



NATIONAL PROGRAMME OF MID DAY MEAL IN SCHOOLS (MDM)

ANNUAL WORK PLAN & BUDGET 2015-16



మధ్యాహ్న భోజన పథకము
Mid Day Meal Scheme

**DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION
GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA
HYDERABAD.**

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Annual Work Plan & Budget 2015-16**

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1. INTRODUCTION:

The Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in its direction in 2001 has linked the feeding programme of the children to quality education programme of Government. This was done to ensure that lesser number of children go to bed hungry. This resulted in encouraging poor families to enroll their children in government schools and thereby enable them to guarantee at least one square meal a day, called as MDM scheme. All State Governments in the country have to ensure that every child coming to a government school gets one wholesome meal for lunch on school days.

Logistically, the problem was tackled through government schools in India that educate 60 per cent of the country's children, most of them being from below poverty-line (the family earns less than Rs 700 a month). With parents (often single) going for wage labour early in the morning, the children usually come to school hungry because kitchen fires at home are only lit in the evenings after the father or the mother brings home the daily wage.

To address, the Government of India, in its wisdom, launched the MDM scheme. It was designed to provide every child enrolled in a government school, nutritiously cooked afternoon meal every day. The meal not only fights hunger, it brings a hungry child's attention back to the lessons, and it also encourages out-of-school children to get enrolled so that they can at least be assured of one wholesome meal every day.

The MDM scheme is a well-intentioned programme. Government of India has attempted to address the fundamental problems of health, education, and overall development of children in the country by implementing programme all over the country. It provides children with at least one nutritionally adequate meal a day. This program is known to lead to higher attention spans, better concentration, and improved class performance. School meal program also provides parents with a strong incentive to send children to school, thereby encouraging enrollment and reducing absenteeism and dropout rates. It supports health, nutrition, and education

goals and consequently will have a multi-pronged impact on a nation's overall social and economic development.

There is also evidence to suggest that apart from enhancing school attendance and child nutrition, mid day meals have an important social value and foster equality. As children learn to sit together and share a common meal, one can expect some erosion of **caste prejudices** and **class inequality**. Moreover, cultural traditions and social structures often mean that girls are much more affected by hunger than boys. Thus the mid day meal programme can also **reduce the gender gap** in education, since it enhances female school attendance.

The contribution of mid-day meals to food security and child nutrition seems to be particularly crucial in tribal areas where hunger is endemic. School feeding Programme is a direct approach to **improve the nutritional status of the children** who are in the stage of rapid development requiring special nutritional requirement. The effect of MDM programme is that it has lowered the widespread incidence of malnutrition primarily among children of poor families and to increase their access to education.

1.1 Brief History:

Mid Day Meal Programme in undivided Andhra Pradesh and now in the separate state of Telangana

In a significant interim order dated 28 November 2001, the Supreme Court issued directions pertaining to 8 food-related schemes sponsored by the central government. Briefly, the order directs the Union and State governments to implement these schemes fully as per official guidelines. This, in effect, converts the benefits of these schemes into legal entitlements. The paragraph relating to mid-day meals reads as follows:

“Cooked mid-day meal is to be provided in all the government and government aided primary schools in all the states. In states, where the scheme is not operational, it is to be started in half the districts of the state (by order of poverty) by Feb 28th, 2002. By May 28, 2002, it is to be started in the rest of the districts too.”

In accordance to the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India directions in 2001, the Government of Andhra Pradesh introduced the cooked Mid Day Meal Programme in all Government, Local body and Government Aided Primary Schools. Subsequently it was extended to children enrolled in Education Guarantee Scheme (EGS) and Alternative & Innovative Education (AIE) Centers. Children enrolled in all Government, Local Body, Private Aided Primary and Upper Primary schools are now provided with the nutritional support.

The Union Govt. provides support to States and Union Territories for the following components:

- 1) Food grains @ 100/150 gms (Primary / Upper Primary & NCLP) per child, to all the students studying in Government, Local Body and Government Aided schools, covered under the programme.
- 2) Cooking assistance.
- 3) Transportation cost @ Rs.750 per MT.
- 4) Honorarium to Cook cum Helpers @ Rs.1000/- P.M.
- 5) Assistance for management, monitoring and evaluation @ 1.8 per cent of components 1 to 3.

The scheme in its first year of implementation, has led to the following positive outcomes:-

- 1) Elimination of classroom hunger
- 2) Increase in enrollment, more significantly of girls
- 3) Surge in daily attendance, particularly of girls and children from poorer sections

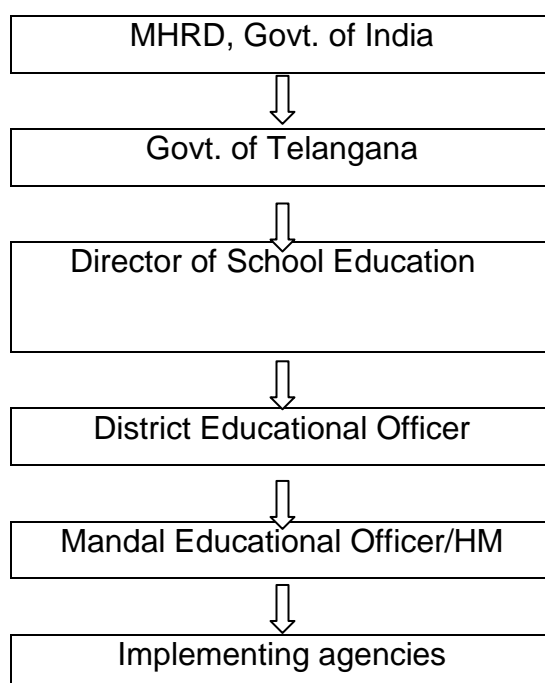
Impact of Mid Day Meal Scheme is significant:

- MDM effectively alleviates classroom hunger and persuades poor families to send their children to school.
- The scheme has increased enrolment in schools.
- The programme has reduced dropout rate.
- It has curbed teacher absenteeism and narrowed social distances.

The scope and effectiveness of Mid Day Meal Scheme has increased to socialization among castes, address malnutrition and empower women employment with the impact it has shown and the active convergence of other Departments like Health, Civil Supplies, Food Corporation of India, Sarva Siksha Abhiyan, Rural Development, Agriculture and Revenue Departments.

1.2 Management Structure:

The Mid Day Meal Programme Management structure in Telangana is as follows:



1.3 Process of Plan Formulation (2015-16):

The Planning process of 2015-16 in Telangana State started in December, 2014 and continued till January, 2015. The details are as follows:

Planning Schedule

Sl. No	Activity	Level	Date
1	Orientation of District Educational Officers and ADs about Planning Process	State Level	.12.2014
2	Orientation of Mandal Educational Officers on Planning Process.	District Level	.12.2014

3	Organization of HMs of Primary, Upper Primary & High Schools	Mandal Level	.12.2014
4	School level Planning Process meeting. Members Sarpanch, School Management Committee, Mothers Committee, Implementing Agencies & Head Master of the School as Convener	School Level / Habitation Level	.12.2014 & .12.2014

A meeting was conducted on 02/01/2015 with all the Assistant Directors and other staff dealing with Mid day Meal Scheme to study, discuss and analyze the Plan for Approval Board prepared so as to enable the District Educational Officers to furnish the final information of AWP & B 2014-15 to GOI for the year 2015-16.

In Telangana State superfine rice is being served in MDM in all the schools from 1-1-2015 onwards. Video Conference was conducted by the Commissioner & Director of School Education, Commissioner for Civil Supplies and other Heads of Welfare Departments with all the Dist. Collector/Jt Collectors, DEOs and MEOs on 5-1-2015 to discuss about supply of superfine rice and implementation of MDM. The Jt.Collectors and DEOs have informed that the children are very happy in eating superfine rice and they are now consuming more quantity also.

Finally, the zone wise meetings were held with the Assistant Directors in a phased manner from 09/01/2015 to 13/01/2015 for final presentation of the AWP&B 2014-15 as follows:

Sl.No.	Names of the district	Date
1.	Adilabad and Warangal	09/01/2015
2.	Karimnagar, Khammam, Mahabubnagar, Nizamabad and Nalgonda	12/01/2015
3.	Ranga Reddy, Hyderabad, Medak	13/01/2015

1. Description and assessment of the programme implemented in the current year (2014-15) and proposal for next year (2015-16) with reference to:

2.1 Regularity and wholesomeness of mid day meals served to children; reasons for programme interruptions, if any and planning to minimize them.

In spite of some political disturbances in the first two months during 2014-15, the Mid Day Meal was served to school children regularly on all working days without any interruption.

