak District and maximum time 3 hours. The Akshaya Patra Foundation has submitted that, they are ready to set-up Cluster Kitchens to serve Mid Day Meals in 20kms radius to serve the school children as per the guidelines of Govt. of India” and requested to permit to continue the serving of MDM in (11) mandals in the district.Action is being taken to see that the NGOs establish cluster kitchens.

Maximum distance 30 kms., Maximum time 1 hr 30 mins (90 min) taken by Manna Trust for supply of MDM in the twin cities.

2.15.4 Measures taken to ensure delivery of hot cooked meals to schools:

The NGOs are arranging vehicles route wise to supply cooked hot food within half an hour to all the schools in the route. The Manna Trust has been instructed to supply the cooked food in heat proof stainless steel containers at the school point between 09.30 am to 12.00 pm.

2.15.5 Responsibility of receiving cooked meals at the schools from the centralized kitchen:

One teacher kept in charge for serving MDM receives the cooked meals at the schools when the same is transported by the agency through transport in the afternoon. With the help of CCH , the MDM is served to the children.

2.15.6 Whether the sealed containers are used for supply of meals to schools:

The NGOs serving MDM through Centralized Kitchen are supplying the cooked food in Heat proof Stainless steel containers at the school point.

2.15.7 Tentative time of delivery of meals at schools from centralized kitchen.

Except in Medak district where they are taking nearly 3 hours travel to supply the cooked food in Hyderabad and Rangareddy district the food is supplied at lunch time only without delay. They are ready to set up cluster kitchens to serve MDM in 30 km radius to serve the school children as per the guidelines of the GoI.

2.15.8 Testing of food samples at centralized kitchens:

Akshya Patra foundation is sending food samples to the reputed labs for checking the quality and nutrition content. The Manna Trust Foundation is sending the food samples to the reputed labs for checking the quality and nutrition content.

2.15.9 Whether NGO is receiving grant from other organizations for the Mid day meal. If so, the details thereof:

2.15 Systems to ensure transparency, accountability and openness in all aspects of programme implementation:

- (1) Funds are released to the cooking agencies, CCH and FCI etc., through online.
- (2) All the particulars pertaining to the implementation of MDM are available in the Department Web Portal @ cdse.telangana.gov.in
- (3) Social Audit is going on in 9 districts @ 1 Mandal per District.
- (4) To lodge complaints relating to MDM, separate land line phone is installed in the DEOs offices to initiate corrective measures for effective implementation of MDM.
- (5) Web based child help line toll free number 1800-425-3525 is functioning at state level in SSA to receive problems being faced by the children. As soon as call is received message is sent to the MEO under intimation to the district officers to solve the problem and submit action taken report through online within a week.

2.16.1 Display of logo, entitlement of children and other information at a prominent visible place in school:

Instructions have been issued to display MDM logo and Day wise menu at prominent places preferably on the Notice board in all the schools and the same is being followed by almost all the schools in the state.

2.16.2 Dissimilation of information through MDM website:

Instructions have been issued to the DEOs to enter the accurate data in the website promptly. Till December, 2016, the information pertaining to all the schools have been updated in the MIS portal.

2.16.3 Provisions for community monitoring at school level i.e. Mother Register, Inspection Register:

The SMCs are involving in monitoring of MDM in the schools. Village elders and youth are also helping the HM and implementing agencies in serving MDM. The departmental officers are entering the details in the Inspection register during visits to the school at the time of serving MDM. Instructions are issued to the DEOs to inform the HMs to maintain a register at school point to show the details of the SMCs and the villagers monitoring MDM.



2.16.4 Tasting of Meals by community member.

The representatives of SMC along with Teacher are testing cooked food before serving to the children. The participation of community members in this regard is not as expected. Efforts are being made to improve the participation.

2.16.5 Conducting Social Audit:

The social audit was conducted in 9 Districts @ 1 Mandal per district during the month of February, 2016 and the suggestions/recommendations are communicated to the concerned District Educational officers.

2.17 Capacity building and training for different stakeholders:

2.17.1 The details of the training programme conducted for cook cum helpers, state level officials, SMC members, school teachers and other stakeholders:

Posters depicting the cleanliness practices to be followed while cooking and serving Mid Day Meals were developed and supplied to schools. Further, a book containing Standard Operating Procedure (SOPs) on preparation and serving of MDM was developed and supplied to districts for use in training sessions to cooking agencies.

