

F.No.6-4/2024-PMP-5
Government of India
Ministry of Education
Department of School Education & Literacy
PM-POSHAN Division

Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi
Dated the 19th April, 2024

Subject: Minutes of the Meeting of Programme Approval Board (PAB) held on 23.02.2024 to consider the Annual Work Plan & Budget (AWP&B) of State of Maharashtra 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 23.02.2024 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 Maharashtra.

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

1. Principal Secretary (Education), Govt. of Maharashtra.
2. Secretary, Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment.
3. Secretary, Ministry of Tribal Affairs.
4. Secretary, D/o Drinking Water and Sanitation, Ministry of Jal Shakti, Pandit Deendayal Antyodaya Bhawan, CGO Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110003.
5. Secretary, Ministry of Minority Affairs, Pandit Deendayal Antyodaya Bhawan, CGO Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110003.

Contd. . . 2/-

6. Secretary, Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disability, Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, CGO Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110003.
7. Secretary, Ministry of Labour, Shram Shakti Bhavan, New Delhi.
8. Secretary, Ministry of Women and Child Development, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi.
9. Secretary, Department of Food & Public Distribution, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi.
10. Secretary, Ministry of Rural Development, Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi.
11. Secretary, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, New Delhi.
12. Shri Harshit Mishra, Deputy Advisor (Education), NITI Aayog.
13. Shri Vipin Kumar, Additional Secretary (SS-II), MoE.
14. Shri Anandrao Vishnu Patil, Additional Secretary (PMPY & Digital), MoE.
15. Ms. Prachi Pandey, Joint Secretary (EE.I), MoE.
16. Shri Sanjog Kapoor, JS & FA, MoE.
17. Ms. Archana Sharma Awasthi, Joint Secretary (AE & SS-1), MoE.
18. Ms. A. Srijia, Economic Adviser, MoE.
19. Shri V. Hegde, DDG(Statistics), MoE.
20. Director, NCERT.
21. Vice Chancellor, NIEPA.
22. Joint Secretary, ICDS, Ministry of Women and Child Development, A-Wing, 6th Floor, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi.
23. Joint Secretary, Department of Food & Public Distribution, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi.
24. Joint Secretary, Ministry of Rural Development, Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi.
25. Joint Secretary, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, New Delhi.

Copy also to:

26. PPS to Secretary (SE&L), Ministry of Education.
27. Shri Shobhit Gupta, Director (Finance), SE&L, MoE.
28. Director (AB) / Director (DA)/ Director (SS) in PM-POSHAN Bureau.
29. Shri Bhupender Kumar, Principal Chief Consultant, TSG-PM POSHAN.
30. 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 PM POSHAN Scheme for the State of Maharashtra.

The meeting of the Programme Approval Board-PM POSHAN (PAB-PM POSHAN) was held at Dr. Ambedkar International Centre, New Delhi on 23.02.2024 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 PM POSHAN Scheme in the State of Maharashtra.
- ii. To consider the Annual Work Plan and Budget (AWP&B) 2024-25 proposal of State of Maharashtra for PM POSHAN Scheme.

2. Shri Anandrao V. Patil, Additional Secretary, DoSE&L, Government of India, welcomed the Secretary, DoSE&L-cum-Chairman of the PAB and other members of PAB-PM POSHAN. Secretary, DoSE&L-cum-Chairman of the PAB in his opening remarks stated that the PM POSHAN scheme is a Rights based centrally sponsored scheme. He emphasised on the importance of PM POSHAN scheme in providing nutritional support to eligible students through provision of hot cooked meals.

Additional Secretary, DoSE&L highlighted the focus areas for 2024-25 viz. timely submission of proposals regarding release of funds, health check up for 100% students, maintenance of health cards provision of micronutrients and de-worming medicines, Social Audit of the Scheme as per the 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 to encourage the students to learn how to grow vegetables, testing of meals through NABL/FSSAI accredited laboratories,

encouraging Community Participation through “Tithi Bhojan”, training of all engaged Cook-cum-Helpers and ensuring LPG for preparation of meals etc.

3. Further, he invited Shri Ranjit Singh Deol, Principal Secretary (Education), the Government of Maharashtra to brief the PAB about the implementation of the scheme in the State. The Principal Secretary (Education), Government of Maharashtra and Director (PM POSHAN), Govt. of Maharashtra made a presentation on the performance of the State under the Scheme during FY 2023-24 and the proposals under Annual Work Plan & Budget (AWP&B) - 2024-25.

