

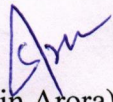
F.No. 14-10/2016 MDM 1-2 (EE.5)  
Government of India  
Ministry of Education  
Department of School Education & Literacy  
MDM Division  
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Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi  
Dated the 04<sup>th</sup> August, 2021

**Subject: Minutes of the meeting with the officials of States/UTs to discuss 'Fortification of Rice & its Distribution under Public Distribution System'-reg.**

The meeting with all the States/UTs on the subject mentioned above was held on 25.06.2021 at 03.00 p.m. through Video Conferencing under the Chairmanship of Director (MDM) to discuss 'Fortification of Rice & its Distribution under Public Distribution System' and to streamline the above mentioned scheme.

2. A copy of the Minutes of the above meeting is enclosed for information and necessary action.
3. This issues with the approval of Joint Secretary (MDM).

  
(Sachin Arora)

Under Secretary to the Govt. of India  
Tele: 011-23381698

Copy to:

- 1) Shri R. C. Meena, Joint Secretary (MDM), Department of School Education, Ministry of Education, Government of India.
- 2) Shri Vijaya Bhaskar Gurala, Director, Department of School Education, Ministry of Education, Government of India.
- 3) The Education Secretaries/ Nodal Officer for Mid Day Meal in all the States/UTs.
- 4) Shri L.P. Sharma, Deputy Secretary, D/o Food and Public Distribution, Krishi Bhawan.
- 5) Shri Sanjeev Gautam, General Manager (S&C), FCI.
- 6) Shri Arnab Dhaki, Under Secretary (MDM).
- 7) Shri Ajay Kumar, Under Secretary (MDM).



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

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**Minutes of the meeting on Centrally Sponsored Pilot Scheme on "Fortification of Rice & its Distribution under Public Distribution System"- under Mid Day Meal Scheme (MDMS) with States and UTs.**

The meeting of the centrally sponsored pilot scheme on "Fortification of Rice & its Distribution under Public Distribution System"- under Mid - Day Meal Scheme (MDMS) with States and UTs was held in New Delhi through video conferencing on 25.06.2021. The list of participants in the meeting is enclosed at *Annexure-I*.

**The agenda of the meeting was:**

- i. To review the status progress and assess readiness of the States and UTs for provision of fortified rice under MDMs.
  - ii. To discuss all the issues pertaining to rice fortification and clearing the qualms if any, for the better coordination for the provision of fortified rice in association of Ministry of Food & PD and FCI.
2. Director MDM welcomed the officials from all the States and UTs who have participated in the meeting and made opening remarks. He appreciated the State Government's initiatives already taken for the provision of fortified rice under MDMs. He further mentioned that this Ministry has agreed to bear the revised incremental fortification cost @ 73 paise per kg for the Pilot Scheme Fortification of Rice and its distribution. He clarified that food grains are already being provided by FCI as of now for MDMS, under this present scheme fortified rice shall be provided to States and UTs in place of normal rice as per the capacity of FCI. The Fortified Rice Kernels contains, Iron, Vitamin B 12 and Folic acid as a fortificant. He invited Shri Sharma, DS Dept. of Food and PD, for comments. Shri Sharma opined that clarity has been made through the initial remarks of director MDM. However, a clarification letter may again be sent to States and UTs if required.
3. The representative from FCI mentioned that fortified rice is being made available to almost all the States and UTs. As a progressive data almost 3.36 lakh MTs for fortified rice have been procured and made available to States and UTs. However, lifting of fortified rice is not encouraging and rice is lying in go-downs of Punjab and Chhattisgarh. He further opined that States and UTs may be facing some challenges in lifting of fortified rice and as the lifting is not very prompt. He further opined that States and UTs needs to be clarified how the reimbursement of Rs. 0.73 paise shall be provided especially to the NER States. Director MDM, informed that letter has already been issued to States and UTs vide letter dated 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2021. However, a letter may again be sent to States and UTs clarifying that Govt of India will bear the extra expenditure of Rs. 0.73 paise of cost of fortification. It is further clarified that in case of late payment to FCI Govt. of India has already parked Rs. 300 crores to FCI in case of any pendency in payment.
4. On the query raised by SNO MDM Odisha, Director MDM, DoSE&L clarified that, FCI pre-blended ready to use fortified rice will be provided by FCI and therefore State need not carry out the blending activities like they were doing in Gajapati District. In a 50 kg bag 500 gms of FRK shall be added i.e. 49.5 kg with normal rice shall be blended with 500 gm FRK. For IEC activities to publicize that design and posters prototype may be obtained from FCI and FSSAI and for publicity MME funds may be used.