The standardized menu suggested by the National Institute of Nutrition, Hyderabad and Home Science College, Acharya NG Ranga Agriculture University, Hyderabad were communicated to all the districts and they were allowed the flexibility to utilize locally available ingredients. Menu is flexible, with cooked rice, dal and vegetables, sambar, "Pulihora" (Tamarind rice) being generally the main menu. Egg is served twice a week and Banana is given to students who do not eat eggs. The implementing agencies are using the seasonally available vegetables and green leaves. The wholesomeness of the meal provided is checked at random by various officials visiting schools. One Teacher from the School on rotation has been instructed to taste the Meal compulsorily to ensure its wholesomeness before it is served to the children. One member of the School Management Committee (SMC) or any parent has also been requested to visit the school and ensure the quality of meal served every day.

Cook cum Helper Serving MDM



On receiving complaint with regard to quantity/quality on the implementing agencies, immediate suitable action is being initiated against the defaulters. All the eligible children are covered under this Programme except a small percentage who prefer home meal. Eggs / banana are served to children twice a week. Guidelines are issued for procuring eggs at the Village Level. National Egg Coordination Committee rates are taken as the maximum limit for eggs procurement and supply.

Caloric / Protein value of the midday meal provided along with menu prescribed

As per Government of India directions cooked meal is provided with a minimum content of 450 calories and 12 grams of protein on each working day of the school to children studying in classes I to V and 700 calories and 20 grams of protein content is provided per child on each working day of the school for classes VI to VIII. Fool proof arrangements were made to ensure this by the State Government throughout the academic year 2014-2015.

2.2 Details about weekly menu :

2.2.1 Weekly menu – day wise:

As per Govt of India directions, cooked meal is provided with a minimum content of 450 calories and 12 grams of protein on each working day of the school to children studying in classes I to V and 700 calories and 20 grms of protein content is provided per child on each working day of the students of classes VI and VII. Foolproof arrangements are made to ensure this by the State Government through out the academic year 2014-15

The menu for all days in a week is displayed at prominent place in all the schools.

2.2.2 Addl. Food items:

Egg is served 2 days in a week and those who are not eating egg are provided banana.

2.2.3 Usage of double fortified salt:

Instructions are issued to the implementing agencies to use double fortified salt and they are procuring the same locally.

2.2.4 At what level menu is being decided/fixed:

Menu is decided commonly for all schools by the government only.

2.2.5 Provision of local variation in the menu:

There is no variation in the Menu. Menu is served by the Implementing agencies as directed by the Government.

2.2.6: Timings for serving of Mid day meals at school level:

Instructions are issued to serve Mid Day Meals between 12.00 Noon to 12.30 PM.

2.3 Food grains management:

2.3.1 Timeframe for lifting, District Wise lifting calendar of food grains:

The Dist. Supply Office lifts the food grains from the FCI to the Dist. Godowns and then supplying from Dist. Godowns to Mandal MLS points and then supplying the rice to the School point

2.3.2: System for ensuing lifting of FAQ food grains (Joint Inspections at the time of lifting etc):

The HM of the school with the assistance of another teacher weights the Rice bags as per allotment and ensure whether it is correct or not and keep the stock in the store room.

2.3.3 Transportation and distribution:

From 01-01-2015 onwards, as per the policy of the state government, the Dist. Administration have made arrangements route wise to supply the superfine rice from MLS point in a separate vehicle to the school point.

2.3.4: No. of schools receiving food grains at doorstep of school:

From 01-01-2015, the superfine rice is being supplied at the doorstep of all the schools in the State.

2.3.5 Storage facility at different levels:

At school point, rice is being stored in Kitchen shed cum store room and where there are no store rooms available, they are keeping the stock in the HM/staff room.

Before the rice is supplied to the schools, the rice is stored in the Dist Godowns and Fair Price Shops.

2.3.6 Challenges faced and plan to overcome them:

Whether there are no store rooms, possibilities are being explored to convert addl. Class rooms in excess to be converted as kitchen shed cum store room by making minimum required alterations.

The food grains required for the MDM programme are allocated by Govt. of India through Food Corporation of India. The distribution of the food grains has been

decentralized and the District Educational Officers are nominated as Nodal Officers at District level to execute all the issues pertaining to lifting, ensuring quality of food grains, payment of cost of food grains and submission of monthly reports.

Govt. of India have allocated the food grains for the all the four quarters of 2014-15 for Primary, Upper Primary (including NCLP) as follows:

As on 31.12.2014

Sl.No	Quarter	Quantity allocated in MTs		Quantity Lifting in MTs(till Nov 2014)	
		Primary	Upper Primary (incl NCLP)	Primary	Upper Primary (incl NCLP)
1.	1 st Quarter	3749	2634	29707	
2.	2 nd Quarter	11203	8728		
3.	3 rd Quarter	9694	5564		
4.	4 th Quarter	9694	5564		
TOTAL		34340	22490		

Though the quantity of food grains allocated during 2014-5 were inadequate, the required food grains were utilized from the balance available for the previous years. Rice stocks to districts from out of the previous years (i.e. 2012-13 & 2013-14) left over balances / available with APSCSCL were released to meet the deficit allotment by GOI for the year 2014-15. Instructions have been issued to the DEOs to return the balance rice as on 31-12-2014 to the civil supplies department. Because from 01-10-2015 onwards, superfine rice is being supplied at the school point for serving in MDM in all schools in the state.

2.4 Payment of cost of food grains to FCI:

2.4.1 System for payment of cost of food grains to FCI:

Under MDM food grain charges budget is being released from the State to the Districts. District units of the FCI submitting bills to the DEOs quarterly basis. Accordingly, the DEO is making payments to the Area manager of the FCI of the concerned districts as per the rates fixed by the state Government.

2.4.2 Status of pending bills of FCI of the previous year:

Budget released to clear the bills upto December 2014.

2.4.3 The process of reconciliation of payment with the concerned offices of FCI:

There is no difference of amount as per the bills of the FCI and payment made by the department.

2.4.4: Relevant issues regarding payment to FCI:

There are no issues except delay in certain cases due to delay in the process of release of budget.

Particulars of Payment made to FCI till December, 2014 are as follows:

Bills submitted by FCI		Payment made to FCI (As on 31/12/2014) <i>including pending bills</i>	
Quantity (In MTs)	Amount (In lakhs)	Quantity (In MTs)	Amount (In lakhs)
35180.89	2050.64	32939.29	1922.67

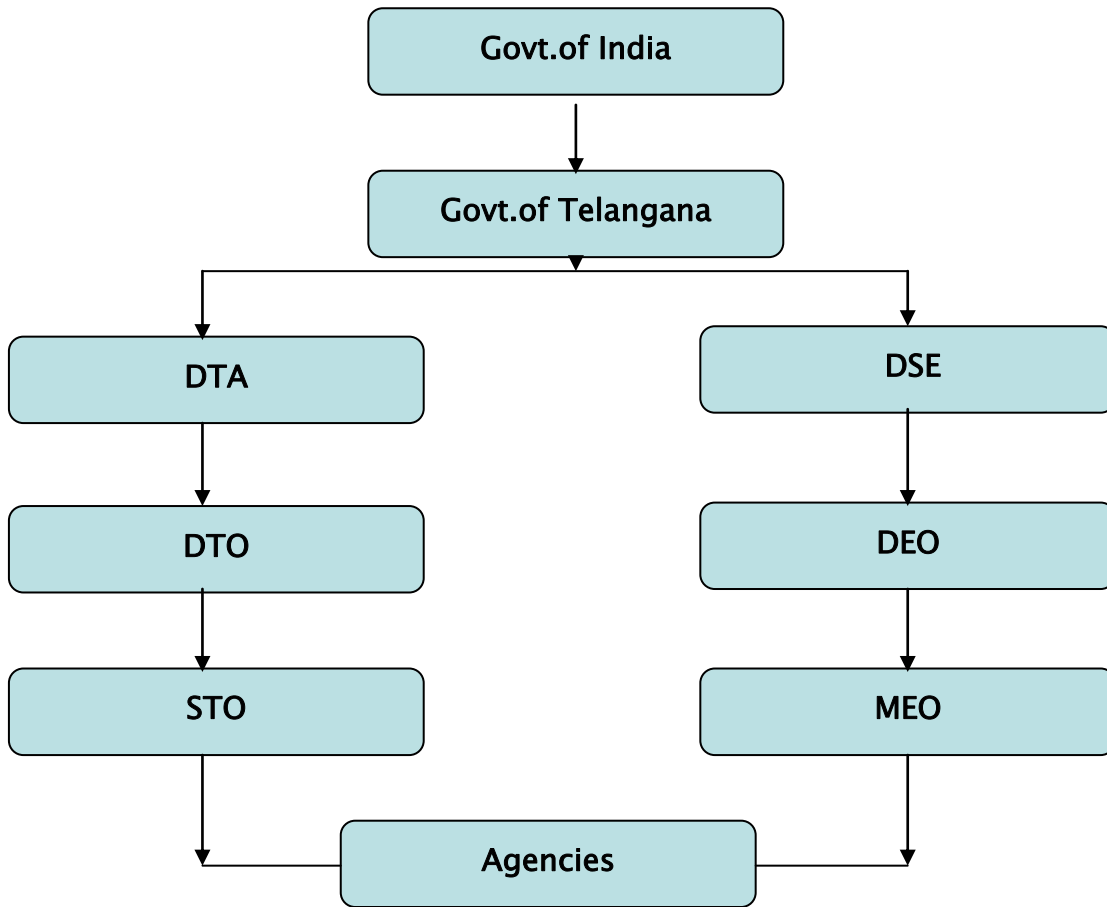
The delay in payment of cost of food grains to the FCI is being occurred due to submission of bills quarterly.