Subsequently, from the side of Government of India, Additional Secretary, DoSE&L, made a presentation, on the analysis of implementation of the scheme in Maharashtra during FY 2023-24 and the 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
Primary	59,74,978	55,39,798	52,10,818	87%	94%
U. Primary	39,17,899	36,28,678	34,29,692	88%	95%
Total	98,92,877	91,68,476	86,40,510	88%	94%

Secretary DoSE&L-cum-Chairman of PAB observed that the coverage of enrolled students was below 80% in the districts of Hingoli (74%) and Beed (80%) in Primary Classes and in districts Hingoli (70%) and Jalna (77%) in Upper Primary Classes. He advised the State to ascertain the reasons for low coverage and to take corrective measures.

4.2 School Working Days:

PAB had approved 139 days to be covered during April to November, 2023, State has reported coverage of 132 working days.

Comments of PAB:PAB noted the information and observed that meals must be served on all the school working days.

4.3 Financial Performance:

PAB had approved financial outlay of Rs.174186.20 lakh comprising of Rs.109955.50 lakh as the Central Share and Rs.64230.70 lakh as the State share. The PAB also approved allocation of 262489.28 MTs food grains.

It was further informed that the State has unspent balance of Rs.16838.96 lakh available as on 01.04.2023. First instalment of Rs.19069.39 Lakh was released on 12.12.2023 and Second instalment of Rs 19069.39 Lakh was released on 13.02.2024.

Comments of PAB:PAB noted the information and advised the State to expedite submission of complete proposals for release on 3rd and 4th instalment of Central Assistance.

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 the Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance, Govt. of India, and now PFMS is being used for all releases and expenditure purposes under the Scheme. The State Govt. of Maharashtra has also received the 2nd instalment on 13th February, 2024 and the same will be quickly transferred from treasury to SNA.

Comments of PAB: PAB advised the State to ensure transfer of both Central and State funds to SNA within the stipulated timelines of 30 days. Further, PAB advised the State Government to ensure the following:

- 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 State Treasury from Govt of India. In case of delay in transfer of funds, interest

shall be charged as per the guidelines of the Ministry of Finance, Government of India.

- iii) Mapping of all identified IAs.
- iv) Expenditure is done exclusively through PFMS only.
- v) Deposit of interest earned in SNA to the CFI within prescribed timelines.
- vi) Submission of legacy data after approval of State Finance Department, if any.
- vii) Provision of adequate budgetary provisions in State budget both for Central and State share.
- 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 54% of the allocated funds under MME component for the period of April to November, 2023.

Comments of PAB: PAB expressed concern over low utilisation 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 utilisation of the funds under the MME. State Government was also advised to ensure display of entitlements of students in all schools, to carry out appropriate IEC activities for awareness generation and testing of meals through NABL / FSSAI accredited laboratories.

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

The PAB-PM POSHAN has approved 1,75,201 Cook-cum-Helpers to be engaged during FY 2023-24 in the State. However, the State has engaged 1,57,045 Cook-cum-Helpers. State is providing an additional amount of Rs 1500 per CCH per month from its own resources over and above its minimum mandatory share.

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

4.7 Kitchen-cum-Stores (Construction):

State informed that central assistance of Rs. 48032.21 Lakh was released for construction of 66,090 Kitchen-cum-Stores during 2006-07 to 2013-14. As on 31.11.2023,

construction of 62,276 kitchen-cum-stores has been completed. The State informed that construction of 3,814 kitchen-cum-stores is not yet started since the allocated funds are not sufficient for completion of construction.

State further informed that at present there is requirement of Kitchen-cum-Stores in 7,527 schools including these 3,814 Kitchen-cum-stores.

Comments of PAB: PAB expressed deep concern over inordinate delay in setting up Kitchen-cum-Stores in so many schools and advised the State to surrender the allocated funds alongwith interest on the previously allocated funds, if any, towards these 3,814 kitchen-cum-stores and seek fresh approval for 7527 Kitchen-cum-Stores.

4.8 Kitchen Devices (new as well as replacement):

Central assistance of Rs. 7006.81 lakh was released towards procurement of 1,40,136 units of kitchen devices during 2006-07 to 2014-15. The State has reported procurement of all these units.

As regards replacement of kitchen devices, central assistance of Rs. 13461.22 lakh has been released towards replacement of 2,06,313 units of kitchen devices during 2012-13 to 2019-20. The State has reported that all these 2,06,313 units of kitchen devices have been procured.