5. Replying to, representative from Goa, Director MDM mentioned that State has the liberty to select rice or wheat as per their choice and cultural acceptance, in case of Goa as they are only using wheat as on date they may continue to do so. Director MDM advised States & UTs to carry out discussion with FCI officials at State/UT level and their readiness for provision of fortified rice regarding the coverage of other districts on the query raised by Shri Mumtaz Ahmad, Finance Controller, Uttar Pradesh.
6. Shri L. P. Sharma, Deputy Secretary, Department of Food & Public Distribution informed on the query raised by Officials from Jammu & Kashmir that there will be a +F mark on the bag itself so that fortified rice can be differentiated. He also mentioned that the FRK blended rice has the shelf life of approximately one and half years.
7. Shri Jeevanbabu, DGE Kerala, mentioned that State has made a request for parboiled rice (fortified) as that is preferred by the children in the State. Initially the parboiled rice was being procured from Andhra Pradesh. However, now the FCI has informed that the raw rice is being procured from Punjab. Director MDM, Govt. of India suggested to discuss the issue with FCI and in order to resolve the issue in coordination. Representative from FCI mentioned that the capacity building for the provision of parboiled rice FRK needs to be built in. The availability of boiled rice is also less which needs to be worked out. Director MDM opined that until the boiled rice FRK is made available state may not be pressurized to utilize raw rice as food choices are culture specific.
8. On the query raised by Commissioner MDM Gujarat, Director MDM clarified that for the distribution of first quarter of rice which has been already lifted by State and UTs can be distributed as it is not possible to blend with FRK now, However they may start the distribution of fortified rice as an when FCI provides the same.
9. Mr. Ambrose Marak, Meghalaya asked whether that FCI can provide fortified rice in Shilong and Ribhoi districts. He further suggested that FRK rice may be provided at Tura region so that it will be easy for Garo area distribution and for Khasi hill region. FCI representative informed that 227 MTs of fortified stocks have been placed at Ribhoi districts, FCI will be able to provide in Garo, Khasi and Jaintia districts through road as they are already doing for other projects. He further informed that they will take up the matter with their regional center and requested the state to place a request to State regional office also for better coordination.
10. Director MDM mentioned on the query raised by Shri Shamim Bahadur Lakar from Assam that a letter has already been issued on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021 that fortified rice shall be provided in all the districts where FCI is in a position to supply the fortified rice.
11. **Following Action Points emerged from the discussion.**
  - a. D/o SE&L, Ministry of Education shall bear Rs.0.73 cost per kg of rice cost fortification for rice.
  - b. States and UTs may conduct meetings with State regional offices regarding the availability of fortified rice.
  - c. FCI may take up the matter or provision of parboiled rice FRKs blended in fortified rice for the southern States that have such cultural food preference.
  - d. State and UTs may issue necessary instructions to all the stakeholders at district level regarding preparedness on the provision of fortified rice.

12. Director MDM informed the States and UTs to implement the new system for release of funds in line with the directions of Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance, and Govt. of India.

13. Director MDM requested all the States and UTs to share their, best practices, case studies, Photos, videos (HD) quality, initiatives of to be incorporated in the India MDM Report by 30.06.2021.

Meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the chair.

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## List of Participants

1.	Shri Vijaya Bhaskar Gurala, Director, Department of School Education, Ministry of Education, Government of India.	
2.	Shri L.P. Sharma, Deputy Secretary, D/o Food and Public Distribution, Krishi Bhawan.	
3.	Shri Sachin Arora, Under Secretary, Department of School Education, Ministry of Education, Government of India.	
4.	Shri Arnab Dhaki, Under Secretary, Department of School Education, Ministry of Education, Government of India.	
5.	Shri Ajay Kumar, Under Secretary, Department of School Education, Ministry of Education, Government of India.	
6.	Shri Sanjeev Gautam, General Manager (S&C), FCI.	
7.	Andhra Pradesh	Shri B M Diwan Mydeen, Director (MDM), Govt. of Andhra Pradesh.
8.	Arunachal Pradesh	Smt. Niharika Rai, Commissioner, School Education Arunachal Pradesh.
9.	Assam	Smt. Sangita Saikia, ACS, ODS, Samagra Shiksha, Assam. Mr. Prasanta Kumar Chakrabarty, State Resource Officer i/c, MDMS, Assam. Mr. Shamim Bahar Laskar, State Programme Manager, MDMS, Assam.
10.	Bihar	Shri Satish Chandra Jha, Director , MDM
11.	Goa	Shri Dilip R. Bhagat, Director, Education, Govt. of Goa Shri Manoj Kumar Sawaikar, Assistant Director, Education, Govt. of Goa
12.	Gujarat	Shri S.A.Patel (I.A.S.) - Commissioner Mid Day Meal Scheme Shri K.N.Chavada (G.A.S.) - Joint Commissioner Shri R.B.Gadhavi (incharge) - Assistant Commissioner
13.	Kerala	Shri Jeevan Babu K, IAS, Director of General Education.
14.	Haryana	Shri Sanjeev kumar Singh, GM, MDM, Govt. of Haryana.
15.	Himachal Pradesh	Shri Naresh Sharma, Nodal Officer, Directorate of Elementary Education, Shimla.
16.	Jharkhand	Dr. Shailesh Chouracia, Director MDM, Mr. Binod Kr. Tiwari, State Coordinator of MDM



