

F.No.9-4/2024-PMP-4
Government of India
Ministry of Education
Department of School Education & Literacy
PM-POSHAN Division

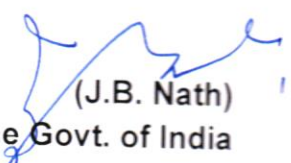
Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi
Dated the 22nd April, 2024

Subject: Minutes of the Meeting of Programme Approval Board (PAB) held on 27.03.2024 to consider the Annual Work Plan & Budget (AWP&B) of State of Kerala under PM POSHAN for 2024-25.

The meeting of the Programme Approval Board (PAB) – Pradhan Mantri Poshan Shakti Nirman (PM-POSHAN) was held at Dr. Ambedkar International Centre, New Delhi on **27.03.2024** under the Chairmanship of Shri Sanjay Kumar, Secretary, Department of School Education & Literacy (DoSE&L), Government of India, to consider the Annual Work Plan & Budget 2024-25 in respect of State of **Kerala**.

2. The minutes of the above PAB meeting have been approved by the Secretary, Department of School Education & Literacy and the same are enclosed for information and necessary action.

Encl. As above.


(J.B. Nath)
Under Secretary to the Govt. of India

To,

1. Principal Secretary, General Education Department, Govt. of Kerala, Annex Building, Secretariat, Thiruvananthapuram-695001.
2. Secretary, D/o Drinking Water and Sanitation, Ministry of Jal Shakti, Pandit Deendayal Antyodaya Bhawan, CGO Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110003.
3. Secretary, Ministry of Women and Child Development, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi.
4. Secretary, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, New Delhi.
5. Secretary, Ministry of Minority Affairs, Pandit Deendayal Antyodaya Bhawan, CGO Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110003.
6. Secretary, Department of Food & Public Distribution, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi.
7. Secretary, Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment.
8. Secretary, Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disability, Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, CGO Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110003.
9. Secretary, Ministry of Rural Development, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi.

Contd....2/-

10. Secretary, Ministry of Labour, Shram Shakti Bhavan, New Delhi.
11. Secretary, Ministry of Tribal Affairs.
12. Shri Vipin Kumar, Additional Secretary (SS-II), MoE.
13. Shri Anandrao Vishnu Patil, Additional Secretary (PMPY & Digital), MoE.
14. Shri Bhupal Nanda, Pr. CCA, PFMS.
15. Ms. Archana Sharma Awasthi, Joint Secretary (AE & SS-1), MoE.
16. Shri Sanjog Kapoor, JS & FA, MoE.
17. Dr. Amarpreet Duggal, Joint Secretary (Cord. & Media).
18. Ms. Prachi Pandey, Joint Secretary (EE.I), MoE.
19. Ms. A. Srijia, Economic Adviser, MoE.
20. Shri V. Hegde, DDG(Statistics), MoE.
21. Shri Harshit Mishra, Deputy Advisor (Education), NITI Aayog.
22. Director, NCERT.
23. Vice Chancellor, NIEPA.
24. Joint Secretary, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, New Delhi.
25. Joint Secretary, ICDS, Ministry of Women and Child Development, A-Wing, 6th Floor, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi.
26. Joint Secretary, Department of Food & Public Distribution, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi.
27. Joint Secretary, Ministry of Rural Development, Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi.

Copy also to:

28. PPS to Secretary (SE&L), Ministry of Education.
29. Shri Shobhit Gupta, Director (Finance), SE&L, MoE.
30. Director (AB) / Director (DA)/ Director (SS) in PM-POSHAN Bureau.
31. Dr. Anindita Shukla, Principle Chief Consultant, TSG-PM POSHAN.
32. Guard File.

Government of India
Ministry of Education
Department of School Education & Literacy

Minutes of the meeting of Programme Approval Board to consider the Annual Work Plan & Budget (AWP&B) 2024-25 of the PM POSHAN Scheme for the State of Kerala.

The meeting of the Programme Approval Board-PM POSHAN (PAB-PM POSHAN) was held at Dr. Ambedkar International Centre, New Delhi, on 27.03.2024 under the Chairmanship of Shri Sanjay Kumar, Secretary, Department of School Education & Literacy (DoSE&L), Government of India. The list of participants in the meeting is enclosed at **Annexure-I**.

The agenda before the PAB-PM POSHAN was:

- i. To review the status and progress of the implementation of the PM POSHAN Scheme in the State of Kerala.
- ii. To consider the Annual Work Plan and Budget (AWP&B) 2024-25 proposal of Kerala for the PM POSHAN Scheme.

2. Shri Anandrao V. Patil Additional Secretary DoSE&L, Government of India, welcomed the Secretary DoSE&L-cum-Chairman of PAB and other members of PAB-PM POSHAN. Secretary DoSE&L-cum-Chairman of PAB in his opening remarks stated that PM POSHAN Scheme is a Rights-based Centrally Sponsored Scheme. He emphasized that the scheme provides nutritional support through hot cooked meals to eligible students, under the National Food Security Act, 2013. The Scheme plays pivotal role in enhancing enrolment and increasing students' attendance in schools. Additional Secretary DoSE&L highlighted the focus areas for 2024-25 viz. timely submission of proposals for the release of funds, health check-up 100% students, maintenance of health cards, provision of micronutrients and deworming medicine, Social Audit of the scheme as per scheme guidelines, daily data entry of 100% schools on Automated Monitoring System (AMS), setting up of School Nutrition Gardens (SNGs) for ensuring Micronutrients in the meals, and experiential learning for students to grow their own vegetables, testing of Meals through NABL accredited laboratories, encouraging Community Participation through "Tithi Bhojan", training of all engaged Cook-cum-Helpers and ensuring LPG for preparation of meals.