2.5 System for release of funds provided under MDM (Central and State):

2.5.1 Mode of release of funds at different levels (e-transfer of funds directly from state to school/implementing agency):

The State Government will release the funds to the DEOs through Treasuries and the DEOs release the required budget to the Mandals. The HMs raise the bills as per meals taken in their schools to the MEOs. The MEO after scrutinizing the claims, release the amount to the agencies through treasury.

The system for release of funds under Mid Day Meal (Central & State) is as follows:



Dates when the fund was released to State Authority / Directorate / District / Block / Gram Panchayat and finally to the Cooking Agency / School:

S.No	State Govt.	Directorate	District	Block/ Mandal	School/Cooking agencies
1	26.4.2014	6.5.2014	6.5.2014	May,2014	School/Cooking agencies are paid by 5 th of every month
2	2.7.2014	15.7.2014	15.7.2014	July,2014	
3	7.10.2014	27.10.2014	27.10.2014	November, 2014	
4	9.01.2015	.01.2015	1.2015	.01.2015	

2.5.2 Reasons for delay in release of funds at different levels:

There is no delay in release of funds at all levels.

2.6 Cook cum helpers :

2.6.1: system and mode of payment of honorarium, hon. to cook – cum helpers and implementing agencies viz. NGOs/SHGs/Trust/Centralized kitchens etc:

Funds are released from the State to the DEOs and the DEOs release the budget to the Mandals. The HMs submit bills to the Mandal. The MEOs submit bills in the Sub Treasuries and the amount of honorarium is paid to the Cook cum helper to their bank account.

2.6.2 Rate of honorarium to cook-cum helpers:

Each cook cum helper is paid Rs 1000/- per month

2.6.3: No .of cook cum helpers having bank accounts:

All the CCHs are having bank accounts. No one is paid honorarium in cash.

2.6.4: This section should also include the details of cook-cum-helpers like eligibility as per norms, approval of cook-cum-helpers engaged and the strategy to fill the gap (if any):

Cook cum helpers are engaged as per state norms as follows:

- a) One Cook-cum-Helper – for Schools having up to 25 students;
- b) Two Cook-cum-Helpers - for Schools having 26 to 100 students;
- c) One additional Cook-cum-Helper - for every addition of 100 students.

Out of 62,537 Cook-cum-Helpers, 56,406 are engaged in schools and Centralized kitchens.

2.6.5: provisions for health check ups of cook cum helpers:

Local doctors while examining the students are also conducting health checks of cook cum helpers.

2.6.6 Modalities for appointment of cook-cum-helpers engaged at school level and working at centralized kitchens, in case of schools being served through centralized kitchens :

There are (2) Non Governmental Organizations serving MDM in 3 districts i.e. Hyderabad, Ranga Reddy and Medak districts covering 1432 schools.

As per GOI guidelines 458 cook cum helpers are sanctioned to the NGOs to help them at their centralized kitchen to serve 1432 schools for the year 2014-15.

Implementing agencies viz. NGOs / SHGs / trust / centralized kitchens etc:

Centralized Kitchen		SHG		NGO		Trust	
No. of centralized Kitchen	No. of schools covered	No. of SHG working	No. of schools covered	No. of NGO working	No. of schools covered	No. of Trust working	No. of schools covered
03	1432	26335	26335	01	448	01	984

Apart from the above in 91 School Management Committee(SMC) are attending the work relating to MDM.

The details of fund releases during 2014-15 are given here under:

(Rs. in crores)

Directorate / Authority				District*			
Date	Amount		Date	Amount		Date	
Amount			Date	Amount			Date
Gen	SC	ST	Date	Gen	SC	ST	Date
7897.99	-	-	6.5.2014	7897.99	-	-	6.5.2014
10078.76	-	-	15.7.2014	10078.76	-	-	15.7.2014
3365.12	-	-	27.10.2014	3365.12	-	-	27.10.2014
3704.67	777.40	316.72	.01.2015	3704.67	777.40	316.72	.01.2015
25046.54	777.40	316.72	26140.66	25046.54	777.40	316.72	26140.66

Block*				Gram Panchayat / School*			
Date			Amount	Date			Amount
Amount			Date	Amount			Date
Gen	SC	ST		Gen	SC	ST	
Bills are claimed by the MEO as per the bills submitted by the Head Masters.							

The Government of Telangana is placing required funds readily available at the beginning of the year itself even before the Government of India releases their share.

2.7 Procurement and storage of cooking ingredients and condiments:

2.7.1 System for procuring (good quality Agmark/FPO) pulses, vegetables including leafy ones, salt, condiments, etc and other communities:

There are no procurements at state, district and mandal levels. Instructions are issued to procure good quality (Agmark/FPO) fresh pulses, vegetables including leafy ones, salt, condiments, etc and other commodities from local market.

2.7.2 Whether FIFO method has been adopted in usage of pulses and condiments etc or not:

Instructions are issued to use fresh pulses and not to use old stock of pulses and condiments.

2.7.3 arrangements for safe storage of ingredients and condiments in kitchens:

Instructions are issued to the Hms through the DEOs to see that the Implementing agencies store the ingredients and condiments in Iron boxes duly locked and are not accessible to the rats, other stray animals and children.

2.8 System for cooking, serving and supervising mid day meals in the school and measures to prevent any untoward happening:

The implementation of the Mid Day Meal Scheme at school level in rural areas is carried out mainly by DWCRA/SHGs, SMC, other agencies like NGOs with proven track record, Charitable Trusts, Parents, who are identified by the Mandal Revenue Officers (Tahsildars concerned). MROs are authorized to take action on the Agencies in case of any deviations or untoward happenings if any. In Urban areas, a

committee headed by the MRO identifies Community Development Societies, NGOs, Urban SHGs, DWCRA, School Management Committees and other Agencies as implementing agencies after verifying their antecedents.

The Headmaster certifies the daily attendance of the children and the quantity of rice utilized, and also maintains registers like Cash Book, Stock Register and issue Register under Joint Signature of cooking agency. The Head Masters also furnish Monthly Reports on the implementation of Mid Day Meal in the schools to the Mandal (Block) level and from there to the District level.

Mostly Women SHGs (invariably they are the mothers of the students) are involved in this programme. To encourage Community involvement and also to ensure proper care, cleanliness, wholesomeness etc., NGOs and other service oriented Organizations are also encouraged to take part in this endeavor.

Self Help Group and Community members cleaning MDM rice, before cooking



2.9 kitchen-cum-store

2.9.1 Procedure and construction of kitchen-cum-store:

Kitchen sheds are sanctioned to all schools whose strength is above 25 students. The construction work is entrusted to the EE, APWEIC and PR Department in the district.

2.9.2 The reasons for slow pace construction of kitchen cum stores if applicable:

As advised by the Secretary (SE&L) in the meeting that the state to bear the additional cost if any from the state resources and complete the kitchen-cum-stores on priority basis, instructions have been issued to all the Dist. Collectors in the state to explore the possibility of providing addl. Amount required for completion of kitchen shed from any other funds at their disposal. Due to which in some districts, the Dist. Collectors are providing addl. Funds for completion of construction of kitchen-cum-stores. Now the pace of construction is increasing and within a few months construction of most of the sanctioned kitchen-cum-stores will be completed.

Further report will be submitted in the matter after the end of this financial year.

2.9.3 Whether any standardized model of kitchen cum stores is used for construction:

The model communicated by the Government has been furnished to all the District Educational Officers to take further action in the matter.

2.9.4: Details of the construction agency and role of community in this work :

APEWIDC and Panchayat Raj Depts are taking up construction work. There are no local contributions for completion of construction.

2.9.5 kitchen cum stores constructed through convergence, if any: NIL

2.9.6 progress of construction of kitchen cum stores during this year and target for the next year.

I Phase: Government have sanctioned **16097** kitchen sheds @ Rs.60,000/- Unit cost and which was later enhanced @ 75,000/- with financial assistance of Rs.9101.75 crores in Primary and Upper Primary Schools in the State under Mid Day Meal Programme in three phases from the years 2006-07 to 2007-08. Out of which 5900 have been completed by the Education and Welfare Infrastructure Development corporation and Panchayat Raj Department.