Comments of PAB: PAB noted the information and appreciated the 100% utilisation. Secretary, DoSE&L-cum-Chairman of PAB advised the State of Maharashtra to use appropriate vessels for cooking of meals as per the guidelines and advisory issued by Government of India to States from time to time. He also asked the State to ensure proper hygiene in kitchens.

4.9 School Nutrition Gardens:

State Government has developed School Nutrition Gardens in 24,741 schools (29%) out of 85,526 schools.

Comments of PAB: Secretary, DoSE&L-cum-Chairman of PAB observed that in some districts viz. Parbhani, Jalna, Nanded, Hingoli, Washim and Yavatmal, less than 10% schools have School Nutrition Gardens. He advised the State Government to make concerted efforts for development of School Nutrition Gardens in all schools especially in these districts. 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:

In Maharashtra, a community participation programme 'Sneh Bhojan' is being implemented under the PM POSHAN Scheme. About 28 lakh students are benefitted under Sneh Bhojan during FY 2023-24.

Comments of PAB: The PAB appreciated the efforts of State Govt and advised to further popularise the initiative across the State for enhanced community participation.

4.11 Supplementary nutrition items:

State Government is providing Chikki/fruits once in a week. Eggs have been provided under Flexi fund component.

Comments of PAB: PAB appreciated provision of supplementary nutrition to the students. PAB observed that State may provide millets-based items under flexi fund component.

4.12 Testing of meals:

State informed that 1423 samples have been tested and all samples were meeting the norms.

Comments of PAB: PAB appreciated testing of meal and advised the State to share the report of testing of meals with PM POSHAN Bureau, Ministry of Education. PAB 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.

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

State Government reported that training has been conducted for 1,05,257 Cook-cum-Helpers (67%) out of total engaged 1,57,045 during the year FY 2023-24. It was also informed that cooking competitions have been organized at the State, district and block levels and 12,365 Cook-cum-Helpers participated in these cooking competitions.

Comments of PAB:PAB appreciated training of CCHs and advised the State to organise training to all CCH every year. PAB appreciated State's effort in organising cooking competition across the State and advised State to document the whole process and share the report with PM POSHAN Bureau, Ministry of Education.

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 completed annual and monthly data entry for 100% schools in the MIS portal.

Comments of PAB: The PAB appreciated the steps taken by the State Government and advised the State Government to maintain up-to date data entry (100%) every month. PAB also 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 the PM POSHAN. Data on number of meals served on a particular day and, reasons, if meals are not served, are being captured from schools with no cost to school headmasters/teachers. Out of 85,526 schools, on an average basis, daily data has been reported by 72,373 (84%) schools on Automated Monitoring System.

Comments of PAB:PAB appreciated the efforts of State for submitting 84% schools' data on daily basis and advised State Government to ensure daily data reporting by 100% schools on Automated Monitoring System, which is an important platform for monitoring the Scheme.

4.16 Centralized kitchens:

Centralized kitchens have been engaged for providing meals to about 19.55 lakh students in 7176 schools. It was informed that majority of these kitchens are operated by Women Self Help Groups (WSHGs).

Comments of PAB: PAB noted the information and advised the State to adhere to the extant guidelines for engaging Civil Society Organisations/Non-Government Organisations in the Scheme.

4.17 Social Audit:

Social Audit has been conducted in 4233 schools (5% of total schools) in 35 districts by Maharashtra State Social Audit and Transparency Society under the MREGS Dept., Government of Maharashtra.

Comments of PAB: The PAB appreciated conduct of Social Audit and advised the State to share the Social Audit report and Action Taken Report thereon. Further PAB advised the State Government to continue conducting Social Audit as per the scheme guidelines in at least 20 schools or 2% of schools, whichever is higher in 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. Expenditure on Social Audit may be met from the 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 meals per child in Primary and 150 gram food grains, 30 gram pulses, 75 gram vegetables and 7.5 gram oils to be used per child per meals in Upper Primary. It was informed that State has revised the menu to ensure provision of all envisaged items and prescribed nutritional norms on all days.

Secretary, DoSE&L-cum-Chairman of the PAB advised the State that the food norms of the scheme as mentioned in the below table are to be followed in true spirit so that students receive prescribed calories, proteins, fats etc. in prescribed amounts.

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 are 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 the 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.

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 has proposed for providing finger millet (Ragi) for 40 days during FY 2024-25.

