



Prachi Pandey
Joint Secretary (EE.I)
Ministry of Education
Tel:- 011-23389247



DO. No: 9-1/2023 PM POSHAN 2-1

Dated 16th January, 2023

Respected Madam / Sir,

As you are aware Pradhan Mantri Poshan Shakti Nirman (PM POSHAN) Scheme is one of the foremost rights based Centrally Sponsored Schemes implemented in partnership with States and UTs. This Scheme benefits about 12 crore children studying in Bal Vatika (just before class I) and Classes I-VIII in Government and Government-Aided Schools.

2. You may appreciate the importance of a robust and dynamic management structure at all levels for a Programme of the scale and magnitude of the PM POSHAN Scheme that ensure serving of hot cooked meals to all eligible children in a safe hygienic manner. Accordingly, the Scheme assigns importance to the preparation of Annual Work Plan & Budget (AWP&B) by States/UTs based on information maintained at school level and aggregated in Block, District and State level. It envisages a bottom-up approach, rather than a top-down approach to planning. The AWP&B framework is designed to provide a comprehensive picture of implementation of Scheme in the State. It contains details of Management Structure, Implementation processes, Monitoring systems, infrastructure position, findings of evaluation studies, strategies to tackle problems, community participation, best practices and new initiatives etc., You may recall that this Department has very recently issued comprehensive guidelines on the Scheme. Kindly ensure that the AWP&B is in consonance with these guidelines.

3. As you are aware, at the National Level, the Department of School Education and Literacy has established a system of Programme Approval Board- PM POSHAN (**PAB - PM POSHAN**) under the chairmanship of Secretary. The **PAB - PM POSHAN** comprising of experts and representatives from various Ministries/Departments of the Government of India meets every year :

- i. To review the status and progress of the implementation of **PM POSHAN** Scheme in the respective State / UT.

- ii. To consider and approve the Annual Work Plan and Budget (AWP&B) proposals submitted by the State / UT for implementation of **PM POSHAN** Scheme for the coming financial year.

4. I would like to inform you that it has been decided to hold the meetings of **PAB - PM POSHAN** for 2023-24 as per the schedule attached at **Annexure**. In order to enable us to appraise the AWP&B 2023-24, the States and UTs are required to submit their AWP&B proposals in the prescribed formats within the stipulated time frame.

5. As you are aware the new Public Financial Management System (PFMS) is operational regarding release and utilization of funds. You are requested to ensure that all the requisite conditionalities and activities envisaged under the new system, as per the directions of Ministry of Finance, are complied with for smooth and seamless implementation of the scheme. You are also requested to ensure that the Central Assistance alongwith matching State share is released within stipulated time lines to the State Nodal Agency (SNA), and further to all Implementing Agencies (IA) for effective implementation of the scheme.

6. You may appreciate that several new interventions have been taken up under PM POSHAN Scheme to achieve better efficiency gains. Accordingly, the following interventions / activities need to be focused upon:

- i. **Tithi Bhojan:** The concept of Tithi Bhojan is being encouraged extensively. Tithi Bhojan is completely voluntary, and people in the community contribute either a complete full meal or contribute nutritious food items in the form of sweets, namkeens, fruits or sprouts etc. as an additional item. Tithi Bhojan is not a substitute to school meal. This only supplements or complements the meal provided in the school. Efforts may be made to provide Tithi Bhojan atleast once in a month.

Even though several States and UTs have adopted this initiative, more efforts may be made to further strengthen the community participation in order to convert this into a Janandolan.

- ii. **Social Audit:** It is reiterated that under provisions of section 28 of National Food Security Act, 2013 Social Audit of the implementation of the scheme is mandatory. Accordingly, State and UTs are advised to conduct social audit in all districts. It would be financially prudent and administratively advisable to undertake Social Audit of implementation of PM POSHAN Scheme. As the process of preparation of AWP&B is about to start, you are advised to prepare a comprehensive Social Audit plan for 2023-24 alongwith clear timelines for different activities as envisaged in the guidelines.
- iii. **School Nutrition Gardens:** Strengthen the efforts being made to promote development of School Nutrition Gardens in schools to give children first hand

experience with nature and gardening irrespective of availability of land. The produce of these gardens may be used in preparing hot cooked meals in schools. Convergence may be established with Department of Rural Development for labour component, Department of Agriculture, Krishi Vigyan Kendras for seed, seedlings, provision of manure and tools required for setting up of SNGs.