Construction of Kitchen Shed in progress



OUT SIDE VIEW



IN SIDE VIEW



II Phase : Government have sanctioned 10698 kitchen sheds @ Rs. 1,50,000/- with financial assistance of Rs.86.58 crores in the State under Mid Day Meal Programme in Phase II till 2013-14. The Education and Welfare Infrastructure Development corporation and Panchayat Raj Department are taking up construction. All the District Collectors have been requested to release the additional amount required from the funds available at his disposal to complete the construction of kitchen sheds.

2.10 Kitchen devices:

2.10.1 Procedure of procurement of kitchen devices from funds released under the Mid Day Meal Programme:

At the district level the District Level Procurement Committee headed by the Joint Collector procures the Kitchen Devices calling for open tenders.

For 23,759 kitchen devices in 16,228 institutions , 1336.10 amount was sanctioned from 2006-07 to 2013-14, out of which 22040 kitchen devices with Rs.1243.74 purchased. There is a need of kitchen devices for 8928 schools and special training centers. There is also a need for replacement of kitchen sheds in respect of 14,662 in schools and special training centers. For which an amount of Rs.1179.50 is required.

Necessary proposals have been submitted for revalidation of the amount and the process of replacement/procurement would be taken up immediately after the funds are released by the State Government.

2.10.2 Procedure of procurement of kitchen devices from funds released from other sources:

There are no funds released from other sources for procurement of kitchen devices.

2.10.3 Availability of eating plates, source of funding of eating plates.

Plates are being donated by the local politicians, philanthropists, old students and other donors. In majority of schools plates are stored in schools. However in some schools the plates are taken by the children to their home and bring daily for MDM purpose.

2.11 Capacity building and training for different stakeholders:

2.11.1 The details of the training programme conducted for cook cum helpers, state level officials, SMC members, school teachers and other stakeholders:

Posters depicting the cleanliness practices were developed and supplied to schools. Further, a book containing SOPs on preparation and serving of MDM was developed and supplied to districts for use in training sessions to cooking agencies.

2.11.2 Details about modules used for training, master trainers, venues etc :

Modules on SOPs have been prepared and supplied to all the Districts for conducting training to the SHGs, cook cum helpers and all other persons who are associated with the MDM programme.

2.11.3 Targets for the next year:

It is planned that all the SHGs and cook cum helpers are given training to prepare meals without losing nutrients.

2.12 Management Information System at School, Village / Gram Panchayat, Block, District and State level and its details:

2.12.1 Procedure followed for data entry into MDM-MIS Web portal :

In the beginning of the academic year at mandal level, the details of school strength particulars and the facilities available at school point are entered. In the monthly report, details of meals taken, rice consumption and details of SHG etc are entered. At district level, the mandal level details are consolidated and technical problems if any are solved. The data furnished by the DEOs are consolidated at the state level.

2.12.2 Level (State/District/Block/School) at which point data entry is made:

Entry is made at Manadal/Block, District and State levels:

2.12.3 Availability of manpower for web based MIS:

There are no separate operators for MDM at mandal level to make entry of web based data. At present the operator provided by the SSA are attending to the MDM related work at mandal level. However, One operator is there to attend MDM

related work at District level. One computer operator is engaged in Directorate to attend MDM related work.

2.12.4 .Mechanism for ensuring timely data entry for monitoring purpose and details thereof:

At state level, the details of all the Districts are verified daily and information is given to all the DEOs in respect of whom the data of MIS, monthly reports and quarterly progress report are not received to update the information of their districts. Who in turn inform the MEOs to update the information and after getting information from all mandals the DEO update the information of the district. Based on which the reports are prepared and submitted to the State Govt and GOI.

2.12.5 Whether MIS data is being used for monitoring purpose and details thereof:

Yes, the data is being used for monitoring purpose. Report is taken to know whether all the schools are implementing MDM or not, Whether the students taking meals increasing or decreasing and reasons for the same, whether payments are being made regularly or not, whether any untoward incidences taken place and action taken against the persons responsible, whether any problem in feeding the data on line, and in such cases to contact the NIC for rectification of the same etc.

Govt. of India have launched the Web portal for monitoring the Mid day Meal Scheme on real time basis. A training programme for all the Assistant Directors, Superintendents and Data entry operator dealing with MDM scheme of the districts for entering data into MIS portal was conducted at NIC, Hyderabad.

S.No	Dist	Total Schools	Freeze Schools	June	July	August	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Diff	REMARKS
1	Adb	3850	3850	385 0	385 0	385 0	384 8	384 6	384 6	384 4	6	problem in feeding in MIS data i.r.o. 6 schools
2	Hyd	915	914	914	914	914	914	914	914	914	0	100%
3	Karmg	3114	3087	308 2	308 2	308 2	308 2	308 2	308 2	308 2	5	5 schools closed

4	Khm	3417	3406	332 7	325 3	324 6	324 5	322 9	321 9	298 0	4 26	426 schools merged in Andhra Pradesh State
5	Mhbrn	3799	3799	379 8	379 8	379 8	379 8	379 8	379 8	379 8	1	0
6	Medak	2971	2971	297 1	296 8	296 7	296 7	296 7	296 7	296 7	4	problem in feeding in MIS data i.r.o. 4 schools
7	Ngl	3309	3309	328 7	328 7	328 7	328 7	328 7	328 7	328 7	2 2	problem in feeding in MIS data i.r.o. 22 schools
8	Nzb	2300	2300	230 0	230 0	230 0	230 0	230 0	230 0	230 0	0	100%
9	R.R	2391	2391	239 1	239 1	239 1	239 1	239 1	239 1	239 1	0	100%
10	Wrgl	3444	3444	344 4	344 4	344 4	344 4	344 4	344 4	344 4	0	100%
	Total	2951 0	2947 1	293 64	292 87	292 79	292 76	292 58	292 48	290 07	0	0

Instructions are issued to all the District Educational Officers in the State to update the data pertaining to meals taken online by all the Mandal Educational Officers before claiming the bills.

2.13 Systems to ensure transparency, accountability and openness in all aspects of programme implementation:

2.13.1 Display of logo and other information at a prominent visible place in school:

Instructions have been issued to display MDM logo and Day wise menu at prominent places preferably on the Notice board in all the schools and the same is being followed by almost all the schools in the state.

DISPLAY OF MDM LOGO PROMINENTLY IN THE SCHOOL



DISPLAY OF MENU

మధ్యస్థ భోజన పథకం	
DAILY MENU	DAY WISE DETAILS
1. సామవరము - పప్పుకూరక+శనం	DATE 12-9-2011
2. పుంజకారము - Egg + సాంజరం	DAY Mon DAY
3. బుద్ధవరము - బంగాళాదుంప-శనం	TOTAL ROLL 237
4. గురువరము - పచ్చపప్పుకూరక+శనం	PRESENT 235
5. శుక్రవరము - Egg + సాంజరం	MEALS TAKEN 106
6. శనివరము - ఇయగూర + శనం	RICE OPENING BALANCE 96255
Name of The Implementing Agency : క్రీడకార్యకర్తల సంఘం	USED 106 = 15,450
కాంత్ మహిళా శిక్షా సంఘం	BALANCE 9,750
FOOD GRAINS : PULSES	COOKING COST
VEGETABLES	HONORARIUM
PACKET OIL	30 GRAMS
EGGS	75 "
EACH CHILD	75 "
CHIBED & DOUBLE PURIFIED SALT	TWICE IN WEEK
	Rs. 4.40 @ RICE 150gms

2.13.2 Dissimilation of information through MDM website:

Instructions have been issued to the DEOs to enter the accurate data in the website promptly. Till December, 2014 the information pertaining to all the schools have been updated in the MIS portal.

2.13.3 Provisions for community monitoring at school level ie. Mother Roster, Inspection Register:

The SMCs are involving in monitoring of MDM in the schools. Village elders and youth are also helping the HM and implementing agencies in serving MDM. But in most of the cases no registers are maintained to enter the details of the SMC or other community people monitoring the MDM. However, the departmental officers

are entering the details in the Inspection register at the time of their visit to the school at the time of serving MDM at school point. Instructions are issued to the DEOs to inform the HMs to maintain a register at school point to show the details of the SMCs and the villagers monitoring MDM.

2.13.4 Conducting social audit:

The social audit was conducted in Khammam District and action will be taken to conduct the social audit in all the districts in the state.

2.14 Measures taken to rectify:

2.14.1. Inter-district low and uneven utilization of food grains and cooking cost:

No such cases in the State.

- I. The allocations received from Govt. of India are being distributed to the districts taking into account number of children opted MDM, monthly average and number of working days in a month. The allocations are made separately for Primary & Upper Primary Schools.
- II. Cooking cost is released to district, month wise allocations, by State authorities basing on actual requirements. Amount is drawn based on actual number of meals served in a month as certified by Head Master and as attested by Mandal level officers. Advance payments are not released to cooking agencies.

2.14.2 Intra-district mismatch in utilization of food grains and cooking cost:

No such cases in the State.