Comments of PAB: PAB appreciated that State is incorporating millets in the PM POSHAN Scheme. It was informed 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. PAB also advised State to provide millet based items under the flexi funds component.

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

State Government informed that health checkups have been carried out for 59% of the enrolled students. Iron & Folic Acid tablets and de-worming medicines were administered to 11% and 19% of the enrolled students respectively. The State informed that there were some issues in tendering process of procurement of IFA and de-worming tablets and therefore the same could not be distributed to the students. It was informed that teachers record height and weight of students at every three months. BMI is also checked along with weight and height.

Comments of PAB: PAB expressed anguish over non distribution of IFA tablets and de-worming medicines to majority of students in the State. Secretary, DoSE&L-cum-Chairman of the PAB observed that health checkups was not done for almost 40 lakh (40%) students and in some districts viz. Palghar, Chandrapur, Thane, Mumbai, Solapur and Raigad, health checkup have been conducted for less than 30% children. He advised Govt. of Maharashtra to ensure coverage of 100% students for health check-up and maintain their health cards. Further, the 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. Schools should capture height and weight of each student at least annually and digitise the data. 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 – Aadhaar enrolment: State Government informed that 93.26 lakh (94%) of the enrolled students have Aadhaar.

Comments of PAB: Secretary, DoSE&L-cum-Chairman of the PAB, appreciated coverage of 94% students with Aadhaar and advised the State to cover remaining 5.66 lakh (6%) students under Aadhaar. State was advised to carry out Aadhaar authentication process with the help of the NIC & the 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, Aadhaar 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:

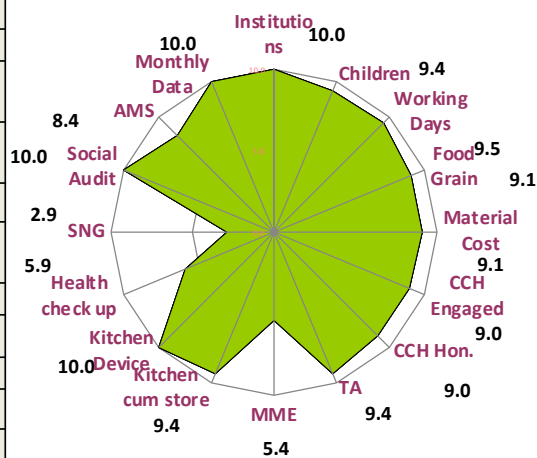
- i) Enhancement of honorarium of Cook-cum-Helpers;
- ii) ii) Enhancement of material cost;
- iii) iii) Enhancement of MME funds and
- iv) iv) reducing the per meal quantity of rice.

Comments of PAB: The request was noted and State of Maharashtra was asked to submit specific proposals on the above.

4.24 Overall analysis of the performance

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

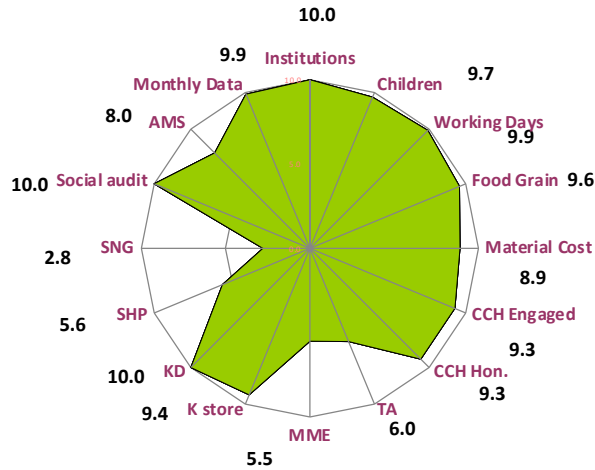
Maharashtra : Performance Score Card			
Component	PAB-Approval for 2023-24	Achievement up to 30.11.2023	% Achievement
Institutions	85526	85526	100
Children	9168476	8640510	94
Working Days *	139	132	95
Food Grain Utilization (in MTs) *	152664	138842	91
Material Cost (Rs. in Lakh) *	83176.53	75538.20	91
CCH Engaged	175201	157045	90
CCH Honorarium (Rs. in Lakh) *	26280.14	23556.75	90
TA (Rs. in Lakh) *	2559.28	2405.06	94
MME (Rs. in Lakh) *	2168.05	1178.40	54
Kitchen cum Stores	66090	62276	94
Kitchen Devices	346449	346449	100
SNGs (No. of schools)	85526	24741	29
No. of Children's Health Check-up	9892877	5835215	59
Social Audit	1710 school	4233 school	100
No of schools with LPG	85526	70100	82
AMS	85526	72373	84
Monthly Data Entry	85526	85526	100