3. Further, he invited the Principal Secretary, Mrs. Rani George, Government of Kerala (joined online) to brief the PAB about implementation of the scheme in the State during FY 2023-24 and proposals of Annual Work Plan and Budget (AWP&B) 2024-25.

Subsequently, on behalf of Government of India, Additional Secretary, DoSE&L, made a presentation, on the analysis of implementation of the Scheme in Kerala during FY 2023-24 and recommendations for FY 2024-25 based on the appraisal of State's AWP&B-2024-25, for consideration and approval of PAB.

4. Review of Performance during 01.04.2023 to 30.11.2023

4.1 Coverage of students:

Average number of students covered under the Scheme with reference to enrolment and PAB approval are as under:

Stage	Enrolment	PAB approval for 2023-24	Average number of students availed meals	% Avg. students availed meals vis-a-vis enrolment	% Avg students availed meals vis-a-vis PAB approval
Bal Vatikas	1,37,872	1,20,345	1,26,757	92	105
Primary	15,75,615	16,69,135	14,84,387	94	89
Upper Primary	11,30,920	10,85,129	10,58,315	94	98
Total	28,44,407	28,74,609	26,69,459	94	93

PAB observed that there is a reduction of 1,32,941 in enrolment from 2022-23 to 2023-24. The coverage has also gone down and there is a reduction of 2,05,150 Students from 2022-23 to 2023-24. Secretary DoSE&L-cum-Chairman of PAB, advised the State to review the above reduction and submit a report by 30th April 2024. PAB expressed that efforts may be made to cover all the eligible students under the scheme.

4.2 School Working Days:

PAB had approved 121 days at Bal Vatikas & Primary level and 132 days at UpperPrimary level to be covered during April to November of FY 2023-24, State reported coverage of 119 working days in Bal Vatikas, Primary and Upper Primary level.

Comments of PAB: PAB appreciated the coverage of working days by State Government as hot cooked meal was served on almost all school working days to all eligible students

under PM POSHAN scheme at Bal Vatikas and Primary level however, coverage was little lesser at Upper Primary level therefore PAB advised the State to serve meals on all working days.

4.3 Financial Performance:

PAB had approved financial outlay of Rs 47896.74 lakh comprising of Rs. 30321.03 Lakh as Centre Share and Rs. 17575.71 lakh as State Share for FY 2023-24. The PAB also approved allocation of 71598.857 MTs food grains for the FY 2023-24.

It was further informed that State had an Unspent balance of Rs. 3234.29 lakh available as on 01.04.2023. 1st instalment of Rs 5416.77 lakh was released on 22.09.2023 and 2nd instalment of Rs. 5416.77 lakh was released on 17.11.2024 to the State. 3rd instalment of Rs. 7033.89 lakh was released on 28.12.2024 and 4th instalment of Rs. 7033.89 lakh was released to the State on 11.03.2024.

Comments of PAB: PAB noted the information.

4.4 PFMS - Fund Flow Mechanism:

State informed that they have completed all procedures for implementation of new system of release of funds in line with the revised procedure prescribed by Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance, Govt. of India, and now PFMS is used for all releases and expenditure purposes under the scheme. State govt. of Kerala has created the State Linked Scheme.

Comments of PAB: PAB noted the efforts of State Government in implementation of new system for release of funds under PFMS. As per SNA 06 report of PFMS, State Government transferred the Central Assistance along with corresponding State share within the stipulated time of 30 days. Provision of adequate budgetary provisions in State budget both for Central and State share.

- i. State Linked Scheme (SLS) created for shareable and non-sharable components.
- ii. Transfer of funds (Central and State) to SNA within 30 days upon receiving by the State Treasury from the Government of India. In case of delay in transfer of

funds, interest shall be charged as per the guidelines of the Ministry of Finance, Govt. of India.

- iii. Mapping of all identified IAs.
- iv. Expenditure is done exclusively through PFMS only.
 - v. Deposit of interest earned in SNA to CFI within prescribed timelines.
 - vi. Submission of Legacy data after approval of State Finance Department, if any.
 - vii. Provision of adequate budgetary provisions in the State budget, both for the Central and the State shares.
- viii. All information is reflected properly in corresponding tables / Reports in PFMS.

4.5 Management Monitoring and Evaluation (MME):

State Government has reported utilization of amount of 53% of the allocated funds under MME component during April to November, 2023 of the FY 2023-24.

Comments of PAB: The PAB has expressed concern over low utilization of MME funds and emphasized on the importance of monitoring and awareness generation for better implementation of the scheme and advised the State to ensure optimal utilization of the funds under MME. State Government was also advised to ensure display of entitlements of students in all schools and carry out appropriate IEC activities for awareness generation and testing of meals through NABL accredited laboratories.

4.6 Engagement of Cook-cum-Helpers (CCH) and payment of honorarium

PAB-PM POSHAN has approved 17,673 Cook-cum-Helpers to be engaged during FY 2023-24 in the State, the State has engaged 13,611 (77%) Cook-cum-Helpers. The State has proposed to engage 17,673 Cook-cum-Helpers for FY 2024-25. On the query raised by Additional Secretary DoSE&L on whether state is providing any additional honorarium to CCH, Director General Education, mentioned that as State is providing an additional honorarium of Rs. 11,000 per month from its own resources.

