

Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi Dated 6th July, 2016.

Subject: Minutes of the Regional Workshop held at Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala on 10th – 11th June, 2016 - reg.

A Regional Workshop for South Zone to review the performance of the Mid-Day Meal Scheme upto March, 2016 was held at Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala on 10th – 11th June, 2016 for the States/UTs of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Goa, Gujarat, Karnataka, Kerala, Lakshadweep, Maharashtra, Puducherry, Tamilnadu, Telangana, Uttarakhand and Uttar Pradesh.

2. A copy of the minutes of the above workshop is enclosed for information & necessary action.

(Gaya Prásad) Director (MDM) Tel. 011-23384253 Fax: 011-23382394

- 1. Smt. Ranjeev R. Acharya, Special Chief Secretary, Department of Education, Govt. of Telangana.
- 2. Shri Ajay Seth, Principal Secretary, Department of Public Instruction, Govt. of Karnataka.
- 3. Shri Aditya Nath Das, Principal Secretary, Department of School Education, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh.
- 4. Dr. D.S. Gangwar, Principal Secretary, Department of MHRD, Govt. of Bihar.
- 5. Shri Nand Kumar, Principal Secretary, Department of School & Sports Education, Govt. of Maharashtra.
- 6. Shri P. Sivasankaran, Principal Secretary, Department of Social Welfare & Noon Meal Programme, Govt. of Tamil Nadu.
- 7. Shri Rajendra Trivedi, Commissioner, MDM, Government of Gujarat.
- 8. Shri Virendra Kumar, Secretary, Department of School Education, Govt. of Goa.
- 9. Shri A.P.M. Mohammad Hanish, Secretary, Department of General Education, Govt. of Kerala.

- 10. Shri Ajay Kumar Singh, Secretary, Department of Basic Education, Govt. of Uttar Pradesh.
- 11. Shri D. Senthil Pandiyan, Secretary, Government of Uttarakhand.
- 12. Shri J. Ashok Kumar, Secretary, Department of Education, UT of Lakshadweep.
- 13. Shri G. Ragesh, Chandra, Secretary, Department of Education, UT of Puducherry.

Copy also to:

- 1. Director, Mid Day Meal Scheme of all concerned States / UTs
 - i) Shri. G Srinivas, Director, Government of Andhra Pradesh.
 - ii) Shri Harihar Prasad, Director, Government of Bihar.
 - iii) Ms. V. Sumangla, Joint Director, Government of Karnataka.
 - iv) Shri Sunil Chauhan, Joint Director, Government of Maharashtra.
 - v) Thiru Elango ,Joint Director NMP, Government of Tamil Nadu.
 - vi) Shri P.K.Bisht, Joint Director, Government of Uttarakhand.
 - vii) Ms. Sandhya Rani, Director, School Education, Government of Andhra Pradesh.
 - viii) Ms. Shradha Mishra, Director, Mid Day Meal Authority, Government of Uttar Pradesh.
 - ix) Shri R.S.Saman, Deputy Director, Government of Goa.
 - x) Shri Gopal Reddy, Additional Director, Government of Telangana.
- 2. Sr. PPS to Secretary(SE&L).
- PPS to Joint Secretary(EE.I).
- Dir(HK) / Dir(PV) / DS(BDS).
- 5. US(RK) / US(SA) / US(AD) / SO(SS) / SO(NR) / SO(RKJ).

MINUTES OF THE REGIONAL WORKSHOP MEETING HELD AT THIRUVANANTHAPURAM ON 10th – 11th JUNE, 2016 TO REVIEW THE IMPLEMENTATION OF MID DAY MEAL IN SOUTH ZONE STATES.

The Regional Workshop was held at Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala on 10 - 11 June, 2016 to review the performance of the scheme in Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Goa, Gujarat, Karnataka, Kerala, Lakshadweep, Maharashtra, Puducherry, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Uttarakhand and Uttar Pradesh. The list of participants is enclosed at Annexure-I.