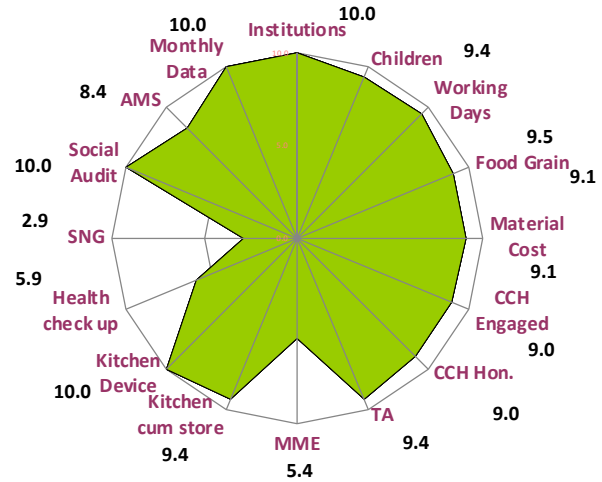
*Allocation for 01.04.2023 to 30.11.2023

Maharashtra : Year wise Performance Score Card

2022-23



2023-24



9

Secretary, DoSE&L-cum-Chairman of the PAB observed that the performance of the State in FY 2023-24 is almost similar to FY 2022-23. He advised the State Government to take corrective measures in areas of poor performance viz. Development of School Nutrition Gardens, Coverage of students under Health Check-ups, administration of IFA tablets and De-worming medicines and Utilisation of MME funds etc. for improving the performance of the Scheme in the State. He further advised that this radar chart is an effective tool for periodic monitoring of key indicators under the Scheme and may be used for district wise review of performance indicators on monthly basis. 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 59,74,978 students in Primary Classes and 39,17,899 Students in Upper Primary Classes during FY 2024-25. Total proposal submitted for 98,92,877 students to be covered under the scheme during FY 2024-25.

Approval of PAB: After detailed discussions, PAB approved to cover 53,69,702 students in Primary Classes and 34,98,319 Students in Upper Primary Classes during FY 2024-25. PAB approval was given for 88,68,021 students to be covered during FY 2024-25. However, PAB advised Govt. of Maharashtra to send proposal for additional funds, if there is any increase in the number of eligible students, over and above the approval given by the PAB under the Scheme.

5.2 Coverage of Working Days

State Government has proposed to serve hot cooked meals on 239 days in Primary and Upper Primary Classes during FY 2024-25.

Approval of PAB: After discussions, PAB approved the proposal of State to serve hot cooked meals on 239 days in Primary and Upper Primary Classes during FY 2024-25.

5.3 Cook-cum-Helpers (CCH)

State Government has proposed to engage 1,75,201 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 1,75,201 Cook-cum-Helpers at Primary and Upper Primary levels under the PM POSHAN Scheme during FY 2024-25.

5.4 Drought

Drought has been notified in parts of 15 districts in the State. State has proposed to cover 7,42,420 students in Primary Classes and 4,79,815 students in Upper Primary Classes during the summer vacation of 45 days in drought affected areas. State has also proposed to engage 17,660 cook-cum-helpers for preparation and serving of meals during summer vacation in drought affected areas.

Approval of PAB: After discussions, PAB approved the proposal of State to cover 7,42,420 students in Primary Classes and 4,79,815 students in Upper Primary Classes during the summer vacation of 45 days in drought affected areas. PAB also approved the proposal of State to engage 17,660 cook-cum-helpers for preparation and serving of meals during summer vacation in drought affected areas.

5.5 Construction and repair of Kitchen-cum-stores

State Government submitted proposal to construct Kitchen-cum-Stores in 7,527 schools with financial outlay of Rs 37685.48 lakh comprising of the Central Share of Rs 22611.29 lakh and State Share of Rs 15074.19 lakh.

State Government has also submitted proposal for repair of 12,565 Kitchen-cum-Stores with financial outlay of Rs 1256.50 lakh comprising of the Central Share of Rs 753.90 lakh and State Share of Rs 502.60 lakh.