District administration is allocating and restricting lifting of foodgrains on the basis of monthly / fortnightly reports of Mandal level officers. Accordingly a watch is kept on the amounts released as cooking cost based on attendance registers and stock registers maintained at school level.

2.14.3 Delay in delivering cooking cost at school level:

To avoid delay, the Chief Accounts Officer office of the Commissioner & Director of School Education, has fixed up schedule for payment of and claims on Mid Day Meal bills:

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Submission of bills by HMs to MEO | : 2 nd of every month |
| 2. Verification and compilations by MEO | : 3 rd & 4 th of every month |
| 3. Submission of bills by MEO to STO | : 5 th of every month |
| 4. Booking of previous month's expenditure | : 15 th of every month at STO |

Monthly progress of expenditure by 25th of succeeding month will be monitored by the CAO at the state level.

2.14.4 Delay in payment to FCI:

Payments are being made to the FCI as soon as the bills are received from the FCI without delay. In this financial year payment has been made for three quarters towards food grains.

2.15 Details of Evaluation studies conducted by State/UTs and summary of its findings:

In the working group report for the 12th plan, the MHRD proposed to take up Social Audit in MDM Scheme as pilot in the State. Society for Social Audit Accountability and Transparency (SSAAT), a NGO, has been asked to take up study on Pilot basis in Khammam district.

Observations in Social Audit:-

- ✓ Monitoring of MDM programme has to be stringent and a rigorous ongoing process.
- ✓ MDM programme has its effect on progress of functioning of School and learning process.
- ✓ Rice supplied by Civil Supplies is of Poor Quality.
- ✓ Less weightage of rice bag on an average 3-4 Kgs less.
- ✓ Rice is not being delivered at School point.
- ✓ No drinking water facility in many schools.
- ✓ CCHs are finding it is difficult to provide eggs twice a week so they are providing eggs once in a week and banana in place of eggs.
- ✓ MDM opted figures are boosted at Mandal Level.

The observations of NGO, Society for social audit, Accountability and transparency(SSAAT) during the Social Audit were sent to DEO, Khammam with instructions to take necessary action for improvement of MDM Scheme. The DEO Khammam has taken steps as per the observations of the SSAAT and submitted their reports. Further the C&DSE, also requested Commissioner of Civil Supplies vide a D.O.Letter to ensure Quality of rice is maintained i.e., FAQ as per GOI Guidelines, correct weight of rice bags and food grains are delivered to the School point.

Further with regard to the observation of Social Audit that the payments of cook cum helpers and cooking cost are not being done in time, at the beginning of the financial year, payments may be delayed for two or three weeks for want of budget authorizations etc. The payments are being made regularly and necessary budgets were released by the State Govt. Hence, there is no delay in payment of honorarium to CCHs and cooking cost at districts.

Instructions are issued to all the MEOs/MPDOs/Dy.Eos/DEOs/RJDSEs to visit the schools regularly and submit reports every fortnightly and certain guidelines also given to all the inspecting officials to monitor the MDM scheme effectively. Basing on the Visit reports submitted by the DEOs the Mid Day Meals is being reviewed every fortnight regularly and necessary steps are being taken for further improvement of MDM Scheme.

A Joint Review Mission on implementation of Mid Day Meal Scheme appointed by Govt. of India comprising of (14) members has visited two districts i.e., Hyderabad and Medak in Telangana from 24/06/2013 to 03/07/2013 and submitted its report. These reports communicated to the districts and the DEOs have taken necessary steps on the recommendation of the JRM.

2.16 Write up on best practices followed in the State.

The following best practices under Mid Day Meal Programme in Telangana are worth mentioning:

1. **From 01-01-2015 onwards, superfine quality rice supplied to all the schools to serve Mid Day meals to all the children upto Classes I to X in the State.**
2. **Super fine rice is being supplied from MLA's point to the School Point.**
3. Before bifurcation of this state, payments were made through green channel.

4. COVERAGE OF IX & X CLASS STUDENTS UNDER MID DAY MEAL:

95044 students studying in classes IX & X in all Government, Local body and Government Aided schools are also covered under Mid Day Meal. The reason is that there is every possibility of students dropping out after completing class VIII especially girls without completing High School stage of Education.

5. SOCIAL AUDIT OF MID DAY MEAL PROGRAMME:

Steps are being made for conduct of Social Audit of MDM programme through NGO, Society for social audit, Accountability and Transparency(SSAAT) who has considerable experience in social audit of MNRGE scheme.

6. ADDITIONAL RECIPES:

In addition to the food items as per the menu, egg is also provided twice a week. Those who are not taken egg are given banana.

The details of Nutritional recipes prepared by NIN and Home Science College, Acharya NG Ranga Agriculture University, Hyderabad were communicated to all the District Educational Officers in the State for implementation providing for flexible and local specific recipes to suit the tastes of the children.

7. COOK CUM HELPERS TO NGOs:

Cook cum Helpers have been sanctioned to the NGOs and also at the schools which are being catered by NGOs. There are (3) Non Governmental

Organizations serving MDM in 3 districts i.e. Hyderabad, Ranga Reddy and Medak districts covering 1432 schools.

As per GOI guidelines 458 cook cum helpers are sanctioned to the NGOs to help them at their centralized kitchen for the year 2014-15.

8.REGULAR REVIEW OF THE SCHEME BY THE STATE AUTHORITIES

Regular video conferences with all the RJDSEs/DEOs in the State are being held by the Commissioner and Director of School Education and the scheme are reviewed and they are being instructed on the steps to be taken.

9.CREATION OF MONITORING AND EVALUATION CELL:

A Monitoring and Evaluation Cell for Mid Day Meal Scheme is created for MDM scheme at State level. The Cell is performing the following duties:

- Reviewing and evaluating the inspection and monitoring forms submitted by the RJDSEs/DEOs fortnightly.
- Reviewing press clippings and take up immediate follow up action.
- Collecting the data required from the districts for onward submission to Govt. of India and Govt. of Telangana.

10. Payments are made to all the Implementing agencies and Cook cum helpers through online to their bank accounts.

11. complaints are being received through **web based child right cell** with toll free No 1800 425 3525 at state level. As soon as the complaint is received the applicant is provided with a reference number and the information is sent through mail to the MEO and informed him about receipt of complaint through message to his cell number. The intimation is sent to the DEO and State officers. MEO visit the schools sort out the issue and submit compliance report through mail.

12. All the DEOs are also receiving grievances through landline phone maintained for MDM in DEOs office.

2.17 Untoward incidents:

2.17.1: Instances of unhygienic food served, children falling ill:

As soon as the information is received about occurrence of any untoward incidence, instructions are issued to the DEO under intimation to the Dist. Collectors to medical aid to the suffered students on priority and to conduct enquiry and initiate action against the persons responsible for the incidence. Mostly incidences occur due to negligence of the Cooking agency and in such cases apart from initiating criminal case as per the gravity of the incidence, the cooking agencies are being replaced. Instructions are issued to the DEOs that they along with MEO and HM will be personally held responsible for irregularities, lapses , untoward incidences if any.

2.17.2 Sub standard supplies:

No such cases are reported and the departmental officers at the time of visit are verifying the material being used by the cooking agency and if any sub standard material are noticed issuing instructions to the Hm and the Cooking agency to see that the same are replaced with quality material.

2.17.3 Diversion/misuse of resources:

No such cases. Instructions have been issued to the DEOs to utilize the budget for the purpose for which it is released and not to divert the funds for other purposes.

2.17.4 Social discrimination:

No such cases are reported as every care is taken at school point to discourage such practices. Instructions have been issued to the DEOs to see that the children are not discriminated based on their social status in the school including while serving MDM.

2.17.5 Action taken and safety measures adopted to avoid recurrence of such incidences.

Action will be taken against the persons responsible and in the State RTE Rules 2010, instructions are issued that children belonging to weaker sections and disadvantaged groups are not discriminated in any manner as laid down in the RTE Act 2009. The HM is responsible for implementing the same, MEO is the Grievance

redressal authority and the Dist. Collector is the Appellate Authority in case of any complaints of social discrimination is brought to their notice.

2.18 Quality of food:

2.18.1. System of tasting of food by teachers/community, maintenance of tasting register at school level:

Instructions are issued that the Headmaster and Teacher who is designated for monitoring MDM scheme (on rotation basis) to taste food compulsorily before serving. Instructions were also issued that all inspecting officers must taste food not just the HM or teacher. In all the schools the HMs/Teachers are tasting MDM every day and recording in registers.

All the District Educational Officers, Mandal Educational Officers and Head Master were requested to avoid open air cooking, to keep Cooking place away from classrooms, totally avoid serving meals from cooking point, hand washing, etc., In all the schools the HMs and Teachers are supervising the hand washing of children with soap before and after meals.

All the Joint collectors were also requested for effective implementation for monitoring MDM by taking every care for supply of clean and nutritious food to children.