Training was organized to the HMs through video conference facility. A flip chart was developed depicting the hygienic practices to be followed while preparing and serving food and supplied to schools. The training is being organized at District Level, Mandal Level and at school level to all the cook-cum-helpers who are working under Mid Day Meal Scheme in the State.

TRAINING PROGRAM TO THE HMS ON Food Safety and Hygiene



2.17.2 Details about modules used for training, master trainers, venues etc :

Modules on SOPs have been prepared and supplied to all the Districts for conducting training to the SHGs, cook cum helpers and all other persons who are associated with the MDM programme.

2.17.3 Targets for the next year:

It is planned that all the SHGs and cook cum helpers are given training to prepare meals without losing nutrients.

2.18 Management Information System at School, Village / Gram Panchayat, Block, District and State level and its details:

2.18.1 Procedure followed for data entry into MDM-MIS Web portal :

In the beginning of the academic year at Mandal level, the details of school strength particulars and the facilities available at school point are entered. In the monthly report, details of meals taken, rice consumption and details of SHG etc are entered. At district level, the Mandal level details are consolidated and technical problems if any are solved. The data furnished by the DEOs are consolidated at the state level.

2.18.2 Level (State/District/Block/School) at which point data entry is made:

Entry is made at Mandal/Block, District and State levels.

2.18.3 Availability of manpower for web based MIS:

There are no separate operators for MDM at mandal level to make entry of web based data. At present the operator provided by the SSA are attending to the MDM related work at mandal level. However, One operator is there to attend MDM related work at District level. One computer operator is engaged in Directorate to attend MDM related work.

2.18.4 Mechanism for ensuring timely data entry and quality of data:

At state level, the details furnished by the Districts are verified daily and information is given to all the DEOs in respect of whom the data of MIS, monthly reports and quarterly progress report are not received to update the information of their districts. Who in turn inform the MEOs to update the information and after getting information from all mandals the DEO update the information of the district. Based on which the reports are prepared and submitted to the State Govt and GOI.

2.18.5 Whether MIS data is being used for monitoring purpose and details thereof:

Yes, the data is being used for monitoring purpose. Report is taken to know whether all the schools are implementing MDM or not, Whether the students taking meals increasing or decreasing and reasons for the same, whether payments are being made regularly or not, whether any untoward incidences taken place and action taken against the persons responsible, whether any problem in feeding the data on line, and in such cases to contact the NIC for rectification of the same etc.

S.no	District	Total Schools	Freeze Schools	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
1	ADILABAD	3829	3822	3822	3822	3822	3822	3822	3822	3822	3822	3820
2	HYDERABAD	896	886	886	886	886	886	886	886	886	886	886
3	KARIMNAGAR	3098	3083	3083	3083	3083	3083	3082	3081	3081	3076	3076

4	KHAMMAM	2989	2979	2979	2979	2979	2979	2979	2979	2979	2979	2979
5	MAHBUB NAGAR	3809	3806	3806	3806	3806	3806	3806	3806	3806	3805	3805
6	MEDAK	2902	2902	2902	2902	2902	2902	2902	2902	2902	2902	2902
7	NALGONDA	3311	3307	3307	3307	3307	3307	3307	3307	3307	3307	3307
8	NIZAMABAD	2276	2276	2276	2276	2276	2276	2276	2276	2276	2276	2276
9	RANGAREDDI	2389	2389	2389	2389	2389	2389	2389	2389	2389	2389	2389
10	WARANGAL	3444	3427	3426	3426	3426	3426	3426	3426	3422	3412	3406
	Total	28943	28877	28876	28876	28876	28876	28875	28874	28870	28854	28846

Govt. of India have launched the Web portal for monitoring the Mid day Meal Scheme on real time basis. A training programme for all the Assistant Directors, Superintendents and Data entry operators dealing with MDM scheme of the districts for entering data into MIS portal was conducted at NIC, Hyderabad.

The status of MIS data entry is shown below:

Instructions are issued to all the District Educational Officers in the State to update the data pertaining to meals taken online by all the Mandal Educational Officers before claiming the bills.

2.19 Automated Monitoring System (AMS) at School, Block, District and State level and its details:

2.19.1 Status of implementation of AMS:

The Automated Reporting System was started in the State of Telangana w.e.f. 30.1.2017.