Approval of PAB: After discussions, PAB has given in-principle approval for the proposal of State, subject to the condition that the State surrenders the amount of Central Assistance which could not be utilised for construction of 3814 kitchen-cum-stores. State will also submit a detailed proposal to construct these Kitchen-cum-Stores within Six month, along with Schedule of Rates approved by the State Government and list of schools including their UDISE+ codes and enrolment details.

PAB approved the proposal of State for repair of 12565 Kitchen-cum-Stores with financial outlay of Rs 1256.50 lakh comprising of Central Share of Rs 753.90 lakh and State Share of Rs 502.60 lakh.

5.6 Kitchen Devices

State Government submitted proposal for replacement of 83,605 units of kitchen devices, which were sanctioned in December, 2019, with an estimated cost of Rs 12341.30 lakh comprising of the Central Share of Rs 7404.78 lakh and State Share of Rs 4936.52 lakh.

Approval of PAB: PAB did not approve the proposal as these units are not yet eligible for replacement. As per Scheme norms, kitchen devices can be replaced after 5 years from their procurement.

5.7 Flexibility for Innovative interventions

For School Nutrition Gardens and supplementary nutrition interventions, State may use 5% of total approved budget under recurring assistance i.e. Rs 8457.51 lakh comprising of 5074.51 lakh as Central Share and Rs 3383.00 lakh as State Share. This expenditure will be met from the funds available with the State (recurring Central Assistance + State Share).

5.7.1 Supplementary Nutrition

State Government has proposed to provide one egg per student per week for 18 weeks to all enrolled students in the State with estimated financial outlay of Rs 10698.03 lakh comprising of Central Share of Rs 6418.81 lakh and State Share of Rs 4279.21 lakh.

Approval of PAB: After discussions, PAB approved provision of supplementary nutrition with estimated financial outlay of Rs 8457.51 lakh comprising of 5074.51 lakh as Central Share and Rs 3383.00 lakh as State Share. Further, PAB advised the State to explore the feasibility of providing millets-based supplementary nutritional items in aspirational districts and districts having high malnutrition prevalence.

5.8 Social Audit

State Government has proposed to conduct Social Audit in 5% schools in each district across the State during FY 2024-25 by utilising MME funds.

Approval of PAB: After the discussions, PAB-PM POSHAN approved State Government's proposal to conduct Social Audit. 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 FY 2024-25 by September, 2024.

5.9 Training of Cook-cum-Helpers

State Government has proposed to conduct training of all engaged Cook-cum-Helpers during FY 2024-25.

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

5.10 Cooking Competitions

State Government has proposed to organize cooking competitions by utilizing MME funds in at the State, District and block levels.

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

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

6.1. Recurring and Non-Recurring (Physical)

S. N.	Component	PAB Approvals (Physical) for FY 2024-25
1	Schools	
1.1	Primary	46,245
1.2	Upper Primary	39,371
2	Students	
2.1	Bal Vatikas	0
2.2	Primary	53,69,702
2.3	Upper Primary	34,98,319
3	Working Days	
3.1	Bal Vatikas	0
3.2	Primary	239
3.3	Upper Primary	239
4	Cook-cum-Helpers	
4.1	Primary	1,75,201
4.2	Upper Primary	
5	Serving of meals during summer vacations in drought affected areas	
5.1	Students (Primary)	7,42,420
5.2	Students (Upper Primary)	4,79,815
5.3	Working days	45
5.4	Cook-cum-Helpers	17,660
5	Non Recurring	
5.1	Kitchen-cum-Stores	7527
5.2	Repair of kitchen-cum-stores	12565
5.3	Kitchen Devices	0
5.4	Kitchen Devices (Replacement)	0

6.2 Flexibility for Innovative Interventions (Physical)

S. No.	Component	PAB Approvals (Physical) for FY 2024-25
--------	-----------	---

1	Flexibility for Innovative Interventions	
1.1	Supplementary Nutrition over and above existing provisions	Provision of Supplementary Nutrition items