Comments of PAB: PAB advised the State Government to engage the CCH as per need and norms. PAB appreciated the additional contribution made by the State towards honorarium to the CCH.

4.7 Kitchen-cum-Stores (Construction as well as repair):

Central Assistance of Rs.15202.81 Lakh has been released for construction of 5481, Kitchen-cum-Stores over several years. As on 31.11.2023, construction has been completed for 5481 Kitchen-cum-stores.

Comments of PAB: PAB has noted it.

4.8 Kitchen Devices (new as well as replacement):

Central Assistance of Rs.688.55 lakh was released for procurement of 13,771, units of kitchen devices over several years. The State Government has reported that all 13,771 units of kitchen devices had been procured.

Comments of PAB: PAB appreciated the 100% procurement of kitchen devices.

4.9 School Nutrition Gardens (SNGs):

State Government has developed School Nutrition Gardens (SNGs) in 9,666 (80%) schools out of 12,024 schools.

Comments of PAB: PAB appreciated the SNGs progress and maintenance by State. PAB advised that districts viz., Kozhikode (53%), Palakkad (60%), Wayanad (71%) have greater scope of setting up of SNGs. PAB advised the State Government to make concerted efforts for setting up of School Nutrition Gardens in all schools. As per norms Rs. 5000/- per school may be used for development and maintenance of School Nutrition Gardens under flexi funds component. School Nutrition Gardens may also be developed in convergence with local Krishi Vigyan Kendra of Agriculture Department and Horticulture Department etc. The funds available under MNREGA of Department of Rural Development for certain eligible components may also be utilized in convergence with them.

4.10 Community Participation – Tithi Bhojan or similar practices:

The concept of Tithi Bhojan has been adopted by the State Government under which, members from general public provide nutritious meals or fruits to students on special occasions like birthdays, anniversaries or festivals etc. PAB observed that during 2023-24 27.32 lakh additional meals were served to students.

Comments of PAB: PAB appreciated the steps taken by State Government.

4.11 Supplementary nutrition items:

State Government provided Eggs/Bananas, and Milk additionally.

Comments of PAB: PAB appreciated the efforts of State Government.

4.12 Testing of meals:

State Government reported that 1673 samples were collected and tested during the year in 13 districts.

Comments of PAB: PAB appreciated and advised the State Government to carry out the testing of the samples of meals to check quality and nutritional contents etc. through NABL/FSSAI accredited laboratories across the State as envisaged in the Scheme guidelines in FY 2024-25 also and the reports, may also be shared.

4.13 Training of Cook-cum-Helpers and other capacity building activities:

State Government reported that training of Cook-cum-Helpers were carried during the year and 13,262 (97%) Cook-cum-Helpers were trained during FY 2023-24. State has also reported that CCHs (from all districts) participated in cooking competitions.

Comments of PAB: State Government was advised to organize training programmes for all Cook-cum-Helpers during FY 2024-25.

4.14 Data Entry on PM POSHAN-MIS Web Portal:

PM POSHAN-MIS portal captures information on critical indicators of the PM POSHAN scheme. The annual data entry module captures master data on availability of Kitchen-cum-Stores, Kitchen devices, number of Cook-cum-Helpers engaged, mode of cooking etc. The monthly data entry module captures data on number of days meals were served; number of meals served, honorarium paid to Cook-cum-Helpers, number of students who received IFA tablets, number of students screened under Rashtritya Bal Swasthya Karyakram (RBSK) etc. The State Government has made the annual (100%) and monthly data (80%) entry for schools in the MIS portal.

Comments of PAB: PAB appreciated the steps taken by the State Government and advised to maintain 100% up to date data entry every month. However, PAB advised the State Government to ensure that officials at various levels are sensitized about significance of correct data entry and quality check of the data entered in MIS, through reviews on monthly basis.

4.15 Status of implementation of Automated Monitoring System (AMS):

AMS has been put in place for real time monitoring of PM POSHAN. Data on number of meals served on a particular day and reasons if meals not served is being captured from schools with no cost to school headmasters/teachers. Out of 12,024 schools, on an average basis daily data has been reported by 9,804 only i.e. 82% schools on Automated Monitoring System (AMS).

Comments of PAB: Secretary DoSE&L-cum-Chairman of PAB cum Chairman of PAB cum Chairman of PAB, appreciated the percentage of data reported i.e. 82% schools on Automated Monitoring System, which is an important platform for monitoring the Scheme. He further advised the State to ensure data submission by 100% schools on all school working days on AMS by 30th June, 2024.

4.16 Centralized kitchens:

There is no centralized kitchen in the State under the PM POSHAN Scheme.

Comments of PAB: PAB noted the information.

4.17 Social Audit:

Social Audit has been conducted in January 2024, in 450 schools of 14 districts by KILA (Kerala Institute of Local Administration, an autonomous institution (under LSG Department)).

Comments of PAB: State Government was advised to conduct Social Audit as per the scheme guidelines in at least 20 schools or 2% schools, whichever is higher for each district through independent agencies having experience in conduct of such audits. State Government was also advised to draw annual calendar of activities to conduct Social Audit in a manner so that it is completed by September 2024. State was also advised to share the Social Audit Report and Action Taken Report thereon after completion of Social Audit. Expenditure on Social Audit may be met from MME component.

