

F. No. 14-1/2018-EE-6(MDM-3-1)
Government of India
Ministry of Human Resource Development
Department of School Education and Literacy
MDM Division

Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi
Dated, the April 24, 2018

To

Principal Secretary/Secretary(Education) for Mid Day Meal schemes of the States/UTs

Subject: - Social Audit under MDMS for States/UTs.

Sir/Madam,

I am directed to refer to the subject cited above and to say that Social Audit is the process in which people collectively monitor and evaluate the planning and implementation of a programme or scheme. It is viewed as an ongoing process of public vigilance. No government programme can be successful unless and until it is fully supported by the public at large. Hence through Social Audit, community participation can be attracted and channelized for enrichment of Mid Day Meal Scheme.

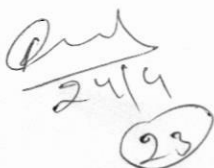
2. The objective of Social Audit is to create awareness among beneficiaries under the scheme and empower public/ beneficiaries to hold Government accountable, to address problems and identify bottle necks at the grass roots level so that bottom up and location specific approach may be adopted for smooth implementation of the programme or scheme and last but not the least it helps in popularizing and strengthening the scheme at the grass roots level.

3. Under National Food Security Act 2013, Legal Backing is now provided for Mid Day Meal Scheme and has made provision for Social audit in section 28 (1) of the National Food Security Act 2013. Realizing the importance of the Social audit under Mid Day meal Scheme by Government of India, Social Audit Guidelines were issued, which are available on the website www.mdm.nic.in to enable the State Governments to monitor and evaluate the implementation of the Mid-Day Meals scheme (MDMS) and to identify and resolve gaps in implementation.

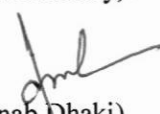
4. PAB-MDM 2014-15 approved to carry out the Social Audit of the scheme in all States/UTs with the help of the eminent institute available in their respective States. The State Governments were advised to utilize the MME funds of the Mid Day Meal scheme for conducting social audit in two poor performing districts in their states. At various forums, Workshops, Review meetings and JRMs, it has been advised to State Governments to initiate Social audit under Mid Day meal scheme on pilot basis and then scale up in all districts in phased manner. So far 13 states viz. Bihar, Maharashtra, Odisha, Karnataka, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, Telangana, Nagaland Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal, Rajasthan, Uttarakhand and Tamil Nadu have completed the conduct of social audit on pilot basis.

5. It is, therefore, requested that the Social audit of MDMS may be undertaken urgently initially in the States/UTs as per MHRD guidelines concluded with Public hearing. The tentative time taken up for the entire exercise takes about 2 months. It is desired that the entire exercise of conducting Social Audit may be shared with this Department, which can provide guidance so that the very purpose of social auditing of Mid day meal scheme is fulfilled. The guidelines on Social Audit and a D.O. letter dated 14.08.2013 stating the decisions taken for Social Audit are enclosed herewith for ready reference.

Yours faithfully,


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(Arnab Dhaki)

Under Secretary to the Government of India
Tel: 2338 7771

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<u>23</u>	Smt. Puniya Salila Srivastava Secretary (Education), Govt. of National Capital Territory of Delhi, Department of Education, Room No.6, Directorate of Education New Delhi - 110 054. DELHI		
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