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	82934.65	55317.63	138252.28
1.2	Honorarium to Cook-cum-Helpers	10512.06	7008.04	17520.10
1.3	Cost of food grains	6763.14	0	6763.14
1.4	Transportation assistance	3806.26	0	3806.26
1.5	MME	2808.43	0	2808.43
	Total	106824.54	62325.67	169150.21
2	Serving of meals during summer vacations in drought affected areas			
2.1	Material cost	2150.46	1434.36	3584.82
2.2	Honorarium to Cook-cum-Helpers	211.92	141.28	353.20
2.3	Cost of food grains	197.39	0	197.39
2.4	Transportation assistance	98.69	0	98.69
2.5	MME	71.78	0	71.78
	Total	2730.24	1575.64	4305.88
	Total - Recurring	109554.78	63901.31	173456.09
3	Non-Recurring			
3.1	Construction of Kitchen-cum-Store (7527)	22611.29	15074.19	37685.48
3.2	Repair of kitchen-cum-stores (3622)	753.90	502.6	1256.50
3.3	Procurement of Kitchen Devices	0	0	0
3.4	Procurement of Kitchen Devices – Replacement	0	0	0
	Total Non-Recurring	23365.19	15576.79	38941.98
	Grand Total (Recurring + Non Recurring)	132919.98	79478.11	212398.09

7.2 Flexi Funds for new interventions

S. No.	Particulars	Central Assistance	Minimum Mandatory State Share	Total (Central + State)
1	Flexi Funds for new interventions			
1.1	Provision of Supplementary Nutrition items	5074.51	3383.00	8457.51

Note: This expenditure will be met from the funds available with the State (recurring Central Assistance + State Share).

- 8.** The computation of Central Assistance of **Rs.212398.07 lakh** comprising of Central Share of Rs. **132919.97 lakh** and State Share of Rs. **79478.10 lakh** for FY 2024-25. PAB also approved allocation of **260330.26** MTs food grains for FY 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 Govt. of India bears entire cost of food grains i.e. Rs. 101997.39 lakh for the State of Maharashtra@ Rs 39.18 per kg for rice, of which Rs. 95234.25 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 the PM POSHAN Bureau, DoSE&L, 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.

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 in release of funds, food grains supply constraints or for any other reasons.

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

12. It was also informed that, PAB has decided to conduct, State/UT wise, mid-term appraisal of PM POSHAN Scheme to review the performance under the Scheme during FY 2024-25 the and action taken by 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 MAHARASHTRA: QUANTIFICATION OF CENTRAL ASSISTANCE FOR 2024-25**A. Food grains**

Sl. No.	Stage	No. of Students	Working Days	Quantity (in MTs)		
				Rice	Millet (Ragi)	Total
1	Primary (@ 100 gms per child per school day)	53,69,702	239	106857.07	21478.81	128335.88
2	U. Primary (@150 gms per child per school day)	34,98,319	239	104424.82	20989.91	125414.74
	Total	88,68,021		211281.89	42468.72	253750.61
3	Drought					
3.1	Primary (@ 100 gms per child per school day)	7,42,420	45	3340.89	0.00	3340.89
3.2	U. Primary (@150 gms per child per school day)	4,79,815	45	3238.75	0.00	3238.75
	Total	12,22,235		6579.64	0	6579.64
Grand Total				217861.53	42468.72	260330.26

B. Cost of Food grains, 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 and Rs 1000 per MT for Millets (Ragi)	3420.50
2	Unit Material Cost- Rs. 5.45 per child per day	
2.1	Central Share @ Rs. 3.27 per child per day	41965.83
2.2	Minimum Mandatory State Share @ Rs 2.18 per child per day	27977.22
3	Transportation Cost @ Rs. 1500 Per MT food grains	1925.04
4	Honorarium for 1,75,201 Cook-Cum-Helper	
4.1	Central Share – @ Rs 600 for 10 months	10512.06
4.2	Minimum Mandatory State Share - @ Rs 400 for 10 months	7008.04
5	Management Monitoring and Evaluation (MME) @ 2.7% of the i) Cost of food grains	1561.23

	ii) Material cost iii) Cost of transportation and iv) Honorarium to Cook-cum-Helpers	
Total Central Share for Primary		59384.66
Upper Primary		
6	Cost of Food grains @ Rs. 3000 per MT for rice and Rs 1000 per MT for Millets (Ragi)	3342.64
7	Unit Material Cost- Rs. 8.17 per child per day	
7.1	Central share @ Rs. 4.90 per child per day	40968.81
7.2	Minimum Mandatory State Share @ Rs. 3.27 per child per day	27340.41
8	Transportation cost @ Rs. 1500 Per MT food grains	1881.22
9	Honorarium for Cook-Cum-Helpers	
9.1	Central Share - @ Rs 600 for 10 months	Included in Primary
9.2	Minimum Mandatory State Share- @ Rs 400 for 10 months	
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	1247.20
Total Central Share for Upper Primary		47439.88
Total Central Share (Primary + Upper Primary)		106824.54