4.18 Menu:

The PM POSHAN Guidelines envisage that 100 gram food-grains, 20 gram pulses, 50 gram vegetables and 5 gram oil to be used per meal per child in Primary and 150 gram foodgrains, 30 gram pulses, 75 gram vegetables and 7.5 gram oils to be used per child per meal in Upper Primary. Secretary, DoSE&L-cum-Chairman of PAB appreciated the wide range of items in the menu. He further opined that the food norms of the scheme are to

be followed in true spirit so that students receive prescribed calories, proteins, fats etc. in prescribed amounts as mentioned in the below table.

S. N.	Items	Primary	Upper Primary
A) Nutrition norm per child per day			
1.	Calorie	450	700
2.	Protein	12 gms	20 gms
B) Food norms per child per day			
1.	Food grains	100 gms	150 gms
2.	Pulses	20 gms	30 gms
3.	Vegetables	50 gms	75 gms
4.	Oil & fat	5 gms	7.5 gms
5.	Salt & condiments	As per need	As per need

4.19 Use of fortified items under PM POSHAN Scheme: Better nutrition through Efficiency gains by Centralized procurement of Pulses, Double Fortified Salt and Fortified Oil at State / district level:

Double Fortified Salt (fortified with Iron and Iodine) is very crucial in addressing Anaemia and Goitre. Oils fortified with Vitamin A and D is beneficial for eyes and general health. Provision of pulses is also very crucial in providing good quality protein which is essential for healthy growth of students. Accordingly, the Scheme guidelines envisage usage of double fortified salt and fortified oils and also specify the quantity of pulses i.e. 20 gram per student per day in Primary and 30 gram per student per day in Upper Primary on all school days under the PM POSHAN Scheme.

However, these fortified items are not easily available in the local markets at school level in many States and therefore, generally not used in preparation of hot cooked meals. Similarly, less use of pulses than the prescribed quantities has been observed in many instances across the States. In this regard it was informed that Union Cabinet has approved that the schemes having nutrition component would utilize pulses from the central buffer. This has already been communicated to States that the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution maintains buffer stock of pulses and has offered to provide Chana Dal at subsidized rates under the PM POSHAN Scheme.

Comments of PAB: PAB advised the State Government to send proposal to procure pulses from buffer stock being maintained by Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution, Government of India, to benefit from economies of scale and assured subsidized rate in the interest of students. This will also ensure availability and use of pulses at school level ensuring provision of protein as per norms like in the case of food grains. It was also advised that State may procure Double Fortified salt and fortified oil in centralized manner from PSUs of Govt. of India / State Government.

4.20 Use of Shree Anna (Millets): State Government did not submit any proposal for inclusion of millets under the PM POSHAN Scheme in the AWP&B for the FY 2024-25.

Comments of PAB: PAB observed that, Shree Anna or millets are group of small grains - abode of vitamins, minerals, essential fatty acids, and antioxidants that can help to reduce several nutritional deficiency diseases. State Government was advised to explore the possibilities of use of Shree Anna (Millets) in meals once a week under the PM POSHAN Scheme.

4.21 Status of Health Check-ups, provision of IFA and De-worming Medicine:

State Government informed that health check-up have been carried out for 15,48,602 (54%) of the enrolled students. 10,44,707 (37%) enrolled students were administered IFA tablets only 3,79,840 (13%) De-worming medicines.

Comments of PAB: PAB expressed anguish on poor progress of Health check-up (54%) of students and distribution of IFA and De-worming medicine was 37% and 13% respectively. PAB further observed that Health check-up of students was less in the districts viz., Kollam (46%), Pathanamithitta (45%), Ernakulam (54%), Thrissur (52%), Malappuram (47%), Kozhikode (37%) and Kannur (54%). PAB expressed concern over the less coverage of students for Health check-up, provision of IFA and De-worming medicine. Further, PAB suggested that focused group data of adolescent girls, students of aspirational districts, etc. may be captured and used for necessary corrective action if required. Capacity Building of teachers may be done to enable them to capture Height and Weight of Students at least annually. Teachers may also be trained to visually observe the signs of Anaemia and Dental problems. The health cards prepared by doctors are to be maintained. Parents of the students may be informed accordingly for referrals, if required.

4.22 Direct Benefit Transfer – Aadhar enrolment: State Government has informed that 26.69 lakh (93%) students have Aadhar.

Comments of PAB: Secretary DoSE&L-cum-Chairman of PAB cum Chairman of PAB cum Chairman of PAB, appreciated the efforts made by State advised the State to cover all the students under Aadhar. State was advised to carry out Aadhaar authentication process with the help of NIC & UIDAI. Aadhaar based de-duplication may also be carried out annually. MME funds may be utilised for this purpose.

It was further informed that the PM POSHAN Scheme is identified as DBT 'In Kind' scheme under Section 7 of the Aadhaar Act. For availing benefits under the PM POSHAN Scheme, Aadhar enrolment number can be insisted, subject to consent of parents/guardian for enrolment. **However, no child shall be denied benefits if, for some reasons, he/she is not having Aadhaar, the benefit shall be given by verifying the identity on the basis of any other documents.**

4.23 Any Other issues

State also requested for

- i) Enhancement of honorarium to Cook-cum-Helpers and
- ii) Enhancement of Material Cost.