2.19.2 Mode of collection of data under AMS(SMS/IVRS/Mobile App/ Web enabled):

Mode of collection of data under AMS is by way of SMS

2.19.3 Tentative unit cost for collection of data:

The software developed by the NIC authorities of Himachal Pradesh is being utilized.

2.19.4 Mechanism for ensuring timely data entry and quality of data:

The Instructions are being issued to D.E.Os and M.E.Os from time to time to ensure the data entry.

2.19.5 Whether the information under AMS is got validated:

The information in respect of 28 districts has been got validated.

2.19.6 Whether AMS data is being used for monitoring purpose and details thereof:

The data will be used for monitoring system after validation of the data all the schools in the State.

2.19.7 In case, AMS has not been rolled out, the reasons therefor may be indicated along with the time lines by which it would be rolled out:

Does not arise.

2.20 Details of Evaluation studies conducted by State/UTs and summary of its findings:

In the working group report for the 12th plan, the MHRD proposed to take up Social Audit in MDM Scheme as pilot in the State. Society for Social Audit Accountability and Transparency (SSAAT).

Observations in Social Audit:-

- ✓ Monitoring of MDM programme has to be stringent and a rigorous ongoing process.
- ✓ MDM programme has its effect on progress of functioning of School and learning process.
- ✓ Rice supplied by Civil Supplies is of Poor Quality.
- ✓ Less weightage of rice bag on an average 3-4 Kgs less.
- ✓ Rice is not being delivered at School point.
- ✓ No drinking water facility in many schools.
- ✓ CCHs are finding it is difficult to provide eggs twice a week so they are providing eggs once in a week and banana in place of eggs.
- ✓ MDM opted figures are boosted at Mandal Level.

The observations of NGO, Society for social audit, Accountability and transparency(SSAAT) during the Social Audit were sent to DEO, Khammam with instructions to take necessary action for improvement of MDM Scheme. The DEO Khammam has taken steps as per the observations of the SSAAT and submitted their reports. Further the Commissioner & Director of School Education (C&DSE), also requested Commissioner of Civil Supplies vide a D.O.Letter to ensure Quality of rice is maintained i.e., FAQ as per GOI Guidelines, correct weight of rice bags and food grains are delivered to the School point.

Further with regard to the observation of Social Audit that the payments of cook cum helpers and cooking cost are not being done in time, at the beginning of

the financial year, payments may be delayed for two or three weeks for want of budget authorizations etc. The payments are being made regularly and necessary budgets were released by the State Govt. Hence, there is no delay in payment of honorarium to CCHs and cooking cost at districts.

2.21 Write up on best innovative practices followed in the State alongwith some high resolution photographs of these best/innovative practices:

The following best practices under Mid Day Meal Programme in Telangana are worth mentioning:

- 1. From 01-01-2015 onwards, superfine quality rice supplied to all the schools to serve Mid Day meals to all the children upto Classes I to X in the State.**
- 2. Super Fine Rice is being supplied from MLS point to the School Point.**
- 3.** Before bifurcation of this state, payments were made through green channel. In the State Steering cum Monitoring Committee meeting (SSMC) under the Chairmanship of the Chief Secretary it was decided that Green Channel Scheme for flow of funds pertaining to MDM will be implemented in the state of Telangana from the next financial year.

4. COVERAGE OF IX & X CLASS STUDENTS UNDER MID DAY MEAL:

495730 students studying in classes IX & X in all Government, Local body and Government Aided schools are also covered under Mid Day Meal. The reason is that there is every possibility of students dropping out after completing class VIII especially girls without completing High School stage of education.

5. SOCIAL AUDIT OF MID DAY MEAL PROGRAMME:

MOU has been entered into with Social Audit of MDM programme through NGO, Society for Social Audit, Accountability and Transparency(SSAAT) who has considerable experience in social audit of MNRGE scheme for taking up Social audit in one mandal in each of the districts. The Agency has taken up the work and reports will be submitted to Department by the end of Feb.2016.

6. ADDITIONAL RECIPES:

In addition to the food items as per the menu, egg is also provided twice a week. Those who are not taken egg are given banana.

The details of nutritional recipes prepared by NIN and Home Science College, Hyderabad were communicated to all the District Educational Officers in the State for implementation providing for flexible and local specific recipes to suit the tastes of the children.

7. COOK CUM HELPERS TO NGOS:

Cook cum Helpers have been sanctioned to the NGOs and also at the schools which are being catered by NGOs. There are (2) Non Governmental Organizations serving MDM in 3 districts i.e. Hyderabad, Ranga Reddy and Medak districts covering 1435 schools.