- 2. The workshop was preceded by a field visit to three schools namely Government Girls High School, Cotton Colony, St. Philomena Girls High School, Poonthura and Government TTI School, Manacoud, Thiruvananthapuram. It was found that cooking cost is provided in these schools @ Rs.6.00 per child per day for enrolment up to 500 students and Rs.5.00 per child per day thereafter. The children are served with breakfast in the morning and mid day meal in the afternoon. Children were seen to be enjoying breakfast consisting of coconut mixed rice with grams. The breakfast was also tasted by the members of visiting teams from MHRD and various States/UTs. All the schools were seen to be using fuel wood for cooking the meals though the schools have LPG connection. The children bring eating plates from their homes for mid day meal and tumblers for taking milk. The Central Team informed the State authorities that central assistance is provided @ Rs.5000/- per school for the procurement of kitchen devices such as eating plates, cooking utensils etc. per school. The State Government may utilize this assistance for providing eating plates and tumbler to the children in the schools. Only two cook-cum-helpers were engaged in the schools for preparing meals although the enrolment of students in these schools was in thousands. It was informed that as per State Government norms one cook-cum-helpers is provided for enrolment up to 500 students subject to maximum of two. But these cook-cum-helpers are assisted by Mothers-Teacher Associations (MTA) in the school for preparation and distribution of meals. Cook-cum-helper is paid honorarium @ Rs.350/- per school day. The central team appreciated decision of State Govt. to provide honorarium as per minimum wages in the State. The children in the school informed that they are served egg/banana also once and milk twice in a week. The visiting team observed that the schools are maintaining more than 15 registers for maintaining record of the mid day meal. The team advised the State Govt. to maintain records in one or this registers on the lines of U.P Govt.
- 3. The workshop started in the afternoon of 10th June, 2016 and the agenda wise discussion during the workshop is as under:

Agenda	Points of discussion				
Overview of the Scheme, Issues and performance of the Scheme during 2015-16.	 Performance of the States/ UTs was discussed in detail on different parameters of MDMS viz., coverage of children, utilization of food grains and cooking cost, payment of honorarium to cook-cum-helpers, transport assistance, MME fund, delay in the submission of QPR, Non-submission of Monthly Progress Report by States/UTs. 				

- Uttar Pradesh and Jharkhand had less than 60% coverage of children against the enrolment. States/ UTs should take corrective measures to improve the coverage of children
- States/ UTs were requested to submit the QPRs within the stipulated time.
- Supreme Court Observation that the States/UTs do not lift the allocated food grains were brought to the notice of the participating States/UTs. It was clarified by the States that the food grain projections are based on the anticipated number of children likely to take meal but due to less coverage against enrolment or meals not taken by students from affluent families result in less consumption and thereby less lifting of food grains. Puducherry informed that children in Government aided schools in the UT do not take mid day meal. Karnataka informed that NGOs are not utilising allocated food grains.
- Honorarium of CCHs should be e-transferred regularly in their bank accounts.
- The participating States mentioned that the existing norms of assistance under Mid Day Meal Scheme for cooking cost, Payment of Honorarium to Cook-cumhelpers, Transport Assistance, MME, Kitchen Devices etc. are not adequate. They requested for their upward revision. The States/UTs were informed that the proposal is already under consideration of the Ministry.
- Delay of 45 days to 3 months was noticed in the release of Central Assistance by the States to the Schools. Joint Secretary (EE-I) enquired as to how the scheme is managed in the absence of funds with the implementing agencies. It was informed that the scheme is managed on credit basis. Director(MDM) suggested that the State should have a mechanism for pre-positioning of funds to the implementing agencies. He advised the Governments of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana to revive the Green Channel Scheme for advance release of funds to the implementing agencies.
- The participating States/UTs mentioned that the norms of assistance under mid day meal scheme need to be revised due to the inflation that has taken place since they were last revised in 2009. DPI Kerala informed that the State is paying transportation charges @ Rs.140/per quintal against the prevailing rates of Rs.75/- per quintal. The States/UTs were informed that the issues are already under consideration of this Department.

Review of infrastructure facilities under Mid Day Meal Scheme.