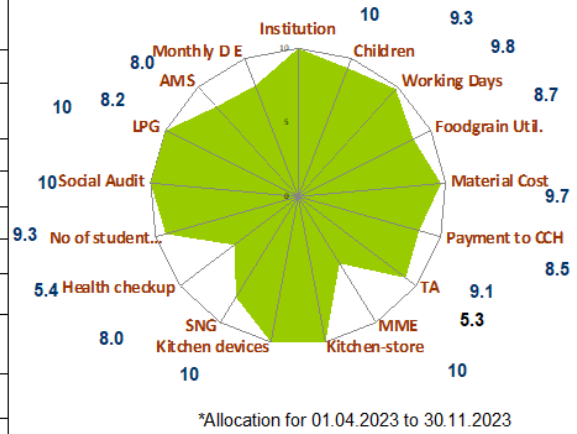
Comments of PAB: The request was noted and the State Govt. of Kerala was asked to submit specific proposals.

4.24 Overall analysis of the performance

The overall analysis of the performance of scheme during the period from 1st April to 30th November, 2023 was presented to PAB through score card. The score card based on performance of the State on the indicators of the Scheme is as under:

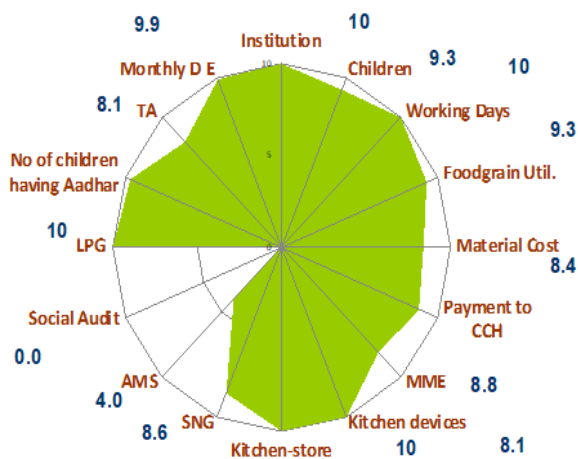
Kerala : Performance Score Card

Component	PAB-Approval for 2023-24	Achievement up to 30.11.2023	% Achievement
Institutions	12024	12024	100
Children	2874609	2669459	93
Working Days *	121/132	119	98
Food Grain Utilization (in MTs) *	43675.298	38063.54	87
Material Cost (Rs. in Lakh) *	26381.639	25627.35	97
CCH Engaged	17673	13611	77
CCH Honorarium (Rs. in Lakh) *	11568.70	9799.92	85
TA (Rs. in Lakh) *	1010.527	927.67	91
MME (Rs. in Lakh) *	517.78	273.69	53
Kitchen cum Stores	5481	5481	100
Kitchen Devices	13771	13771	100
SNGs (No. of schools)	12024	9666	80
No. of Children's Health Check-up	2844407	1548602	54
Students with Aadhaar	2844407	2669459	93
Social Audit	297	450	100
No of schools with LPG	12024	12024	10
AMS	12024	9804	82
Monthly Data Entry	12024	9601	80

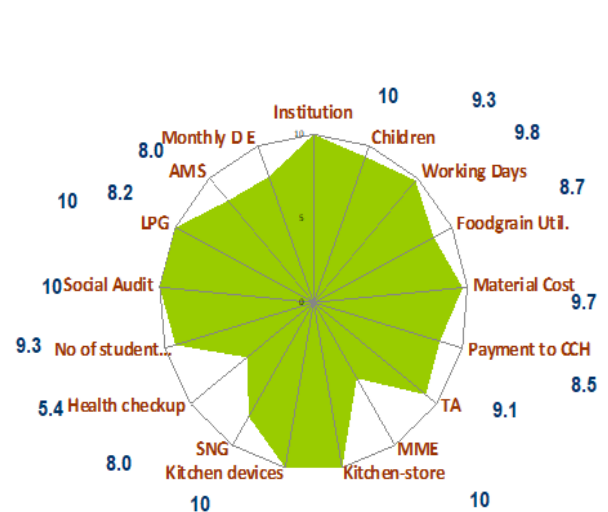


Kerala : Year wise Performance Score Card

2022-23



2023-24



Secretary DoSE&L-cum-Chairman of PAB observed that State has made good progress on aspects AMS, Social Audit, SNGs etc. He further advised the State Government to take corrective measures where the health check-up and provision of IFA and De-worming medicine for improving the performance under the scheme.

He further advised that this radar chart is an effective tool for periodic district wise monitoring of key indicators under the scheme and may be used for reviewing the performance of the districts/school managements. Further, he emphasized that the time series data on key indicators may be prepared in order to identify deviations, analyse reasons and accordingly initiate timely remedial measures.

5. Component wise Proposals and PAB-PM POSHAN Approvals

5.1 Coverage of Students

State Government has proposed to cover 1,26,757 students at Bal Vatikas, 14,84,387 students in Primary Classes, 10,58,315 and students in Upper Primary Classes during 2024-25. Proposal for 26,69,459 lakh students to be covered under the Scheme during FY 2024-25 has been submitted by the State.

Approval of PAB: After detailed discussions, PAB approved 1,26,757 students in Bal Vatikas, 14,84,387 Students in Primary Classes and 10,58,315 Students in Upper Primary Classes during 2024-25 as proposed by the State. PAB approval has been given for 26,69,459 lakh students to be covered during FY 2024-25. Further, PAB advised State of Kerala to send proposal for additional funds if there is any increase in the number of eligible students over and above the approved numbers by the PAB under the scheme.

5.2 Coverage of Working Days

State Government has proposed to serve meals on 200 school days in Bal Vatikas and Primary level and 220 school days at Upper Primary Classes during FY 2024-25.