C. Drought: provision of meal for 45 days of summer vacation in drought affected areas

Sl. No.	Component/norm	Amount admissible (Rs. in lakh)
1	2	3
Primary		
1	Cost of Food grains @ Rs. 3000 per MT for rice	100.23
2	Unit Material Cost- Rs. 5.45 per child per day	
2.1	Central Share @ Rs. 3.27 per child per day	1092.47
2.2	Minimum Mandatory State Share @ Rs 2.18 per child per day	728.31
3	Transportation Cost @ Rs. 1500 Per MT food grains	50.11
4	Honorarium for 17660 Cook-Cum-Helper	
4.1	Central Share – @ Rs 600 for 2 months	211.92
4.2	Minimum Mandatory State Share - @ Rs 400 for 2 months	141.28

5	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	39.28
Total Central Share for Primary		1494.01
Upper Primary		
6	Cost of Food grains @ Rs. 3000 per MT for rice	97.16
7	Unit Material Cost- Rs. 8.17 per child per day	
7.1	Central share @ Rs. 4.90 per child per day	1057.99
7.2	Minimum Mandatory State Share @ Rs. 3.27 per child per day	706.05
8	Transportation cost @ Rs. 1500 Per MT food grains	48.58
9	Honorarium for Cook-Cum-Helpers	
9.1	Central Share - @ Rs 600 for 2 months	Included in Primary
9.2	Minimum Mandatory State Share- @ Rs 400 for 2 months	
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	32.50
Total Central Share for Upper Primary		1236.24
Total Central Share (Primary + Upper Primary)		2730.25

D. Non-recurring :

Sl. No.	Component	Central Share Amount admissible (Rs in Lakh)
1	Kitchen-cum-Store (7527)	22611.29
2	Repair of Kitchen-cum-Store (12565)	753.90
3	Kitchen Devices (New) (0)	0.00
4	Kitchen Devices (Replacement) (0)	0.00
Total Central Share (Non-recurring)		23365.19

E. Flexible 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	106824.54	62325.67	169150.21
2	Serving of PM POSHAN in Drought affected areas during summer vacations– from Table C	2730.24	1575.64	4305.88
3	Total (1+2)	109554.78	63901.31	173456.09
4	Admissible Funds for Flexibility for new interventions @ 5% of total recurring assistance	5074.51	3383.00	8457.51
4.1	Provision of supplementary nutrition	5074.51	3383.00	8457.51

F. Total Allocation of Funds for 2024-25**(Rs. in lakh)**

Component		Centre Share	Minimum Mandatory State Share	Total
Recurring	Normal	106824.54	62325.67	169150.21
	Drought	2730.24	1575.64	4305.88
Non- recurring		23365.19	15576.79	38941.98
Grand Total		132919.97	79478.10	212398.07



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 Education), D/o SE&L, Ministry of Education
3. Shri Ranjit Singh Deol, Principal Secretary (Education), Govt of Maharashtra
4. Shri Sanjog Kapoor, JS & FA, Ministry of Education
5. Shri Sharad Gosavi, Director (PM POSHAN), Govt of Maharashtra
6. Shri Shobhit Gupta, Director (Finance), D/o SE&L, Ministry of Education.
7. Shri Anil Bhandula, Director (PM POSHAN), D/o SE&L, Ministry of Education
8. Ms. Deepa Anand, Director (PM POSHAN), D/o SE&L, Ministry of Education.
9. Ms. Priyanka Charan, Deputy Controller of Accounts (PFMS), Govt. of India.
10. Prof. Mona Yadav, DEGSN, NCERT.
11. Dr. Romila Bhatnagar DEE, NCERT.
12. Prof. Santwana G. Mishra, NIEPA.
13. Prof. Madhumita Bandhopadhaya, NIEPA.
14. Shri K. C. Meena, Under Secretary, D/o SE&L, Ministry of Education.
15. Shri J. B. Nath, Under Secretary, D/o SE&L, Ministry of Education.
16. Shri Sumit Kumar Batra, Section Officer (PM POSHAN-4), D/o SE&L.
17. Shri Bhupendra Kumar, Principal Chief Consultant, TSG-PM POSHAN.
18. Dr. Anindita Shukla, Principal Chief Consultant, TSG-PM POSHAN.
19. Shri Dinesh Pradhan, Senior Consultant, TSG-PM POSHAN.
20. Shri Davander Kumar, Senior Consultant, TSG-PM POSHAN.