8. REGULAR REVIEW OF THE SCHEME BY THE STATE AUTHORITIES

Regular video conferences with all the RJDSEs/DEOs in the State are being held by the Commissioner and Director of School Education and the implementation of scheme is reviewed and they are being instructed on the steps to be taken.

9. CREATION OF MONITORING AND EVALUATION CELL:

A Monitoring and Evaluation Cell for Mid Day Meal Scheme is created for MDM scheme at State level. The Cell is performing the following duties:

- Reviewing and evaluating the inspection and monitoring forms submitted by the RJDSEs/DEOs periodically.
- Reviewing press clippings and take up immediate follow up action.
- Collecting the data required from the districts for onward submission to Govt. of India and Govt. of Telangana.

10. Payments are made to all the Implementing agencies and Cook cum helpers through online to their bank accounts.

11. Complaints are being received through **web based child right cell** with toll free No 1800-425-3525 and 1800-425-7426 in the O/o Director of School Education. As soon as the complaint is received the applicant is provided with a reference number and the information is sent through mail to the MEO and informed him about receipt of complaint through message to his cell number.

The Intimation is sent to the DEO and State officers. MEO visit the schools sort out the issue and submit compliance report through mail.

12. All the DEOs are also receiving grievances through landline phone maintained for MDM in DEOs office.

2.22 Untoward incidents:

2.22.1: Instances of unhygienic food served, children falling ill:

As soon as the information is received about occurrence of any untoward incident, instructions are issued to the DEO under intimation to the Dist. Collectors to medical aid to the suffered students on priority and to conduct enquiry and initiate action against the persons responsible for the incidence. Mostly incidences occur due to negligence of the Cooking agency and in such cases apart from initiating criminal case as per the gravity of the incidence, the cooking agencies are being replaced. Instructions are issued to the DEOs that they along with MEO and HM will be personally held responsible for irregularities, lapses, untoward incidences if any.

2.22.2 Sub-standard supplies:

No such cases are reported and the departmental officers at the time of visit are verifying the material being used by the cooking agency and if any sub standard material are noticed issuing instructions to the HM and the Cooking agency to see that the same are replaced with quality material.

2.22.3 Diversion/misuse of resources:

No such cases. Instructions have been issued to the DEOs to utilize the budget for the purpose for which it is released and not to divert the funds for other purposes.

2.22.4 Social discrimination:

No such cases are reported as every care is taken at school point to discourage such practices. Instructions have been issued to the DEOs to see that the children are not discriminated based on their social status in the school including while serving MDM.

2.22.5 Action taken and safety measures adopted to avoid recurrence of such incidents. Whether Emergency Plan exists to tackle any untoward incident:

Action will be taken against the persons responsible and in the State RTE Rules 2010. Instructions are issued that children belonging to weaker sections and disadvantaged groups are not discriminated in any manner as laid down in the RTE Act 2009. The HM is responsible for implementing the same. MEO is the Grievance redressal authority and the Dist. Collector is the Appellate Authority in case of any complaints of social discrimination is brought to their notice.

2.23 Status of Rastriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram (School health Programme):

2.23.1 Provision of micro-nutrients, Vitamin-A, de-worming medicine, Iron and Folic acid (WIFS):

In Telangana, a School Health Programme called “Rajiv Bala Swasthya Karyakram” (RBSK) is being implemented in the State in convergence with SSA and Health Department to cover all children in Government, Local body and Govt. Aided Schools, Hostels, KGBVs, from Classes I to X . The following are the components of Health services covered under the Programme:

- Screening, Health care and referral
- Immunization
- Micronutrient (Vitamin A and Iron Folic Acid) management
- De-worming
- Health promoting schools

“Rajiv Bala Swasthya Karyakram” has issued “School Health cum Education Records” (SHERs) to all schools which are being maintained, updated and monitored, jointly, by both Education and Health Department personnel. The Doctor (s) who work in the Primary Health Center nearer to the School visit the school twice in a month and conducts health checkup of the students. The Health Cards are maintained at the School level and are updated regularly. Cases which need further health care are referred to the District and State level referral hospitals.