Approval of PAB: After discussions, PAB approved the proposal of State to serve meals on to serve meals on 200 school days in Bal Vatikas and Primary level and 220 school days at Upper Primary Classes during FY 2024-25.

5.3 Cook-cum-Helpers (CCH)

State Government has proposed to engage 17,673 Cook-cum-Helpers at Primary and Upper Primary levels under the PM POSHAN Scheme during FY 2024-25.

Approval of PAB: After the discussions, PAB approved the proposal of State to engage 17,673 Cook-cum-Helpers at Primary and Upper Primary levels under the PM POSHAN Scheme during FY 2024-25.

5.4 Drought

No proposal has been submitted by the State.

5.5 Construction and repair of Kitchen-cum-Stores

State has proposed to repair 2450 units of kitchen-cum-Stores during FY 2024-25. These units were sanctioned in FY 2023-24 also. State informed that some units out of these were constructed less than ten years ago and there were misreporting by districts, therefore State did not submit a detailed proposal in FY 2023-24. Those have been verified and a revised proposal has been submitted.

Approval of PAB: Following the discussions, PAB approved the proposal of State to repair 2450 units of kitchen cum stores in FY 2024-25.

5.6 Kitchen Devices

State Government has proposed replacement of 12024 units of kitchen devices during FY 2024-25 with the financial assistance of Rs. 2126.50 lakh comprising of Rs 1275.90 lakh as central share and Rs. 850.60 lakh as corresponding State Share.

Approval of PAB: Following the discussions, PAB approved the proposal of State for the replacement of 12024 units of kitchen devices 2024-25 with the financial assistance of Rs. 2126.50 lakh comprising of Rs 1275.90 lakh as central share and Rs. 850.60 lakh as corresponding State Share.

5.7 Flexibility for Innovative interventions

For School Nutrition Gardens (SNGs) and supplementary nutrition interventions, State may use a maximum of Rs.2103.76 lakh (5% of total recurring Central Assistance and minimum mandatory State Share). This expenditure will be met from the funds available with the State (recurring Central Assistance + State Share).

5.7.1 School Nutrition Gardens (SNGs)

State Government has proposed to maintain 12,012 units School Nutrition Gardens (SNGs) during 2024-25 in with the funds available under flexi component.

Approval of PAB: PAB approved the proposal of State of maintain 12,012 units of SNGs during 2024-25 in with the funds available under flexi component.

5.7.2 Supplementary Nutrition

State Government has proposed to provide 30 gm millet snack to 159,123 lakh students for 200 days during FY 2024-25 in with the funds available under flexi component.

Approval of PAB: After discussions, PAB approved the proposal of State to provide 30 gm millet snack to 159,123 lakh students for 200 days during 2024-25 in with the funds available under flexi component.

5.8 Social Audit

State has proposed to carry out Social Audit as per the Scheme guidelines in all the districts in at least 20 schools or 2% schools, whichever is higher for each district.

Approval of PAB: Following the discussions, PAB approved the proposal of State Government to carry out Social Audit in not less than 297 schools. State was advised to draw annual calendar of activities to conduct Social Audit and to share Action Taken Report after conducting Social Audit. Social Audit may be completed for the period of 2024-25 may be completed by September-October 2024.

5.9 Cooking Competitions

State Government has proposed to organize cooking competitions by utilizing MME funds at various levels i.e. Block level, District level and State level for promoting variety in nutritious food menu.

Approval of PAB: After the discussions, PAB approved the proposal of State Government for organizing cooking competitions at various levels by utilizing MME funds.

5.10 Training of Cook-cum-Helpers

State Government has proposed to train all the Cook-cum-Helpers engaged during FY 2024-25.

Approval of PAB: After the discussions, PAB approved the proposal of State Government for training of all the Cook-cum-Helpers by utilizing MME funds.

6. Summary of PAB-PM POSHAN approvals (Physical) for the FY 2024-25

6.1. Recurring and Non-Recurring (Physical)

S. N.	Component	PAB Approvals (Physical) for 2024-25
1	Schools	
1.1	Primary	6,479
1.2	Upper Primary	5,545
	Total Schools	12,024
2	Students	
2.1	Primary	14,84,387
2.2	Upper Primary	10,58,315
2.3	Bal Vatikas	1,26,757
	Total Students	26,69,459
3	Working Days	
3.1	Primary	200
3.2	Upper Primary	220
3.3	Bal Vatikas	200
4	Cook-cum-Helpers	
4.1	Primary	9,217
4.2	Upper Primary	8,456
	Total Cook-cum-Helpers	17,673
5	Non Recurring	
5.1	Kitchen-cum-Stores	0
5.2	Repair of Kitchen-cum-Stores	2,450
5.3	Kitchen Devices	0
5.4	Kitchen Devices (Replacement)	12,024

6.2 Flexibility for Innovative Interventions (Physical)

S. N	Component	PAB Approvals (Physical) for 2024-25
1	Flexibility for Innovative Interventions	
1.1	School Nutrition (Kitchen) Gardens (Setting up in all schools)	12,012
1.2	30 gm millet snack in Wayanad and Idukki.	1,59,123 students for 200 days.