17.	Karnataka	Shri T. Narayana Gowda, Joint Director, Mid-Day Meal Scheme, Department of Public Instructions, Bengaluru Shri P.S.Leelavathi, Assistant Director, Mid-Day Meal Scheme, Department of Public Instructions, Bengaluru
18.	Madhya Pradesh	Dr. Dileep Kumar, State Coordinator, MDM, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh Shri. I. S. Thakur, Joint Commissioner, MDM, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh.
19.	Maharashtra	Shri Dattatreya Jagtap, Director (Education)
20.	Meghalaya	Mr. Ambrose Marak, Meghalaya
21.	Mizoram	Shri James Lalrinchhana, Director of School Education, Mizoram. Shri Lalhmachhuana, Joint Director & SPD, Samagra Shiksha, Mizoram.
22.	Nagaland	Shri Khriekethozo Lhoungu, Nodal Officer (MDM), Directorate of School Education, Nagaland.
23.	Odisha	Shri Gangadhar Sahu, State Nodal Officer (MDM).
24.	Punjab	Shri Prabhcharan Singh, GM, MDM, Govt. of Punjab.
25.	Sikkim	Mr. Ugen Lepcha, Director(MDM), Govt. of Sikkim. Mr. Pema T. Bhutia, Assistant Director, Govt. of Sikkim.
26.	Tamil Nadu	Tmt.V.Amuthavalli IAS., (Director cum Mission Director (ICDS), Tmt. V.R. Jayalakshmi (JD-NMP), Mr.D.Subramani (Senior Manager Quality Control TNCSC)
27.	Telangana	Smt. A. Sri Devasena, Director of School Education. Shri K. Lingaiah, Additional Director.
28.	Tripura	Shri N.C. Sharma, Director, Elementary Education. Smt. Syamali Debbarma, Deputy Director, BO, MDM, Elementary Education.
29.	Uttar Pradesh	Shri. Mumtaz Ahmed, Finance Controller, MDM, Govt. of Uttar Pradesh.
30.	Uttarakhand	Shri P.K.Bisht, Joint Director, MDM, Department of Education, Govt. of Uttarakhand. Shri Himanshi Rawat, Administrative Officer, MDM, Department of Education, Govt. of Uttarakhand. Shri Arun Ramola, State Coordinator, MDM, Department of Education, Govt. of Uttarakhand.



31.	West Bengal	Shir Tapan Kumar Adikari, Director, MDM West Bengal
32.	A&N Administration	Shri Kamlesh Kumar, Director Education.
33.	Chandigarh	Shri Sunil Bedi, Dy. Director, O/o Director School Education, Sector-9, Chandigarh. Mrs. Neena Kalia, District Education Officer, Sector-19, Chandigarh. Shri. Jatin K Sharma, MIS Coordinator, MDM Cell, Sector-19, Chandigarh.
34.	Delhi	Shri Naresh Kumar, Section Officer. Ms. Asha Mukherjee, Senior AO. Shri Yogesh Pratap, Consultant.
35.	DNH & DD	Smt. Pooja Jain, Secretary, DNH & DD.
36.	Ladakh	Shri Safdar Ali, Director MDM, Ladakh
37.	Jammu & Kashmir	Shri Deepraj Manash, SPD/ Director MDM
38.	Puducherry	Shri Vidjeacoumary, Deputy Director, Mid Day Meal Scheme, Shri V.Palaniappan, MDM Coordinator. Shri D.Baridharan, MIS Coordinator.
39.	Shri Bhupendra Kumar, Chief Consultant, (Plan Monitoring) MDM	
40.	Dr. Anindita Shukla, Chief Consultant, (Food & Nutrition) MDM	
41.	Dr. Mredula Sircar, Chief Consultant, (Plan Monitoring) MDM	
42.	Shri Sunil Kumar Sinha, Chief Consultant, (MIS) MDM	
43.	Shri Dinesh Pradhan, Senior Consultant, (MIS) MDM	
44.	Shri Davendra Kumar Consultant, MDM	