Particulars upto December,2016:

Stage	Health Check up carried out		Distribution of Iron Folic Acid Tablets		Distribution of De-worming Tablets	
	No. of Schools/Centers	No. of Children	No. of Schools /Centers	No. of Children	No. of Schools / Centers	No. of Children
Primary & Upper Primary	19239	1299879	19473	1370008	22545	1576131

2.23.2 Distribution of spectacles to children with refractive error :

DRUSHTP: (Chinnari Choopu): Under the said Programme, Eye check up has been conducted for all the students and 213240 Students were identified with vision problems and treated. About 213240 Students were supplied spectacles.

2.23.3 Recording of height, weight etc :-

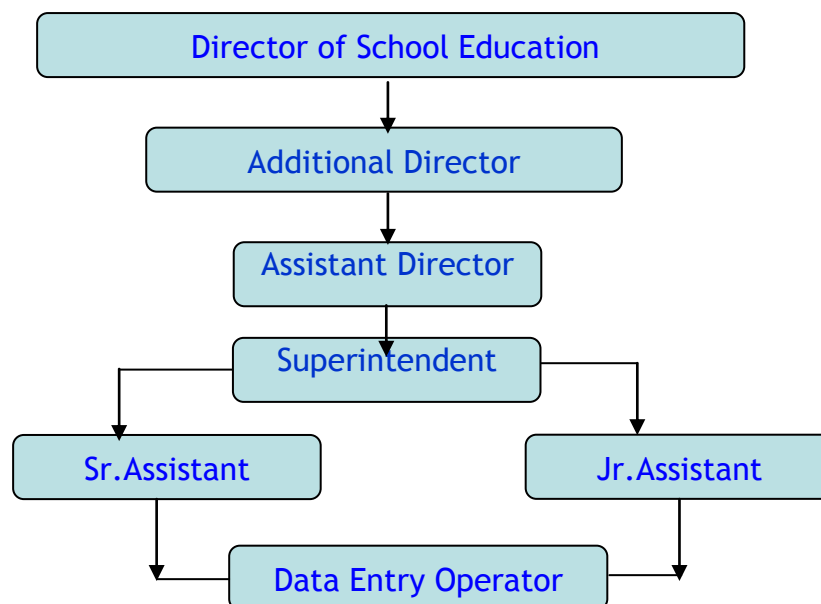
The health cards are maintained at the school level and are updated regularly.

2.23.4 Number of visits made by the RBSK team for the health check-up of the children:-

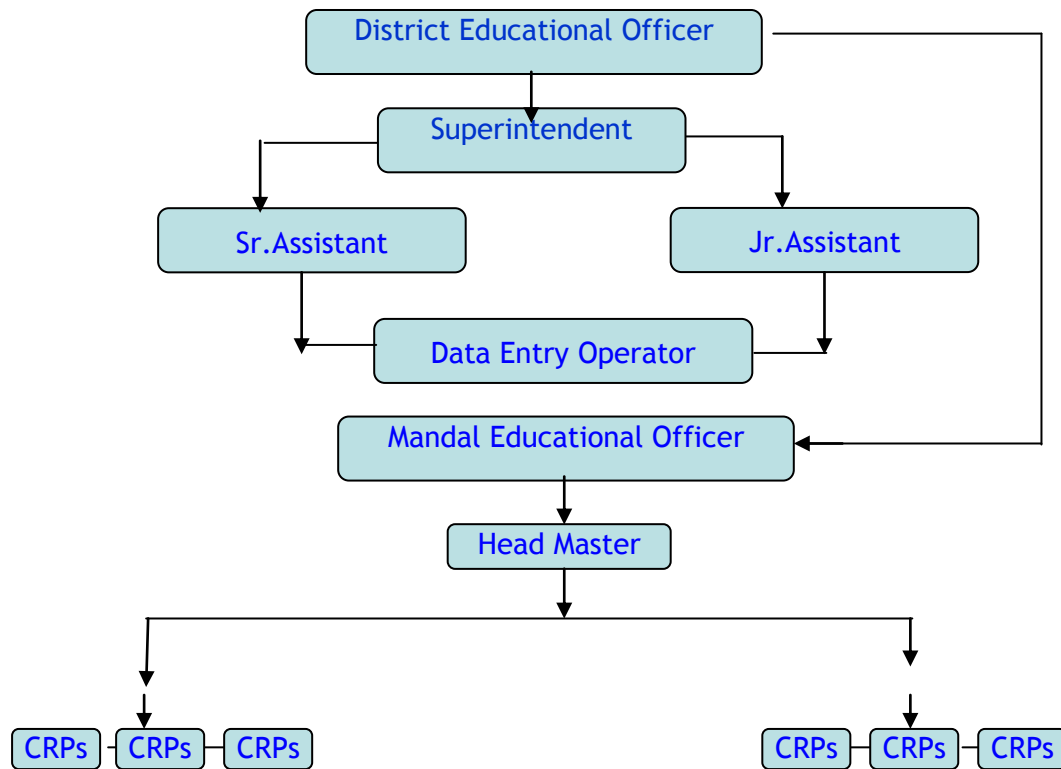
Doctors who work in primary health centers nearer to the school visit the school twice a month and conduct checkup to the students. Cases who need further health care are referred to district and state level referral hospitals.