- iv. **Varied menu under PM POSHAN:** Menu may be designed in such a manner that different food groups like foodgrains, pulses, oil, vegetables etc are provided in their prescribed quantities on each working day. School managements may be empowered to seek local support for drawing out varied, but wholesome and nutritious menus. You may adopt ways to develop a varied menu that uses local produce reflecting local taste. It is also important to choose a variety of food items from within each food group in Menu because different foods provide different types and amounts of key nutrients. Choosing a variety of foods will help to make meals interesting, thereby encouraging the children to enthusiastically partake the meal. Inclusion of green leafy vegetables in the meal is of utmost importance to reduce the prevalence of anaemia. Superfoods like Drumstick (Moringa), Spinach leaves etc may be included in the meal as these are good sources of iron that help reduce levels of anaemia.
- v. **Supplementary Nutrition item under Flexi Component:** Provide the supplementary nutrition items proposed by State and approved by the PAB for 2022-23 at the earliest. Make adequate provision for supplementary nutrition in aspirational districts / tribal districts / districts with identified high cases of malnutrition etc. using Flexi Component during 2023-24 alongwith a detailed action plan with specific time lines of implementation. Under flexibility component States and UTs may utilize, a maximum of 5% of total recurring Central and minimum mandatory State share for supplementary nutrition etc., provided they are not included under any other Central or State Schemes and there is no overlapping of activities.
- vi. Promote the concept of Vocal for local by encouraging the usage of locally grown food items like millets, vegetables, condiments etc; empowering District Collector to decide menu suitable to the local conditions within the prescribed nutrition and food norms and to procure locally grown food items from Farmers Producers Organizations, Women's Self-Help Groups etc. so as to promote local employment generation and economic development while simultaneously improving the nutrition standards of students.
- vii. Training of all cook-cum-helpers involving Institutes of Hotel Management & Food Craft Institutes of Ministry of Tourism, Food Safety and Standards Authority of India, etc.
- viii. Organize Cooking Competitions in order to motivate cook-cum-helpers towards use of locally available food material and to promote variety menu.
- ix. Prepare annual calendar of activities for **PM POSHAN** Scheme for dissemination of information to popularize the benefits of the Scheme and to make people aware of their rights under the Scheme.
- x. Ensure that every school has a disaster management plan and the same is functional.
- xi. **Convergence:**

- i. Strengthen the existing system of health check-ups, immunization and health cards for 100% school going children in convergence with Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. Also prepare detailed month wise calendar for health checkups and distribution of IFA tablets, de-worming tablets etc.
- ii. Initiate measures to map Nutrition and Health parameters of children at District and Block levels in convergence with Ministry of Health & Family Welfare alongwith extensive monitoring through IT intervention and other methods.
- iii. The States and UTs may procure pulses as per their local taste for the **PM POSHAN** scheme from the Central buffer stock created by the Government of India.

xii. **Monitoring:**

- i. Ensure proper management structures at different levels i.e. State, districts and blocks within the existing available funds.
- ii. Develop an institutionalized mechanism for systematic monitoring and implementation of Scheme including dietary intake, nutrition status, health parameters and Body Mass Index of children. Institutions with domain expertise in nutrition like Food & Nutrition Departments of Central/ State Universities, National Institute of Nutrition etc. may be engaged.
- iii. Strengthen the existing IT enabled MIS system using latest digital technologies to closely monitor the programme. The system may also include seamless tracking of health and nutritional status of children from pre-school to elementary school.
- iv. Strengthen IT based grievance redressal system / suggestion system, which empowers parents / students to upload evidences of their experiences with the scheme.
- v. Take adequate measures for conduct of field inspections by students of eminent Universities / Institutions and also trainee teachers of District Institute of Education Training (DIET) and Regional Institutes of Education (RIE), for enhanced monitoring of implementation of scheme at field level.