Teachers supervising MDM – Students washing hands before Meal



Teachers Serving MDM



2.18.2 Testing of food sample by any reputed labs for the presence of nutrients and presence of microbes as per norms of Mid-day meals:-

CSIR and NIN Laboratories have been requested to inform the accredited labs for testing of food samples. After receiving the list of reputed labs, food samples will be collected from schools and sent for testing this year.

2.18.3 Engaging of NABL labs for the testing of meals:

Contacted CSIR and NIN Laboratories to inform the accredited labs for testing of food samples. After receiving the list of reputed labs, food samples will be collected from schools and sent for testing this year.

2.19 Involvement of NGOs/Trusts :

2.19.1 Modalities for engagement of NGOs/Trusts for serving of MDM through centralized kitchen:

The State Govt. has involved private NGOs in the implementation of MDM scheme.

- The Govt. vide Memo No.16064/Prog.I/A2/2008 dt:20.10.2008 have accorded permission to Akshaya Patra Foundation to set up a Centralized Kitchen at Ramachandrapuram in Sangareddy Revenue Division and to supply Mid Day Meal for (87) High Schools in (7)

mandals viz. Ramachandrapuram, Patancheru, Sangareddy, Kondapur, Sadasivpet, Jinnaram and Munipally covering 24,378 students for the academic year 2008-09. Further, the Govt. vide Memo No.9180/Prog.I/A2/2009 dt:30.07.2009 have accorded permission to Akshaya Patra Foundation to set up a Centralized Kitchen at Patancheru and to supply Mid Day Meal for (89) High Schools in (7) mandals viz. Ramachandrapuram, Patancheru, Sangareddy, Kondapur, Sadasivpet, Jinnaram and Munipally covering 24,719 students and also to 7000 students additionally in (32) Primary Schools of (03) mandals i.e. Kondapur, RCPuram and Jinnaram during the academic year 2009-10. During the academic years 2010-11, 2011-12 the supply of MDM was extended to Akshaya Patra Foundation for the above said (7)mandals only and during the year 2012-13, four (4) additional mandals viz. Raikode, Pulkal, Hathnoora and Andole were also allotted to Akshaya Patra Foundation as per Govt. Memo No.13617/SE.Prog.I/A1/2012 dt:02.08.2012. During the year 2013-14, a total number of (439) schools covering (59348) students of I to X Classes in the above said (11) mandals were extended to Akshaya Patra Foundation.

- The 5th Joint Review Mission inspected the implementation of MDM Scheme in the schools and centralized kitchen of Akshaya Patra Foundation in Medak district from 28.06.2013 to 01.07.2013 and made the following recommendation in respect of Akshaya Patra Foundation in Medak district at Chapter-4 of the report, which is extracted below.

‘The Mission strongly recommends to discontinue the serving of MDM through the centralized kitchen in the schools where construction of kitchen is possible or where it is already existed and go on with the school based kitchen at the earliest.’

- Accordingly, a detailed report was submitted to the State Government, and requested to issue necessary orders in the matter and the orders from the Government are awaited in the matter.

- Meanwhile, the Dist. Admn., requested the Akshaya Patra Foundation to continue the serving of MDM in all the (443) schools (i.e. 350+93) temporarily during the year 2014-15 w.e.f. 12.06.2014 until further orders, as per the terms and conditions of the MoU entered with the department for the last academic year 2013-14 and other instructions issued by the department from time to time for smooth implementation of MDM Scheme.
- Further, the Akshaya Patra Foundation has submitted that, **they are ready to set-up Cluster Kitchens to serve Mid Day Meals in 20kms radius to serve the school children as per the guidelines of Govt. of India” and requested to permit to continue the serving of MDM in (11) mandals in the district.** Orders from the State Govt. are awaited.

The NGO-wise and district-wise no. of schools covered and CCHs engaged by the NGOs and at school point are as follows:

Sl.No.	District	Name of the NGO	No. of NGO working	No. of children covered
1	RANGAREDDY	Naandi Foundation	1	11261
2	HYDERABAD	Naandi Foundation	1	69675
3	MEDAK	Akshaya Patra	1	46312
TOTAL			3	

2.19.2 whether NGOs/Trusts are serving meal in rural area:

Yes in Medak District

2.19.3 maximum distance and time taken for delivery of food from centralized kitchen and school:

Maximum 90 Kms in Medak District and maximum time 3 hours. The Akshaya Patra Foundation has submitted that, **they are ready to set-up Cluster Kitchens to serve Mid Day Meals in 20kms radius to serve the school children as per the guidelines of Govt. of India” and requested to permit to continue the**

serving of MDM in (11) mandals in the district. Orders from the State Govt. are awaited.

Maximum distance 26 kms., Maximum time (11/2) hours taken by Manna Trust for supply of MDM in the twin cities.

2.19.4 measures taken to ensure delivery of hot cooked meals to schools:

The NGOs are arranging vehicles route wise to supply cooked hot food within half an hour to all the schools in the route. The Manna Trust has been instructed to supply the cooked food in heat proof stainless steel containers at the school point between 09.30 am to 12.00 pm.

2.19.5 Testing of food samples at centralized kitchens:

Akshya Patra foundation is sending food samples to the reputed labs for checking the quality and nutrition content. The Manna Trust Foundation is sending the food samples to the reputed labs for checking the quality and nutrition content.

2.20 Status of Rastriya Bal Swasthya Karyakaram (School health Programme):

2.20.1 Provision of micro-nutrients, Vitamin-A, de-worming medicine, Iron and Folic acid, Zinc:

In Telangana, a School Health Programme called “Jawahar Bala Arogya Raksha” (JBAR) is being implemented in the State in convergence with SSA and Health Department to cover all children in Government, Local body and Govt. Aided Schools, Hostels, KGBVs, from Classes I to X . The following are the components of Health services covered under the Programme:

- Screening, Health care and referral
- Immunization
- Micronutrient (Vitamin A and Iron Folic Acid) management
- De-worming
- Health promoting schools

“Jawahar Bala Arogya Raksha” has issued “School Health cum Education Records” (SHERs) to all schools which are being maintained, updated and monitored, jointly, by both Education and Health Department personnel. The Doctor

(s) who work in the Primary Health Center nearer to the School visit the school twice in a month and conducts health checkup of the students. The Health Cards are maintained at the School level and are updated regularly. Cases which need further health care are referred to the District and State level referral hospitals.

Particulars upto December,2014:

Stage	Health Check up carried out		Distribution of Iron Folic Acid Tablets		Distribution of De-worming Tablets	
	No. of Schools/Centers	No. of Children	No. of Schools /Centers	No. of Children	No. of Schools / Centers	No. of Children
Primary & Upper Primary	21108	1752691	22138	1964749	16854	1344239

Other specialties:-

No. of minor corrective surgeries conducted		
1	LEFT lip	218
2	Left Palate	145
3	other surgeries	363
	total	726

2.20.2 Distribution of spectacles to children with refractive error Doctor from PHC conducting Monthly Medical checkups of Students:

DRUSHTI": (Chinnari Choopu): Under the said Programme, Eye check up has been conducted for all the students and 227148 Students were identified with vision problems and treated. About 46317 Students were supplied spectacles.



2.20.3 Recording of height, weight etc :-

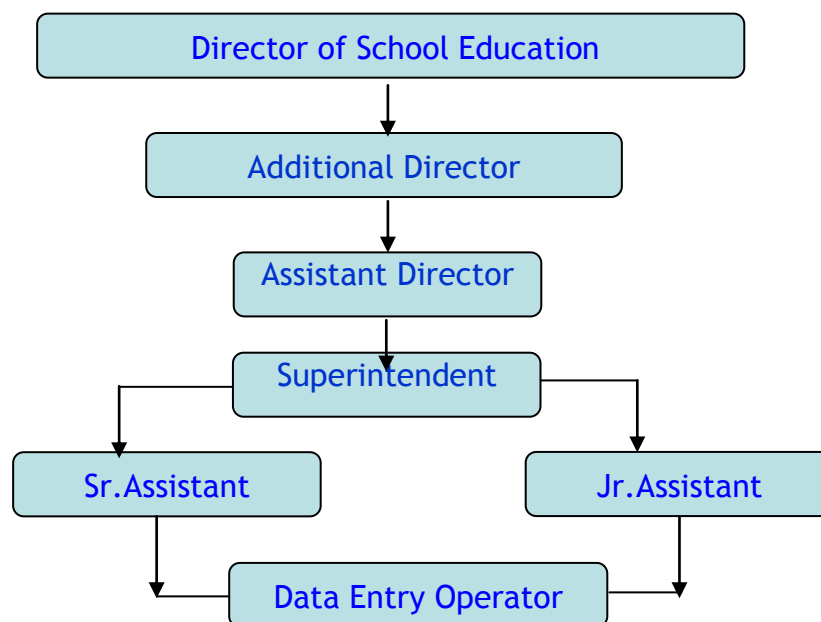
The health cards are maintained at the school level and are updated regularly.