- State/ UT wise availability of infrastructure facilities like kitchen-cum-stores, kitchen devices, LPG and hand washing facilities for the year 2014-15 and 2015-16 were discussed in detail.
- States were requested to complete the in progress/ yet to start kitchen cum stores within timeline. Other States/ UTs were also requested to complete the same within timeline. Andhra Pradesh informed that they have

submitted the file for surrendering central assistance for 18573 kitchen-cum-stores. Maharashtra also proposes to surrender funds for 5693 kitchen-cum-stores. Uttar Pradesh informed that the construction for 488 kitchen-cum-stores would be completed this year. The remaining kitchen-cum-stores would be surrendered. Uttarakhand would surrender 130 kitchen-cum-stores sanctioned for schools located in the Forest Land. The participant from Karnataka informed that funds were not released to the State for the kitchen-cum-stores sanctioned during the previous years. It was clarified that the central assistance could not be released due to the shortage of funds in 2015-16.

- Kerala informed that it has completed the procurement of kitchen devices for 2546 schools which were sanctioned in 2006-07.
- States/ UTs were requested to increase the coverage of LPG in schools and provision of hand washing facilities as discussed during PAB MDM meetings.

Review of the status of data entry into the MDM-MIS portal and preparedness of the States/UTs on rolling out of the Automated Monitoring System before the prescribed timeline.

- All the States/ UTs were requested to complete the data entry into the MDM-MIS portal within stipulated time.
- Detailed discussions were held regarding comparison of data of MDM-MIS portal and AWP&B 2016-17.
 Significant mismatch of data was found in respect of States of Bihar, Gujarat and Uttar Pradesh. These States had also made less monthly and annual data entries in the MDM-MIS portal. They assured that the monthly and annual data entries would be completed within 15 days.
- All the States/ UTs were requested to utilize the service of SSA data entry operators for MDM MIS portal data entry.
- States/ UTs were appraised about the time lines for rolling out of the Automated Monitoring System.
- Status of progress made so far by States/ UTs for implementation of Automated Monitoring System is at Annexure-II.

Discussion on submission of proposal for release of balance of 1st installment

Andhra Pradesh and Kerala have not submitted their proposals for the release of central assistance under balance of first installment. Both the States assured that their proposals would be submitted during the next week. Goa and Telangana have released less State Share. They were requested to release the full State Share so that their proposal is processed for obtaining necessary approvals for the release of central assistance under balance of first installment. The proposals from the remaining participating States/UTs have since been submitted for approval of the sanctioning authority.

Review of payment of cost of food grains to FCI; supply of food grains at NFSA rates.

 State/ UT specific status of payment of cost of food grains to FCI was discussed. Shri J. Alam, Joint Secretary (EE-I), Department of School Education & Literacy, Government of India mentioned that out of pending bills of Rs.311.25 Cr as on 30th April, 2016, Uttar Pradesh had pending bills for

Rs.98.88 Cr., Bihar and Maharashtra had pending bills for Rs.48.27 Cr. and 22.83 Cr respectively. All the States/ UTs were requested to clear the pending bills within twenty days from the date of the receipt of bills. States/ UTs highlighted the issue of late communication of bill payment information by FCI regional offices to FCI headquarters. All States/ UTs were requested to conduct a meeting with their respective FCI offices to reconcile the bills and to sort out other issues at the earliest. · States/ UTs were informed that consequent upon the notification of Mid Day Meal Rules, 2015 under National Food Security Act (NFSA), the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution has allocated the food grains for the first two quarters of 2016-17 at NFSA rates @ Rs.2.00 and Rs.3.00 per kg for wheat and rice respectively instead of Below Poverty Line (BPL) rates as was the case earlier. Therefore, the States/UTs should make payment to FCI at NFSA rates in respect of the food grain lifted by them. Review on meetings of District State/ UT specific status of inspection, SSMC meetings, Level Committee under meeting of District Level Committees for the year 2014-Chairpersonship of senior most 15 and 2015-16 was discussed in detail. Member of Parliament (Lok Joint Secretary (EE-I) mentioned that many Members of Sabha), Parliament have been writing to the Ministry for non convening of meetings of District Level Committee for reviewing the implementation of Mid Day Meal Scheme. He advised the States to hold quarterly meetings of DLC by seeking prior convenience of the Members of Parliament. • All the States/ UTs were requested to give special emphasis on inspection of schools along with regular meetings of SSMC and district level committees. Review on pending ATN on The status of pending ATN on complaints was discussed received complaints from with States/ UTs. The States were informed that replies are various stakeholders.

awaited from them. For instance pending complaints with Bihar were 43, 1 each for Gujarat, Goa and Telangana, 2 for Karnataka, 14 for Maharashtra, 51 for Uttar Pradesh. These States were requested to send the ATN within 15 days.