7. As you are aware, the States and UTs, in the AWP&B provide comprehensive proposals based on number of children to be covered, number of working days, number of Cook-Cum-Helpers to be engaged, requirement for kitchen cum stores, kitchen devices, repair of kitchen cum stores, supplementary nutrition items and School Nutrition Gardens under flexi component etc.

In the AWP&B, States and UTs also provide detailed information on fund flow mechanism, supply chain management of food grains, system for cooking and serving of meals, menu being followed, Social Audit, School Nutrition Gardens, Tithi Bhojan, community participation, Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram (RBSK), management structure, payment of honorarium to cook-cum-helpers, testing of

meals, MIS, best practices followed by the States/UTs etc. in the write up portion of the AWP&B. You are requested to ensure that the information and plan of action provided by State in these formats adequately reflect the State's commitment and vision to achieve the objectives of the **PM POSHAN** scheme, which is the world's largest school nutrition programme. Adequate attention may be given to ensure that the information provided in the writeup portion is self explanatory and in sync with the data given in the tables.

In the tabular formats of AWP&B, the States and UTs are required to submit data on the implementation of the scheme during 2022-23 and proposals for 2023-24 by indicating the coverage of institutions and children against enrolment and PAB approval, utilization of allocated funds for i) food grains; ii) Material cost; iii) transport assistance; iv) honorarium to cook-cum-helpers; v) Management, Monitoring and Evaluation (MME); vi) kitchen-cum-stores; vii) kitchen devices; viii) testing of meals; ix) coverage of institutions through centralized kitchens of civil society organizations; x) conduct of Social Audit; xiii) Capacity building of various stake holders; xiv) Community participation; xv) Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram (RBSK) of Ministry of Health & Family Welfare; xvi) action taken for operationalization of MDM Rules; xvii) Development of School Nutrition Gardens etc.

8. Please ensure that the AWP&B for 2023-24 is submitted after due approval by the **State Level Steering-cum-Monitoring Committee (SSMC)**. As per the extant guidelines you are also requested to invite representative of this Department for meeting of SSMC. A confirmation may also be made in respect of the following:

- i. Annual and Monthly data entry has been completed in MIS upto January, 2023.
- ii. Automated Monitoring System (AMS) has been operationalized in 100% schools.
- iii. Quarterly Progress Reports of first three quarters of 2022-23 are submitted.
- iv. Emergency Medical Plan as well as disaster management plan is in place in all schools.
- v. Action Taken Note on the commitments given by the State during PAB meetings of 2022-23 is furnished.
- vi. Comprehensive MME Plan has been submitted by the State.
- vii. Action Taken Report on all pending complaints / grievances.

9. Please ensure that the AWP&B is submitted duly signed by the State/UTs Secretary, Education/Nodal Department for implementation of **PM POSHAN** Scheme on or before the respective scheduled date of submission. You may advise the concerned officers to go through the formats of the State/District Plans for preparing a comprehensive Annual Work Plan & Budget 2023-24. Sensitization and orientation meetings may be conducted with all district teams to enable them for preparing

AWP&Bs for their respective districts. Detailed appraisal would be conducted with State teams as per the schedule (Annexure). On need basis, pre-PAB meetings may also be held within the appraisal window.

10. The blank copies of the formats may be downloaded from 'PAB-PM POSHAN Meetings' tab on our official website i.e. pmposhan.education.gov.in. These formats should be filled carefully by providing all the relevant information envisaged there under. Any incomplete information in the write up portion or formats would delay the appraisal of the AWP&B 2023-24. In case any guidance is required, the concerned officers may contact the respective Director / Deputy Secretary or Chief Consultant / Senior Consultant. The State Plan along with all District Plans should also be mandatorily uploaded on the Scheme's MIS portal.

Let us prepare Specific, Accurate, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic, Time bound, Holistic **(SAMARTH)** action plans and actively implement them to ensure that every eligible child gets a nutritious hot cooked meal in a healthy and safe manner.