7. Summary of PAB-PM POSHAN approvals (Financial) for the year 2024-25

7.1 Recurring and Non-Recurring (Financial)

(Rs in Lakh)

S. No.	Particulars	Central Assistance	Minimum Mandatory State Share	Total (Central + State)
1	Recurring -Serving of meals during regular school working days			
1.1	Material cost	21945.52	14638.11	36583.62
1.2	Honorarium to Cook-cum-Helpers	1060.38	706.92	1767.30
1.3	Cost of food grains –67147.275 MT Rice)	2014.42	0	2014.42
1.4	Transportation assistance	1007.21	0	1007.21
1.5	MME	702.74	0	702.74
	Total	26730.27	15345.03	42075.29
2.	Serving of meals in Drought affected areas during summer vacations	0	0	0
Total Recurring		26730.27	15345.03	42075.29
3	Non-Recurring			
3.1	Construction of Kitchen-cum-Store	0.00	0.00	0.00
3.2	Repair of kitchen-cum-stores (2450)	147.00	98.00	245.00
3.3	Procurement of Kitchen Devices (New)	00	00	00
3.4	Procurement of Kitchen Devices (Replacement) (12024)	1275.90	850.60	2126.50
Total Non-Recurring		1422.90	948.60	2371.50
Grand Total (Recurring + Non Recurring)		28153.17	16293.63	44446.79

7.2 Flexibility for new interventions

S. No.	Particulars	Central Assistance	Minimum Mandatory State Share	Total (Central + State)
1	Flexibility for new interventions			
1.1	School Nutrition Gardens (SNGs) (12012 units)	360.36	240.24	600.60

1.2	Provision of Supplementary nutrition. (30 gm millet snack in Wayanad and Idukki.)	901.90	601.27	1503.16
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Note: This expenditure will be met from the funds available with the State (recurring Central Assistance + State Share).

8. The total financial outlay of Rs. **44446.80** lakh in which Central Assistance of Rs. **28153.17** Lakh & minimum mandatory State Share of Rs. 16293.63 lakh with 67147.275 MTs of food-grains by Government of India has been finalized as per existing norms on the basis of PAB-PM POSHAN approvals for the year 2024-25. The detailed component-wise quantification for 2024-25 is at **Appendix**. The minimum mandatory State Share has been calculated based on the existing norms and sharing pattern. However, State may add additional funds from their own resources.

9. It is pertinent to note that the Government of India bears entire cost of food-grains i.e. Rs. 26308.30 lakh for the State of Kerala @ Rs 39.18 per kg for Rice for 2024-25, of which Rs. 24293.88 lakh is in the form of subsidy borne through Department of Food & Public distribution under the National Food Security Act, 2013.

10. It is clarified that the quantification of resources is only an estimate for release of Central Assistance and allocation of food-grains during 2024-25 under the PM POSHAN Scheme. The National Food Security Act, 2013, Rules, Guidelines and Instructions issued under the PM POSHAN Scheme from time to time, provide that every child attending an eligible institution is to be covered under the Scheme and shall be served hot cooked meals or provided with Food Security Allowance, as applicable, on all school days. During the year, if it is noticed by the State Government that more funds are needed to implement the Scheme, due to various reasons like increase in the attendance of students, increase in school working days or for any other reason, they may approach Government of India, with justification, seeking additional Central Assistance and food-grains. Similarly, if the Central Government observes less coverage than the approvals, the actual releases may be restricted to actual coverage.

11. State shall ensure uninterrupted supply of hot cooked meals to all eligible students on all school days as per the provisions in para 2.2 (v) of PM POSHAN Guidelines even in case of delay of release of funds, food-grains supply constraints or for any other reasons.

12. The State Government is advised to disseminate the approvals of the resources to all the field functionaries in the State and districts to enable all the eligible institutions to ensure that every eligible student must be served hot cooked meal or provided with Food Security Allowance on all school days irrespective of the approvals of PAB-PM POSHAN.

13. It was also informed that the, PAB has decided to conduct a State/UT wise, mid-term appraisal of PM POSHAN Scheme to review the Scheme during FY 2024-25 and submission of action taken report by the State/UT on the issues discussed in the PAB meeting and commitments made by the State/UT.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.



STATE OF KERALA- QUANTIFICATION OF CENTRAL ASSISTANCE FOR FY 2024-25**A. Food grains**

Sl.	Stage	No of Children	Working Days	Quantity (in MTs)	
				Rice	Total
1	Bal Vatikas(@100 gms per child per school day)	126757	200	2535.140	2535.140
2	Primary (@ 100 gms per child per school day)	1484387	200	29687.740	29687.740
3	Upper Primary (@150 gms per child per school day)	1058315	220	34924.395	34924.395
Grand Total		2669459		67147.275	67147.275

B. Cost of Foodgrains, Material cost, Transport Assistance, Honorarium to Cook-cum-Helpers and Management Monitoring and Evaluation (MME)

Sl. No.	Component/norm	Amount admissible (Rs. in lakh)
1	2	3
Primary		
1	Cost of Food grains @ Rs. 3000 per MT for rice	890.63
2	Unit Material Cost- Rs. 5.45 per child per day	
2.1	Central Share @ Rs. 3.27 per child per day	9707.89
2.2	Minimum Mandatory State Share @ Rs 2.18 per child per day	6471.93
3	Transportation Cost @ Rs. 1500 Per MT food grains	445.32
4	Honorarium for Cook-cum-Helper	
4.1	Central Share – @ Rs 600 for 10 months)	553.02
4.2	Minimum Mandatory State Share - @ Rs 400 for 10 months)	368.68
5	Management Monitoring and Evaluation (MME) @ 2.7% of the <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Cost of food grains ii. Material cost iii. Cost of transportation and iv. Honorarium to cook – cum-helpers 	313.12
Total Central Share for Primary		11909.97