4. Secretary, Department of School Education & Literacy (SE&L), Government of India graced the occasion by his presence in the Workshop on 11th June, 2016 and addressed the participants from various States/UTs. He mentioned that the mid day meal scheme has twin objectives to address the two major challenges of satisfying hunger and improving educational outcome for the children. The Government of India is providing central assistance under Mid Day Meal Scheme for providing nutritional support through mid day meal to the children studying in elementary classes in Government, Government aided and local body schools. He advised that participating States/UTs should consider making contributions for serving additional nutritional items milk, eggs or fruits etc. or provide additional funds for cooking cost from their own resources under MDMS for providing

nutritious meals to our children. He urged the States to replace the repetitive and monotonous menu with variety meal according to the local food habits of the school children.

- 5. Secretary (SE&L) highlighted the need for quality and hygiene under mid day meal. He mentioned that the cook-cum-helpers have the responsibility to prepare nutritious meal under clean and hygienic conditions. They should wear aprons and head gears while cooking mid day meals. They should be got trained from Institutes of Hotel Management, Food Craft Institutes, and Colleges of Home science in the art of preparing variety meal with prescribed nutrition. They should be advised to wash their hands before touching any food item to avoid cross contamination of meals. The children should also be encouraged to wash their hands before and after meals. If land is available in the schools, it should be utilized for developing kitchen gardens whose produce can be utilized under mid day meal scheme.
- 6. Secretary (SE&L) further mentioned that several cases of food poisoning are reported immediately after the opening of schools when summer vacation ends, possibly because of pest infestation of the stored ingredients and food grain. This could be avoided if the school authorities undertake a cleanliness drive a few days before opening of the schools. He impressed upon the State Governments to ensure that the food is tasted at least by 2-3 persons including teacher and two parents. The Ministry of Human Resource Development has already issued instructions to the State Government for maintaining a monthly roster of parents who can be requested to visit the school on the notified date for tasting of meal and record their observations in the taste register.
- 7. Secretary (SE&L) mentioned that the monitoring of the scheme needs to be strengthened through regular inspections by the State, District, Block authorities and necessary corrective measures must be taken to improve the implementation of the scheme. The Ministry of Human Resource Development has proposed to monitor the scheme on near real time basis through Automated Monitoring System. The States can collect the near real time information through e-mail, SMS, Apps and Interactive Voice Response System (IVRS) or combination thereof. The information collected by the States on the number of children who took meal on daily basis should be transmitted to the Central Server. MHRD has prescribed that all States Governments/UTs should roll out the automated monitoring system by 25th June, 2016. He expressed his satisfaction that most of the participating States/UTs have already taken necessary action for rolling of the automated monitoring system. He added that one month extension in rolling out of AMS is given to States/UTs. Thus the AMS must be rolled out by 31st July, 2016.
- 8. Secretary (SE&L) also advised the States/UTs to put in place Social Audit in their place so as to bring transparency and accountability in the implementation of the Mid Day Meal Scheme. The ideas from the community can also be utilized for improving the effectiveness of the scheme. He further suggested that every State should put in place a sound and responsive Public Grievances Redressal Mechanism for disposal of complaints.
- 9. Secretary (SE&L) mentioned that convergence with Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakaram (RBSK) of the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare needs to be strengthened.

He advised the State that they should ensure that the RBSK teams visit their schools twice in a year for screening all the children studying in the schools. Teacher can be trained to screen the children suffering from refractive errors or communicable diseases so that they are taken to the Primary Health Centers for necessary medical interventions. The School Health Cards must be kept in the schools.