With regards,

Yours Sincerely,

Prachi Pandey
16.1/xx111
(Prachi Pandey)

To,

1. The Additional Chief Secretaries / Principal Secretaries / Secretaries Education or the Nodal Department for implementation of **PM POSHAN** scheme in all States and UTs.
2. Administrative heads of NIC and T SG-MDM, EdCIL

Copy to:

- i. Commissioner / Director (PM POSHAN) of all States/UTs.
- ii. PPS to Secretary (SE&L).
- iii. Dir(GVB) / DS(DA) / DS(AG) / DS(SR).
- iv. Chief Consultants / Senior Consultants of TSG-PM POSHAN

Prachi Pandey
16.1/xx111
(Prachi Pandey)

Pradhan Mantri Poshan Shakti Nirman (PM POSHAN)

Annual Work Plan & Budget (AWP&B) – 2023-24

Schedule of Appraisal and PAB - PM POSHAN meetings

S. No.	Name of State/UT	AWP&B Submission Date	Appraisal Window		PAB Meeting Date	Meeting Time	Appraisal Team
			Commencement	Completion			
	NIC	14.02.2023	15.02.2023	18.02.2023	23.02.2023 (Thursday)	10:30 to 11:30 Hrs	Mr G Vijaya Bhaskar - Director Mr Dinesh Pradhan - Senior Consultant
	TSG-PM POSHAN					11:30 to 12:30 Hrs	Mr G Vijaya Bhaskar - Director Mr Bhupendra Kumar - Chief Consultant
1	Andhra Pradesh	15.02.2023	16.02.2023	24.02.2023	28.02.2023 (Tuesday)	10:00 to 11:30 Hrs	Mr G Vijaya Bhaskar - Director Mr Bhupendra Kumar - Chief Consultant
2	Goa					11:45 to 12:45 Hrs	Mr G Vijaya Bhaskar - Director Mr Davander Kumar - Senior Consultant
3	Kerala					14:30 to 16:00 Hrs	Mr G Vijaya Bhaskar - Director Dr Anindita Shukla - Chief Consultant
4	Dadra Nagar Haveli & D & Diu					16:15 to 17:15 Hrs	Ms Deepa Anand - Deputy Secretary Mr Dinesh Pradhan - Senior Consultant
5	Assam	17.02.2023	18.02.2023	27.02.2023	02.03.2023 (Thursday)	10:00 to 11:30 Hrs	Mr Anil Gairola - Deputy Secretary Dr Mridula Sircar - Chief Consultant
6	Ladakh					11:45 to 12:45 Hrs	Ms Deepa Anand - Deputy Secretary Mr Dinesh Pradhan - Senior Consultant
7	Uttarakhand					14:30 to 16:00 Hrs	Ms Deepa Anand - Deputy Secretary Mr Sunil Sinha - Chief Consultant
8	Chandigarh					16:15 to 17:15 Hrs	Ms Deepa Anand - Deputy Secretary Mr Sunil Sinha - Chief Consultant