Upper Primary		
6	Cost of Food grains @ Rs. 3000 per MT for rice	1047.73
7	Unit Material Cost- Rs. 8.17 per child per day	
7.1	Central share @ Rs. 4.90 per child per day	11408.64
7.2	Minimum Mandatory State Share @ Rs. 3.27per child per day	7613.52
8	Transportation cost @ Rs. 1500 Per MT food grains	523.87
9	Honorarium for Cook-cum-Helpers	
9.1	Central Share - @ Rs 600 for 10 months)	507.36
9.2	Minimum Mandatory State Share -@ Rs 400 for 10 months)	338.24
10	Management Monitoring and Evaluation (MME) @ 2.7% of the i. Cost of food grains ii. Material cost iii. Cost of transportation and iv. Honorarium to Cook – cum-Helpers	364.17
Total Central Share for Upper Primary		13851.76
Bal Vatikas		
11	Cost of Food grains @ Rs. 3000 per MT for rice	76.05
12	Unit Material Cost- Rs. 5.45 per child per day	
12.1	Central share @ Rs. 3.27 per child per day	828.99
12.2	Minimum Mandatory State Share @Rs. 2.18 per child per day	552.66
12.3	Transportation cost @ Rs. 1500 Per MT food grains	38.03
12.4	Management Monitoring and Evaluation (MME) @2.7% of the i. Cost of food grains ii. Material cost and iii. Cost of transportation	25.46
Total Central Share for Bal Vatikas		968.54
Total of Central Share (Primary + Upper Primary + Bal Vatikas)		26730.27

C. Drought: Nil

D. Non-recurring:

S N	Component	Amount admissible (Rs in Lakh)
1	Kitchen-cum-store	0
2	Repair of kitchen-cum-store (2450)	147.00
3	Kitchen Devices (New) (0)	0
4	Kitchen Devices (Replacement) (12024)	1275.90
Total Central Share (Non-recurring)		1422.90

E. Flexi funds for new interventions

(Rs in Lakh)

S. No	Component	Centre Share	Minimum Mandatory State share	Total
1	Serving of PM POSHAN during regular school working days – from Table B	26730.27	15345.03	42075.30
2	Serving of PM POSHAN in Drought affected areas during summer vacations– from Table C	00	00	00
3	Total (1+2)	26730.27	15345.03	42075.30
4	Admissible Funds for new Flexibility for interventions	12621.26	841.50	2103.76
4.1	State will maintain SNGs (12012 units)			
4.2	30 gm millet snack in Wayanad and Idukki to 1,59,123 students of 780 schools for 200 days.	12621.26	841.50	2103.76

G. Total Allotment of Funds for 2024-25

(Rs. in lakh)

Component		Centre Share	Minimum Mandatory State share	Total
Recurring	Normal	26730.27	15345.03	42075.30
	Drought	00	00	00
Non- recurring		1422.90	948.60	2371.50
Grand Total		28153.17	16293.63	44446.80



List of participants

1. Shri Sanjay Kumar, Secretary, D/oSE&L and Chairman of PAB, Ministry of Education, Govt. of India.
2. Shri. Anandrao V. Patil, Additional Secretary (PMPY & Digital), D/o SE&L, MoE.
3. Shri Sanjog Kapoor, JS & FA, D/o SE&L, MoE, Govt. of India.
4. Ms. Rani George, Principal Secretary Education, Govt of Kerala.(Joined online).
5. Shri Shanavas S. Director General Education, Govt of Kerala.
6. Shri Shobhit Gupta, Director Finance, D/o SE&L, MoE, Govt. of India.
7. Shri Sunil Sharma, Director, PM POSHAN, D/o SE&L, MoE, Govt. of India.
8. Shri Anil Bhandula, Director, PM POSHAN, D/o SE&L, MoE, Govt. of India.
9. Ms. Deepa Anand, Director, PM POSHAN, D/o SE&L.
10. Dr. A. P. Behera, Joint Director, CIET-NCERT.
11. Ms. Priyanka Charan, Deputy Controller of Accounts (PFMS), Govt. of India.
12. Shri L.P. Sharma, Deputy Secretary, D/o Food & Public Distribution.
13. Dr. Sneha Mutreja, Sr. Consultant, MoH&FW.
14. Dr. Santwana G. Mishra, Associate Professor, NIEPA.
15. Prof. B.P. Bhardwaj, NCERT, New Delhi.
16. Dr. P.D. Subhash, NCERT, New Delhi.
17. Shri. Shah Faiz Ahmed, Under Secretary, PM POSHAN, D/o SE&L.
18. Shri K.C. Meena, Under Secretary, PM POSHAN, D/o SE&L.
19. Shri J.B. Nath, Under Secretary, PM POSHAN, D/o SE&L.
20. Shri Sumit Kumar Batra, Section Officer (PM POSHAN-4), D/o SE&L.
21. Shri Sujeet Kumar, Section Officer, (PM POSHAN-5), D/o SE&L.
22. Shri Suneet Kumar Dwivedi, Section Officer, (PM POSHAN-2), D/o SE&L.
23. Dr. Anindita Shukla, Principal Chief Consultant, TSG-PM POSHAN.
24. Shri Bhupendra Kumar, Principal Chief Consultant, TSG-PM POSHAN.
25. Shri Dinesh Pradhan, Senior Consultant, TSG-PM POSHAN.
26. Shri Davander Kumar, Senior Consultant, TSG-PM POSHAN.