2.20.4 number of visits made by the RBSK team for the health check-up of the children:-

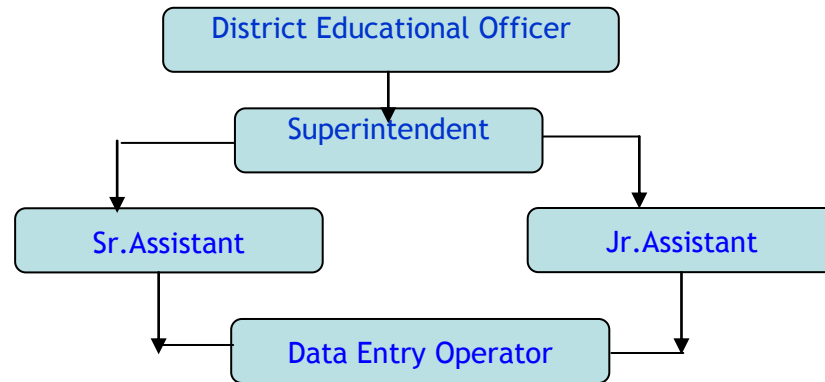
Doctors who work in primary health centers nearer to the school visit the school twice in a month and conducts checkup to the students. Cases which need further health care are referred to district and state level referral hospitals.

2.21 Present monitoring structure at various levels. Strategy for establishment of monitoring cell at various levels viz. Block, District and State level for effective monitoring of the scheme:

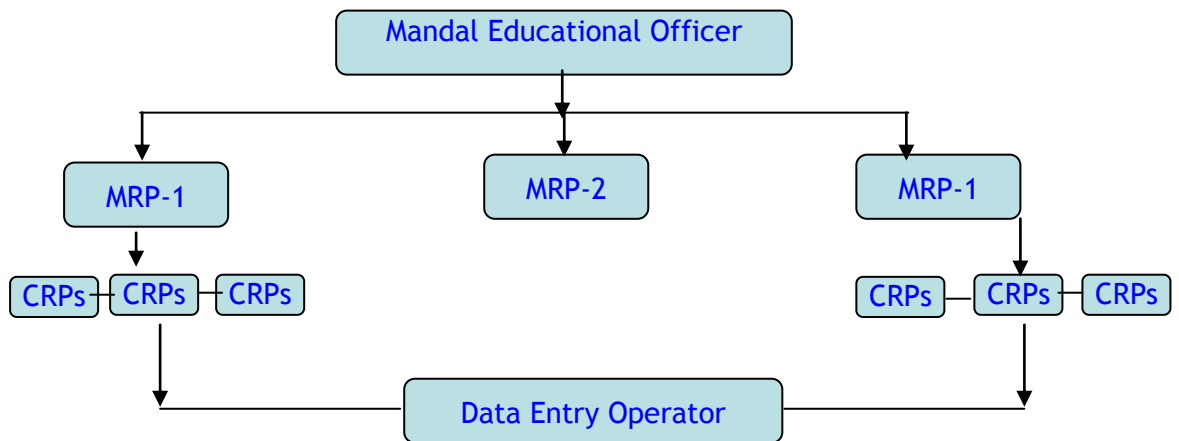
State Level : Additional Director (MDM), Assistant Director (MDM), Superintendent and section of MDM and Data Entry Operator.



District Level: District Educational Officer, Assistant Director (MDM), Superintendent and section of MDM and Data Entry Operator.



Mandal Level : Mandal Educational Officer and Mandal Resource Person (3)



MROs are authorized to take action on the Agencies in case of any deviations or untoward happenings if any. In Urban areas, a committee headed by the MRO identifies Community Development Societies, NGOs, Urban SHGs, DWCUA, School Education Committees and other Agencies as implementing agencies after verifying their antecedents.

The District and Mandal level Officers look after MDM along with their regular jobs.

2.22 Meetings of steering cum monitoring committees at the block and district level:

2.22.1 No. of meetings held at various levels and gist of the issues discussed in the meeting :

Strengthening of Mandal level Monitoring Mechanism:

In Telangana 468 Mandals have been created in place of erstwhile Developmental Blocks. Mandal Revenue Officer (Tahsildar) identifies and appoints the implementing agencies. He also monitors the functioning of the agencies. In case of any deviations corrective action is taken by him. He also monitors the supply of food grains by the Civil Supplies Department field staff.

1. Mandal Educational Officer MEO along with Cluster Resource Persons (CRPs) monitors the quality and supply of regular hot cooked food in all the schools in the Mandal.

To strengthen the Monitoring Mechanism of the Mid Day Meal Programme at the Mandal level Government of Telangana have taken a decision to engage the services of (1) Data Entry Operator per Mandal on payment of Rs.10/- per school per month. The expenditure is met from the MME head of Mid Day Meal Programme budget.

2. School Management Committees:

In Telangana there are 20184 SMCs against 20250 Primary schools and 7687 SMCs against 7701 Upper Primary Schools. As per RTE Act 2009, SMCs are constituted in 27871 against 27951 schools. In 99.71 % of schools, SMCs are constituted.

The SMC Members are invariably parents of the school children. They actively participate in cooking and serving of Mid Day Meal every day. At least one parent is invited to be present while the food is cooked and served. Before the food is served they are also requested to taste the food and check the quality.

The lady SMC Members are also members of Self Help Groups and are entrusted with the responsibility of cooking the Meal as implementing agencies.

2.22.2 Action taken on the decisions taken during these meetings:

Instructions are issued to all the DEOs in the State to issue instructions to the HMs to conduct SMC meeting by monthly. In case of emergency they can also conduct meeting as and when required. There is a provision for constituting sub committee with the members of the SMC to supervise the implementation of MDM. All the resolutions of the SMC meeting are to be entered in the register and implemented.

2.23 Frequency of meeting of District level committee held under the Chairmanship of senior most MP of the District to monitor the scheme. Gist of the issues discussed and action taken thereon:

Instructions issued to the Dist. Collectors to conduct meeting of District level committee held under the Chairmanship of senior most MP of the District as frequently as possible to monitor the scheme, discuss the issues MDM and action taken thereon.

2.24 Arrangement for official inspections to MDM centers and percentage of schools inspected and summary of findings and remedial measures.

I. INSPECTION OF MDM AS TARGET FOR INSPECTING OFFICERS:

The Government of Telangana have taken a decision to make it mandatory for all the inspecting officers from State level to Mandal level to inspect the Mid Day Meal Programme in there Visit and inspecting schedule. Instructions have been issued by Commissioner & Director of School Education, Telangana for minimum Coverage, monthly.

- ❖ Regional Joint Directors of School Education :5%
- ❖ District Educational Officers :10%
- ❖ Deputy Educational Officers (Sub Division level) :30%
- ❖ Mandal Educational Officers :30%
- ❖ Instructions were issued to all the districts, that for effective implementation, each mandal should be divided into three parts and School in each part should be inspected by Mandal Educational Officer, Mandal Development Officer and EORD. They should take responsibility of inspecting 15 to 20 schools in their jurisdictions with overall responsibility lying with Mandal

Educational Officer. The DEO / Dy.E.O / M.E.O must make surprise visit every day of two schools for inspecting MDM.

- ❖ The Mandal Development Officer, Mandal Educational Officer and EORD should visit compulsorily two schools daily and see that the MDM is being implemented properly.

2.25 Feedback/comments in respect of report of Monitoring Institutions designated for your State/UTs to monitor implementation of MDM and action taken thereon:

National Institute of Rural Development, Hyderabad is the Monitoring agency. They have visited schools in Adilabad, Karimnagar, mahbubnagar, nalgonda and Rangareddy Districts. The last feedback report was received for the period from 1-4-2014 to 30-9-2014 and the recommendations of the Monitoring Institute have been communicated to all the DEOs in the State to take further action on the suggestions made therein. The main recommendations are as follows:

1. In each district, monitoring cells are to be established for better implementation:

Action Taken: issued instructions to all the DEOs in the state to obtain another landline phone connection to receive MDM grievances. At present the existing landline phone in the DEOs office is being used to receive complaints.

2. Menu board should be displayed along with the entitlements of MDM in noticeable places of the schools for better awareness among students and parents:

Action Taken: Instructions are issued to the DEOs to inform the HMs to display_MDM logo and MDM menu on the notice boards.

3. Kitchen utensils are to be replaced immediately in the entire sample districts and State:

Action Taken: In the proposals for 2015-16, same is being proposed.

4. Regular Awareness generation programmes for teachers, community members and cooking agencies are to be organized for effective implementation:

Action Taken: This year modules have been printed and supplied to the districts with the assistance of UNICEF and training is being planned to conduct training to all the DEOs, Dy Eos, ADs of MDM, MEOs, HMs, Teachers, Cooking Agencies, SMC members, Cook cum helpers to create awareness among them for effective implementation of MDM programme.