2.24. Present monitoring structure at various levels. Strategy for establishment of monitoring cell at various levels viz. Block, District and State level for effective monitoring of the scheme:

State Level : Additional Director (MDM), Assistant Director (MDM), Superintendent and section of MDM and Data Entry Operator.



District Level: District Educational Officer, Assistant Director (MDM), Superintendent and section of MDM and Data Entry Operator.



Tahsildars are authorized to take action on the Agencies in case of any deviations or untoward happenings if any. In Urban areas, a committee headed by the MRO identifies Community Development Societies, NGOs, Urban SHGs, DWACRA, School Education Committees and other Agencies as implementing agencies after verifying their antecedents.

The District and Mandal level Officers look after MDM along with their regular jobs.

2.25 Meetings of steering cum monitoring committees at the block, District and State Level:

2.25.1 No. of meetings held at various levels and gist of the issues discussed in the meeting:

Strengthening of Mandal level Monitoring Mechanism:

In Telangana 584 Mandals have been created in place of erstwhile Development Blocks. Mandal Revenue Officer (Tahsildar) identifies and appoints the implementing agencies. He also monitors the functioning of the agencies. In

case of any deviations, corrective action is taken by him. He also monitors the supply of food grains by the Civil Supplies Department field staff.

1. Mandal Educational Officer MEO along with Cluster Resource Persons (CRPs) monitors the quality and supply of regular hot cooked food in all the schools in the Mandal.

To strengthen the Monitoring Mechanism of the Mid Day Meal Programme at the Mandal level Government of Telangana have taken a decision to engage the services of (1) Data Entry Operator per Mandal on payment of Rs.10/- per school per month. The expenditure is met from the MME head of Mid Day Meal Programme budget.

2. School Management Committees:

As per RTE Act 2009, in 19373 Primary schools and in 8002 Upper Primary Schools, 27375SMCs are constituted.

The SMC Members are invariably parents of the school children. They actively participate in cooking and serving of Mid Day Meal every day. At least one parent is invited to be present while the food is cooked and served. Before the food is served they are also requested to taste the food and check the quality.

The lady SMC Members are also members of Self Help Groups and are entrusted with the responsibility of cooking the Meal as implementing agencies.

2.25.2 Action taken on the decisions taken during these meetings:

As per the RTE Act. 2009, and Government of India guidelines, each and every decision to be implemented at the school point has to be taken by the resolution of school management committee only. The SMC account is maintained in Joint account by the Chairman, SMC and Head Master. All the amounts pertaining to the school are released to the SMC account only.

2.26 Frequency of meeting of District level committee held under the Chairmanship of senior most MP of the District to monitor the scheme. Gist of the issues discussed and action taken thereon:

Instructions issued to the Dist. Collectors to conduct meeting of District level committee held under the Chairmanship of senior most MP of the District as frequently as possible to monitor the scheme, discuss the issues MDM and action taken thereon.

2.27 Arrangement for official inspections to MDM centers and percentage of schools inspected and summary of findings and remedial measures.

I. INSPECTION OF MDM AS TARGET FOR INSPECTING OFFICERS:-

The Government of Telangana have taken a decision to make it mandatory for all the inspecting officers from State level to Mandal level to inspect the Mid Day Meal Programme in their Visit and inspecting schedule. Instructions have been issued by Commissioner & Director of School Education, Telangana for minimum Coverage, monthly.

- ❖ Regional Joint Directors of School Education :5%
- ❖ District Educational Officers :10%
- ❖ Deputy Educational Officers (Sub Division level) :30%
- ❖ Mandal Educational Officers :30%
- ❖ Instructions were issued to all the districts, that for effective implementation, each Mandal should be divided into three parts and School in each part should be inspected by Mandal Educational Officer, Mandal Development Officer and Extension Officer Rural Development (EORD). They should take responsibility of inspecting 15 to 20 schools in their jurisdiction with overall responsibility lying with Mandal Educational Officer. The DEO / Dy.E.O / M.E.O must make surprise visit every day of two schools for inspecting MDM.