S. No.	Name of State/UT	AWP&B Submission Date	Appraisal Window		PAB Meeting Date	Meeting Time	Appraisal Team
			Commencement	Completion			
9	Jharkhand	27.02.2023	28.02.2023	09.03.2023	14.03.2023 (Tuesday)	10:00 to 11:30 Hrs	Ms Deepa Anand - Deputy Secretary Mr Dinesh Pradhan - Senior Consultant
10	A&N Islands					11:45 to 12:45 Hrs	Ms Deepa Anand - Deputy Secretary Dr Mridula Sircar - Chief Consultant
11	Himachal Pradesh					14:30 to 16:00 Hrs	Ms Deepa Anand - Deputy Secretary Mr Sunil Sinha - Chief Consultant
12	Lakshadweep					16:15 to 17:15 Hrs	Ms Deepa Anand - Deputy Secretary Dr Mridula Sircar - Chief Consultant
13	Rajasthan	01.03.2023	02.03.2023	12.03.2023	16.03.2023 (Thursday)	10:00 to 11:30 Hrs	Mr G Vijaya Bhaskar - Director Mr Bhupendra Kumar - Chief Consultant
14	Bihar					11:45 to 13:15 Hrs	Ms Deepa Anand - Deputy Secretary Dr Anindita Shukla - Chief Consultant
15	Madhya Pradesh					14:30 to 16:00 Hrs	Mr G Vijaya Bhaskar - Director Mr Davander Kumar - Senior Consultant
16	Arunachal Pradesh	05.03.2023	06.03.2023	16.03.2023	21.03.2023 (Tuesday)	10:00 to 11:30 Hrs	Mr Anil Gairola - Deputy Secretary Mr Dinesh Pradhan - Senior Consultant
17	Manipur					11:45 to 12:45 Hrs	Mr Anil Gairola - Deputy Secretary Mr Sunil Sinha - Chief Consultant
18	Sikkim					14:30 to 15:30 Hrs	Mr Anil Gairola - Deputy Secretary Dr Mridula Sircar - Chief Consultant
19	Puducherry					15:45 to 16:45 Hrs	Ms Deepa Anand - Deputy Secretary Dr Mridula Sircar - Chief Consultant
20	Chhattisgarh	07.03.2023	08.03.2023	18.03.2023	23.03.2023 (Thursday)	10:00 to 11:30 Hrs	Mr G Vijaya Bhaskar - Director Mr Bhupendra Kumar - Chief Consultant
21	Tamil Nadu					11:45 to 13:15 Hrs	Mr G Vijaya Bhaskar - Director Dr Anindita Shukla - Chief Consultant
22	Punjab					14:30 to 16:00 Hrs	Mr G Vijaya Bhaskar - Director Mr Davander Kumar - Senior Consultant

S. No.	Name of State/UT	AWP&B Submission Date	Appraisal Window		PAB Meeting Date	Meeting Time	Appraisal Team
			Commencement	Completion			
23	West Bengal	11.03.2023	12.03.2023	22.03.2023	28.03.2023 (Tuesday)	10:00 to 11:30 Hrs	Ms Deepa Anand - Deputy Secretary Mr Dinesh Pradhan - Senior Consultant
24	Delhi					11:45 to 13:15 Hrs	Ms Deepa Anand - Deputy Secretary Dr Mridula Sircar - Chief Consultant
25	Nagaland					14:30 to 15:30 Hrs	Mr Anil Gairola - Deputy Secretary Mr Sunil Sinha - Chief Consultant
26	Odisha	17.03.2023	18.03.2023	28.03.2023	05.04.2023 (Wednesday)	10:00 to 11:30 Hrs	Mr G Vijaya Bhaskar - Director Mr Bhupendra Kumar - Chief Consultant
27	Karnataka					11:45 to 13:15 Hrs	Mr G Vijaya Bhaskar - Director Dr Anindita Shukla - Chief Consultant
28	Uttar Pradesh					14:15 to 15:45 Hrs	Mr G Vijaya Bhaskar - Director Mr Davander Kumar - Senior Consultant
29	Maharashtra					16.00 to 17.30 Hrs	Mr G Vijaya Bhaskar - Director Mr Bhupendra Kumar - Chief Consultant
30	Telangana	22.03.2023	23.03.2023	06.04.2023	11.04.2023 (Tuesday)	10:00 to 11:30 Hrs	Mr G Vijaya Bhaskar - Director Mr Bhupendra Kumar - Chief Consultant
31	Gujarat					11:45 to 13:15 Hrs	Ms Deepa Anand - Deputy Secretary Dr Anindita Shukla - Chief Consultant
32	Haryana					14:30 to 16:00 Hrs	Ms Deepa Anand - Deputy Secretary Mr Davander Kumar - Senior Consultant
33	Mizoram	24.03.2023	25.03.2023	08.04.2023	13.04.2023 (Thursday)	10:00 to 11:00 Hrs	Mr Anil Gairola - Deputy Secretary Mr Sunil Sinha - Chief Consultant
34	Meghalaya					11:15 to 12:15 Hrs	Mr Anil Gairola - Deputy Secretary Dr Mridula Sircar - Chief Consultant
35	J & K					14:30 to 15:30 Hrs	Ms Deepa Anand - Deputy Secretary Mr Dinesh Pradhan - Senior Consultant
36	Tripura					15:45 to 16:45 Hrs	Mr Anil Gairola - Deputy Secretary Dr Mridula Sircar - Chief Consultant