5. Kitchen shed should be constructed as per the strength of the students and norms of MDM, immediately in all the schools.

Action Taken: Instructions issued to the DEOs to complete the sanctioned kitchen shed on priority basis in consultation with the Dist. Collectors.

6. The state should evolve a mechanism for reducing the delay of payment of remuneration to cooks cum helpers as well as the cooking cost

Action Taken: Instructions are issued to the DEOs to implement the suggestion.

7. Proper monitoring mechanism has to be established from mandal to state level for better delivery of MDM

Action Taken: Instructions are issued to DEOs to improve monitoring system at mandal and district level and at the state level also apart from the C & dSE officers, the Sectoral officers of SSA are also visiting the schools at the time of serving MDM and submitting reports.

8. All the cooking agencies are to be instructed to wear head gear, aprons and hand gloves while cooking and serving the MDM.

Action Taken: Instructions have been communicated to all the DEOs in the state for strict compliance.

2.26 Details of the contingency plan to avoid any untoward incident: printing of important phone numbers (e.g. Primary health Centre, hospital, Fire Brigade etc) on the walls of school building:

Every step is being taken to avoid any untoward incident during the implementation of the scheme. Instructions were issued to all the Collectors/RJDSEs/DEOs to take all necessary steps to avoid any untoward incident in the school. If any such accident does occur in the school, it should be the

responsibility of the Head Master to inform the District Educational Officer / District Health Officer / District Magistrate without any delay. Linkage with Primary Health Centre / Community Health Centre / District Hospital should be made to ensure early treatment of the children. The District authorities should ensure that prompt medical attention is provided to children in the nearby medical facility or by deputing a doctor to the school immediately.

2.27 Grievance Redressal Mechanism :

2.27.1 Details regarding Grievances Redressal at all levels:

In Telangana the Grievance Redressal Mechanism is in place in a decentralized manner at the district level. All the District Collectors conduct 'Grievances Day' on every Monday in their offices and all the District officers attend the meeting compulsorily. Any complaints reported will be handed over to the District Educational Officer on the spot for immediate action. Grievances are being received through media, sms, and postal system and directly from the affected person.

The Grievances are also received through web based toll free Child Rights cell No 18004253525 and the complaints are sent to the MEOs for redressal under intimation to the District and state level officials.

MROs are authorized to take action on the Agencies in case of any deviations or untoward happenings if any. In Urban areas, a committee headed by the MRO identifies Community Development Societies, NGOs, Urban SHGs, DWCUA, School Education Committees and other Agencies as implementing agencies after verifying their antecedents. All the DEO s have been requested to install separate landline phone in the DEOs office to receive complaints and take action to solve the same.

2.27.2 Details of complaints received i.e. nature of complaints etc:

S.No	Nature of complaint	No. of complaints	Remarks
1	Food Grain Related issue	16	Disposed
2	Misappropriation of funds	3	1 enquiry pending
3	Non payment of Hon to CCH	10	Under process

4	Complaint against Centralized kitchen	9	Disposed
5	Hygiene	2	Disposed
6	Any Un toward incidence	7	Disposed
7	Delay in Funds transfer	2	Disposed
8	Quality and Quantity of MDM	6	Disposed
9	Others	35	Disposed
10	Kitchen cum store	3	Disposed
Total		93	

10 Quality and 5 other complaints were received in the child right cell.

2.27.3 Time schedule for disposal of complaints:

Based on the gravity of the complaint, maximum within a period of one week the complaints are disposed off.

2.27.4 Details of action taken on the complaints:

In child right cell toll free number, 10 complaints related to quality and 5 other complaints received and all the problems have been solved. Instructions are issued to the DEOs and MEOs to solve the problem within a week. Out of 93 grievances received at District and mandal level, all the complaints except 11 are solved.

2.28 Details regarding Awareness Generation & IEC activities and media

Campaign, carried out at District/Block/School level:

The objectives of the scheme and information with regard to other components of the scheme are being published by the DEOs through pamphlets etc., and being made available to the parents of the students. Menu is being displayed on prominent place of the school and during the parent teacher meetings etc., the parents are being informed of the scheme.

CDs on the implementation of the scheme were distributed to the State Resource Persons during the training held at Dr.MCRHRD, Hyderabad. Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) and Do's and Don'ts are also being printed for distribution to all the schools in the State.

2.29 Overall assessment of the manner in which implementation of the programme is contributing to the programme objectives and an analysis of strengths and weaknesses of the programme implementation.

Mid Day Meal Scheme undoubtedly resulted in increased school attendance and facilitated in retention of children in school for a longer period. The Scheme has played a crucial role in reducing drop out, especially among girls. Parents viewed that the mid day meal had reduced the burden of providing one time meal to their children and considered it as a great support to their families. Teachers opined that mid day meal aided in active learning of children, which indirectly improved their academic performance.

1. Class room hunger eliminated:

Mid Day Meal helps the malnourished and well nourished children to overcome short term hunger and thereby **increase their concentration and learning** inside the classroom. It not only takes care of the dietary gap but can also be effective in ensuring that short-term hunger does not inhibit their capacity to learn (Mathew, 2003). This programme has created a very congenial atmosphere for education, health growth and overall well-being of the poor and needy children Drop out rate reduced:

2. Increase in Retention rate and decrease in drop out rate:

Results of the study on the educational component indicated improved attendance, increased retention rate with reduced dropout rates, and a marginal improvement in the scholastic performance. The nutritional component revealed better growth performance among the regular beneficiaries in the program. The MDM program acts as a security net for children, cushioning them from negative nutritional factors; in particular, among younger children, there are large and significant gains for children who suffered from the impact of drought.

3. Gradual increase in quality (Students' performance) :

Brain development and cognitive abilities for the entire life are strongly determined by the nutritional status of the child. Malnutrition –that is, deficiencies in micronutrients - can be seen as a “silent hunger” in which cognitive development is affected. Nutrition clearly determines the future learning, working and thinking performance of children. Introduction of Mid Day Meal Scheme has tackled the

problem of hunger among the students and has helped in the increase in the performance of the students.

4. Overwhelming Community Participation:

The involvement of the mothers of the children in the MDM programme made the programme successful leaving little room for corruption and has dramatically improved the quality of the meal. The mothers' group of each school selects from among themselves those who will cook and serve the meals. The involvement of the mothers in the meal programme has had many positive spin-offs. Their presence on the school premises and the constant and regular monitoring by the State authorities ensure that teachers do not absent themselves from work and classes are run on a regular basis

5. Women empowerment achieved:

Majority of CCHs involved in the MDM scheme are women. The MDM scheme provides an excellent opportunity for female employment in rural areas and liberating working women from the burden of having to feed the children at home during the day.

6. Social distances eliminated:

The impact of the programme was found to be more impressive among the SC, ST and Muslim households. Apart from the impact of the programme on the rate of attendance of children, parents pointed towards the invaluable nutrition support provided for the children, particularly of the poor family background. It is also reducing the gaps of social distances (caste, religion, gender, etc.)

Social group wise details of Cook cum Helpers:

Gender	SC	ST	OBC	Minority	Others	Total
Male	1241	864	2550	412	849	5916
Female	11521	7948	24517	2274	3636	49896
Total	12762	8812	27067	2686	4485	55812

A Muslim Cook cum Helpers preparing MDM in Nizamabad District (Photo)



7. MDM Programme far more strengthened:

The MDM programme had a significant impact on improving the daily participation rates of children in lower grades. The average monthly attendance rate of girls is higher while there was a positive but insignificant effect on grade one boys' attendance rate. The impact on enrolment levels was insignificant.

There is no problem with the release of funds needed for implementation of the programme.

Involvement of all the officials from State level to school level also helped the smooth functioning of the scheme. Inspections of the schools by the visiting officials and tasting of food by them ensured that quality food is served to the children.

Monitoring Cell formation and Grievance Cell formation ensured instant solving of problems, if any.

Instructions issued from State level authorities in Video conferences also strengthened the scheme.

2.30 Contribution by community in the form of Tithi Bhojanam or any other similar practices in the district.

Instructions have been issued to all the DEOs in the state to issue instructions to the MEOs and HMs to utilize the opportunity to serve addl. Items/ full meals to the school children on the occasion of celebrations in the village.

2.31 Any other issue and suggestions:

1. Accord permission to engage one computer operator at mandal point to attend the data entry, collection of information from schools and preparation of bills and other related MDM work
2. Not having special storage places for food grains and pulses
3. Need more active Community participation in the sense they should voluntarily come forward to help the school authorities in properly serving the MDM to the students.
4. to create Awareness among parents/ guardians.
5. sanction and timely release of Adequate budget..
6. To provide subsidized gas connections on the name of the institution so that the Meals can be cooked with the help of cooking gas by the implementing agencies.
7. As recommended by the monitoring institute, budget may be sanctioned for purchase/ replacement of kitchen utensils.