Stage	No. of Institutions	No. of institutions inspected				No. of Centralized Kitchen	No. Centralized kitchen inspected			
		Till last Quarter	During the Quarter	Total covered till the end of Quarter	Total coverage in %		Till last Quarter	During the Quarter	Total covered till the end of Quarter	Total coverage in %
1	2	3	4	5=(3+4)	6	7	8	9	10=(8+9)	11
Primary	29008	9156	14920	24076	83%	2	1	1	2	100%
Upper Primary										

- ❖ The Mandal Development Officer, Mandal Educational Officer and EORD should visit compulsorily two schools daily and see that the MDM is being implemented properly.

2.28 Details of the contingency plan to avoid any untoward incident: printing of important phone numbers (e.g. Primary health Centre, hospital, Fire Brigade etc) on the walls of school building:

108 and 104 emergency services (Mobile medical vans) are being utilised in case of any untoward incident in Mid Day Meal Scheme and they are connected to the Local Hospitals/ Public Health Centers in case of any emergency. The contact numbers of Local medical Officer, Health Center/Hospital, Police, Mandal Revenue Officer and Mandal Education Officer are made available to schools for emergency help.

2.29 Grievance Redressal Mechanism :

2.29.1 Details regarding Grievances Redressal at all levels:

In Telangana the Grievance Redressal Mechanism is in place in a decentralized manner at the district level. All the District Collectors conduct 'Grievances Day' on every Monday in their offices and all the District officers attend the meeting compulsorily. Any complaints reported will be handed over to the District Educational Officer on the spot for immediate action. Grievances are being received through media, sms, and postal system and directly from the affected person.

The Grievances are also received through Web based child help line toll free number 1800-425-3525 is functioning at State level in O/o Director of School Education to receive problems being faced by the children. As soon as call is received message is sent to the MEO under intimation to the District Officers to solve the problem and submit action taken report through online within a week. Further, in each District a dedicated landline is established for receiving grievances. MROs are authorized to take action on the Agencies in case of any deviations or untoward happenings if any. In Urban areas, a committee headed by the MRO identifies Community Development Societies, NGOs, Urban SHGs, DWACRA, School Education Committees and other Agencies as implementing agencies after verifying their antecedents. All the DEOs have been requested to

install separate landline phone in the DEOs office to receive complaints and take action to solve the same.

2.29.2 Details of complaints received i.e. Nature of complaints etc:

S.No	Nature of complaint	No. of complaints	Remarks	Action taken
1	Food Grain Related issue	4	Disposed	
2	Non payment of Hon to CCH	2	Disposed	
3	Quality and Quantity of Mid Day Meal Scheme	1	Disposed	
4	Any unto-ward incident	6	Disposed	Removed the agency.
5	Complaints against NGO	1	Disposed	
6	Others	7	Disposed	
Total		21		

2.29.3 Time schedule for disposal of complaints:

Based on the gravity of the complaint, maximum within a period of one week the complaints are disposed off.

2.29.4 Details of action taken on the complaints:

Instructions are issued to the DEOs and MEOs to solve the problem within a week. Out of 21grievances received at District and mandal level, all the complaints are solved.

2.30 Details regarding Awareness Generation & IEC activities and media Campaign, carried out at State/District/Block/School level:

The objectives of the scheme and information with regard to other components of the scheme are being published by the DEOs through pamphlets etc., and being made available to the parents of the students. Menu is being displayed on prominent place of the school and during the parent teacher meetings etc., the parents are being informed of the scheme.

CDs on the implementation of the scheme were distributed to the State Resource Persons during the training held at Dr. MCRHRD, Hyderabad. Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) and Do's and Don'ts are also being printed for distribution to all the schools in the State.

2.31 Overall assessment of the manner in which implementation of the programme is contributing to the programme objectives and an analysis of strengths and weaknesses of the programme implementation.

Mid Day Meal Scheme has undoubtedly resulted in increased school attendance and facilitated in retention of children in school for a longer period. The Scheme has played a crucial role in reducing drop out, especially among girls. Parents viewed that the mid day meal had reduced the burden of providing one time meal to their children while they were away from home in the afternoons and considered it as a great support to their families. Teachers opined that mid day meal aided in active learning of children, which indirectly improved their academic performance.