- 10. Secretary (SE&L) also emphasized the need for introducing LPG in schools so as to reduce the drudgery of the cook-cum-helpers. Further, LPG is environmental friendly, more thermo-efficient, does not deposits the carbon on the utensils. The States/UTs may utilize the cooking cost for LPG because fuel is a part of the cooking cost.
- 11. After discussion on the above mentioned topics, the following decisions were taken during the Workshop.
 - a) All the States/ UTs will adhere to the timeline of 25th June, 2016 for the rolling out of Automated Monitoring System. One month extension is given to States/UTs beyond 30th June, 2016.
 - b) The shortfall in the collection of mobile numbers of the teachers and master data of schools would be made up within a week under intimation to MHRD and NIC, New Delhi (mdm.edu@nic.in).
 - c) All the States/ UTs will also submit the XML data format for Automated Monitoring System with NIC and MHRD by 20th June, 2016.
 - d) All the States/ UTs will make annual as well as monthly data entries into MDM MIS web portal. The services of Data Entry Operators (DEO) may also be utilised for making these entries in a time bound manner.
 - e) The participating States/UTs were advised to submit Action Taken Note (ATN) on the commitments made during PAB MDM meetings of 2016-17.
 - f) The construction of kitchen-cum-stores would be completed within the timelines mentioned by the States/UTs during PAB MDM meetings of 2016-17.
 - g) The pending bills of FCI with Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Maharashtra as well as other States/UTs would be cleared immediately.

The workshop ended with the vote of thanks to the chair.

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

- Dr. Subhash Chandra Khuntia, Secretary, Department of School Education & Literacy, Government of India.
- 2. Shri J.Alam, Joint Secretary, Department of School Education & Literacy, Gol.
- 3. Shri D. Senthil Pandiyan, Secretary, Government of Uttarakhand.
- 4. Shri Gaya Prasad, Director, Department of School Education & Literacy, Gol.
- 5. Shri P. Vinayagam, Director, Department of School Education & Literacy, Gol.
- Shri Rajeev Kumar, Under Secretary, Department of School Education & Literacy,
 Gol.
- 7. Shri Sachin Arora, Under Secretary, Department of School Education & Literacy, Gol.
- 8. Shri K.L.Ahuja, Section Officer, Department of School Education & Literacy, Gol.
- 9. Shri Rajendra Trivedi, Commissioner, MDM, Government of Gujarat.
- 10. Shri. G Srinivas, Director, Government of Andhra Pradesh.
- 11. Shri Harihar Prasad, Director, Government of Bihar.
- 12. Shri Bella Shetty, Director, Government of Karnataka.
- 13. Shri Gopal Reddy, Additional Director, Government of Telangana.
- 14. Ms. V. Sumangla, Joint Director, Government of Karnataka.
- 15. Shri Sunil Chauhan, Joint Director, Government of Maharashtra.
- 16. Thiru Elango ,Joint Director NMP, Government of Tamil Nadu.
- 17. Shri P.K.Bisht, Joint Directpr, Government of Uttarakhand.
- 18. Shri R.S.Saman, Deputy Director, Government of Goa.
- 19. Shri N. Gangadhara, Sr. Assistant Director, Government of Karnataka.
- 20. Shri K.Gowri Shankar, Assistant Director and Nodal Officer for AMS, Government of Andhra Pradesh.
- 21. Shri Srinivas Chander Tiwari, Assistant Director, Government of Bihar.
- 22. Shri Ishwar R.Patil, Assistant. Director, Government of Goa.
- 23. Shri Rajesh Kumar Sahi, Assistant Director, Government of Uttar Pradesh.
- 24. Shri V.P. Singh, Assistant Director, Government of Uttar Pradesh.
- 25. Shri Ram Chander, Assistant Director, Government of Uttar Pradesh.
- 26. Shri DinkarTemkar, Deputy Director, Government of Maharashtra.
- 27. Thiru. R. Kalaiselvan, Deputy Director, MDM, UT of Puducherry.
- 28. Shri Bhavesh Paragi, Project Coordinator, Government of Gujarat.
- 29. Shri. Rachana Pandya, Project Coordinator, Government of Gujarat.
- 30. Shri Srinivas Singh, Superintendent IT Cell, Government of Andhra Pradesh.
- 31. Ms. Aparna Shendkar, Superintendent, Government of Maharashtra.
- 32. Shri S.Rajamallu, Nodal Person AP on line, Government of Andhra Pradesh.
- 33. Shri P. C.H Sampat Kumar, Government of Andhra Pradesh.
- 34. Shri K.V. Mohan Kumar, DPI, Government of Kerala.
- 35. Shri R.S. Shibu, Chief Planning Officer, and Nodal officer of the programme, Government of Kerala.

- 36. Shri Digvijay Kumar, Data officer, Government of Bihar.
- 37. Shri. Ratheesh. R, Programmer, IVRS Consultant, IT@School Project, Government of Kerala.
- 38. Shri Pradeep. M.R, Junior Superintendent, Noon meal, Government of Kerala.
- 39. Shri K. Dinesh, PA to Director of Public Instruction, Government of Kerala.
- 40. Mohammed Musthafa. U, Computer Programmer, Noon meal, DPI, Government of Kerala.
- 41. Shri. Rajappan, Education Officer, UT of Lakshadweep.
- 42. Shri. T. Chandran, Education Officer, UT of Lakshadweep.
- 43. Thiru Swaminathan, UT of Puducherry.
- 44. Thiru. V.Palaniyappan MDM Co-ordinator, UT of Puducherry.
- 45. Bharaninathan, MIS Coordinator, UT of Puducherry.
- 46. Tmt. Malliga, AO NMP, Government of Tamil Nadu.
- 47. Shri S. Raju, Staff Member, Government of Telangana.
- 48. Shri Himanshu Rawat, Field Investigator, Government of Uttarakhand.
- 49. Shri Rohit Gupta, Consultant IVRS, Uttar Pradesh.
- 50. Dr.(Ms) Mredula Sirkar, Consultant, TSG-MDM, Ed CIL (India) Ltd.
- 51. Shri Bhupendra Kumar, Consultant, TSG-MDM, Ed CIL (India) Ltd.
- 52. Shri K.K.Sharma, Consultant, , TSG-MDM, Ed CIL (India) Ltd.
- 53. Shri. Rajeeve Goel ,Finance Consultant, Ed CIL (India) Ltd.
- 54. Shri Davandra Kumar, Research Assistant, TSG-MDM, Ed CIL (India) Ltd.

State wise status of implementation of Automated System Monitoring of MDMS

S. No.	States / UTs	Current Status					
		No. of Schools	Collection of Mobile Nos. of Teachers	Submission master data	of	Mode of Implementation	
1.	Andhra Pradesh	45594	Collected	Submitted	4	IVRS, through AP- ONLINE	
2.	Bihar	69500	Collected	Submitted		Started pushing daily data	
3.	Goa		Collected	Submitted		Goa Infotech, by 20.06.2016	
4.	Gujarat	35751	Collected	Submitted		IVRS, through Agency, possibly by 25.6.2016	
5.	Karnataka	55873	Collected for 49000	Submitted	WE.	SMS based through Long Code Service with BSNL	
6.	Kerala	12500	Collected for 99% schools	Submitted		Web-based, IVRS, SMS, Mobile App	
7	Lakshadweep	39	Collected	Submitted		IVRS System from next month.	
8.	Maharashtra	86000	Collected for 76000	Submitted		Mobile App/SMS on testing mode. Implementation by 25.06. 2016	
9.	Puducherry	447	Collected	Submitted		Implementation by 25.06. 2016	
10.	Tamil Nadu	43047	Collected for 30000	Submitted		SMS mode; Service Provider is yet to be decided.	
11.	Telangana	25322	Collected	Submitted		NIC; for gateway permission.	
12.	Uttarakhand	17692	Collected	Submitted		IVRS. Service Provider to be selected by 20.06.2016.	
13.	Uttar Pradesh		Collected	Submitted	*	Already implementing IVRS through UP DESKO and will be connected to Central Server after summer vacations.	