1. Class room hunger eliminated:

Mid Day Meal helps the malnourished and well nourished children to overcome short term hunger and thereby **increase their concentration and learning** inside the classroom. It not only takes care of the dietary gap but can also be effective in ensuring that short-term hunger does not inhibit their capacity to learn (Mathew, 2003). This programme has created a very congenial atmosphere for education, health growth and overall well-being of the poor and needy children Drop out rate reduced:

2. Increase in Retention rate and decrease in drop out rate:

Results of the study on the educational component indicated improved attendance, increased retention rate with reduced dropout rates, and a marginal improvement in the scholastic performance. The nutritional component revealed better growth performance among the regular beneficiaries in the program. The MDM program acts as a security net for children, cushioning them from negative nutritional factors; in particular, among younger children, there are large and significant gains for children who suffered from the impact of drought.

3. Gradual increase in quality (Students' performance) :

Brain development and cognitive abilities for the entire life are strongly determined by the nutritional status of the child. Malnutrition –that is, deficiencies in micronutrients - can be seen as a “silent hunger” in which cognitive development is affected. Nutrition clearly determines the future learning, working and thinking performance of children. Introduction of Mid Day Meal Scheme has tackled the problem of hunger among the students and has helped in the increase in the performance of the students.

4. Overwhelming Community Participation:

The involvement of the mothers of the children in the MDM programme made the programme successful leaving little room for corruption and has dramatically improved the quality of the meal. The mothers' group of each school selects from among themselves those who will cook and serve the meals. The involvement of the mothers in the meal programme has had many positive spin-offs. Their presence on the school premises and the constant and regular monitoring by the State authorities ensure that teachers do not absent themselves from work and classes are run on a regular basis.

5. Women empowerment achieved:

Majority of CCHs involved in the MDM scheme are women. The MDM scheme provides an excellent opportunity for female employment in rural areas and liberating working women from the burden of having to feed the children at home during the day.

6. Social distances eliminated:

The impact of the programme was found to be more impressive among the SC, ST and Muslim households. Apart from the impact of the programme on the rate of attendance of children, parents pointed towards the invaluable nutrition support provided for the children, particularly of the poor family background. It is also reducing the gaps of social distances (caste, religion, gender, etc.)

Social group wise details of Cook cum Helpers:

Gender	SC	ST	OBC	Minority	Others	Total
Male	1625	1144	3027	775	665	7236
Female	11246	8509	18944	2836	3898	45433
Total	12871	9653	21971	3611	4563	52669

7. MDM Programme far more strengthened: -

The MDM programme had a significant impact on improving the daily participation rates of children in lower grades. The average monthly attendance rate of girls is higher while there was a positive but insignificant effect on grade one boys' attendance rate. The impact on enrolment levels was insignificant.

There is no problem with the release of funds needed for implementation of the programme.

Involvement of all the officials from State level to school level also helped the smooth functioning of the scheme. Inspections of the schools by the visiting officials and tasting of food by them ensured that quality food is served to the children.

TASTING OF MID DAY MEALS BY DEO



Monitoring Cell formation and Grievance Cell formation ensured instant solving of problems, if any.

Instructions issued from State level authorities in Video conferences also strengthened the scheme.

2.32 Contribution by community in the form of Tithi Bhojanam or any other similar practices in the State.:-

No intervention like Tithi Bhojan has been taken up in the State as such no additional meal/items or kind provided.

2.33 Details of action taken to operationalize the MDM Rules, 2015:-

State rules on Mid Day Meal Scheme are being framed keeping in view the MDM rules notified by Central Government..

2.34 Details of payment of Food Security Allowances and its mechanism.

The action plan is being prepared for payment of Food Security Allowances and its mechanism

2.35 Any other issue and suggestions:-

1. Accord permission to engage one computer operator at mandal point to attend the data entry, collection of information from schools and preparation of bills and other related MDM work is needed.
2. Need more active Community participation in the sense they should voluntarily come forward to help the school authorities in properly serving the MDM to the students. Action in this regard is being taken.
3. Sanction and timely release of adequate budget will be ensured as the Government is in favour of admitting payments pertaining to MDMS under Green Channel.
4. Subsidy on gas should be constituted as its withdrawal is discouraging the cooking agencies from using the gas under MDMS.