

**2<sup>nd</sup> Half-Yearly Monitoring Report on  
Mid-Day-Meal Scheme of  
Andaman & Nicobar Islands (UT)  
(1<sup>st</sup> October 2013 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2014)**



**District Monitored**

**North & Middle Andaman**

**Dr.T.Vijaya Kumar**



**Monitoring Institute**

*Centre for Equity and Social Development*  
**National Institute of Rural Development**  
(Ministry of Rural Development, Govt. of India)  
**Rajendranagar, Hyderabad.**

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## **FOREWORD**

National Institute of Rural Development, Monitoring Institute has been monitoring Mid-Day-Meal scheme in Andaman & Nicobar Islands (UT) as one of the Monitoring Institutions across the country for broad based monitoring of MDM activities.

This is the 2<sup>nd</sup> half yearly report for the year 2013-14 and is based on the data collected from one district namely North and Middle Andaman of Andaman & Nicobar Islands.

I hope the findings of the report would be helpful to both the Govt. of India and the Union Territory of Andaman & Nicobar Islands to understand the grass root level problems in implementation as well as achievement of MDM in the UT and to plan further necessary interventions.

In this context, I extend my hearty thanks to Dr.T.Vijaya Kumar, Asst. Prof. Centre for Equity & Social Development of NIRD and Nodal Officer for Monitoring of MDM in Andaman & Nicobar Islands and his team members who have rendered good service by taking initiative to visit the schools located in the inaccessible areas and preparing the report in time. I am extremely thankful to the authorities of the Union Territory administration and the District and Block offices of MDM for their wholehearted cooperation during the time of data collection.

**Dr. M.V. Rao, IAS.,**  
**Director General,**  
National Institute Rural Development  
Rajendra Nagar  
Hyderabad.

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

The present Monitoring report is an outcome of committed research investigators to the field survey and cooperation received from Teachers and Head Masters concerned along with Educational Officers, UT Administration of the Andaman & Nicobar Islands. The author duly thanks them for their fullest cooperation and facilities provided in successful completion of the Monitoring Activities.

The author expresses gratitude and sincere thanks to Officials of Ministry of Human Resource Development, New Delhi for sponsoring this monitoring project.

I also take this opportunity to express a deep sense of gratitude to Dr. M.V. Rao, IAS, Director General, National Institute of Rural Development, Hyderabad for providing an opportunity to undertake this monitoring project and encouragement for successful completion.

I gratefully thank Dr. R.R.Prasad, Professor & Head, Centre of Equity and Social Development, NIRD, Hyderabad for his consistent encouragement, guidance for timely completion of this monitoring activity.

Special thanks to the Project Manager and consultants of TSG, EdCil for the valuable information provided by them and cooperation extended in all aspects of the project.

I am obliged to staff members of this project Dr.Sonal Mobar, Smt. T. Praveena Project Consultants, Mr. A. Ashwin Kumar, Ms. Kiranmai Project Assistants for their cooperation during the period of my assignment.

I wish to thank Mr. A. Prem Kumar, K. Sudheer Kumar and other staff members of Centre for Equity & Social Development for their contribution to this project by extending their cooperation.

Finally I thank Ms. S.V. Lakshmi for assistance and support in data entry, processing and bringing analytical output. Last but not the least, we express our thanks to all those who are directly and indirectly involved and helped in conducting the monitoring work of Mid-Day-Meal scheme in Andaman & Nicobar Islands.

**T. Vijaya Kumar**  
**Nodal Officer**

### COMPOSITION OF MONITORING TEAM

<b>S.No</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Designation</b>
<b>1</b>	<i>Dr. T. Vijaya Kumar</i>	<i>Project Director</i>
<b>2</b>	<i>Dr. Sonal Mobar</i>	<i>Project Consultant</i>
<b>3</b>	<i>Smt. T. Praveena</i>	<i>Project Consultant</i>

**1. 2<sup>nd</sup> Half Yearly Monitoring Report of National Institute of Rural Development on MDM for Andaman & Nicobar Islands (UT) for the period from 1<sup>st</sup> October, 2013 to march 31<sup>st</sup> 2014.**

**1.1. General Information**

Sl. No.	Subject	Details
1.	Name of the monitoring institution	<b>National Institute of Rural Development, Hyderabad.</b>
2.	Period of the report	<b>1<sup>st</sup> October 2013 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2014</b>
3.	No. of Districts allocated	<b>One District</b>
4.	District names (write the districts names which the MI has monitored)	<b>North and Middle Andaman</b>
5.	Month of visit to the Districts /blocks (Information is to be given for district wise )	
	District (write the district name and month)	<b>North and Middle Andaman – 19<sup>th</sup> March 2014 to 28<sup>th</sup> March 2014.</b>
6.	MI selected the schools as per the criteria : Yes/No (Ref: As per the ToR 2013-15 point 4 (iii) under scale of work)	
	(i) Higher gender gap in enrolment	<b>Yes</b>
	(ii) Higher population of SC/ST students,	<b>Yes</b>
	(iii) Low retention rate and higher dropout rate	<b>Yes</b>
	(iv) The School has a minimum of three CWSN	<b>Yes</b>
	(v) The habitation where the school is located at has sizeable number of OOSC	<b>NA</b>
	(vi) The habitations where the school is located at witnesses in bound and out bound seasonal migration,	<b>Yes</b>
	(vii) The ward/unit of planning where the school is located at is known to have sizeable number of urban deprived children	<b>Yes</b>
	(viii) The school is located in a forest or far flung area	<b>Yes</b>
	(ix) The habitation where the school is located at witnesses recurrent floods or some other natural calamity	<b>Yes</b>
	(x) Pupil Teacher Ratio (PTR) at school level	<b>Yes</b>
7.	Types of Schools visited as per the ToR 2013-15: Yes/No (Ref: As per the ToR 2013-15 point 4(iv) under scale of work)	
	(i) 8 schools from urban areas visited Yes/No	<b>Yes</b> <b>8</b>
	(ii) if yes write the number	
	(iii) 6 schools from Special Training Centers (3	<b>This intervention is not being implemented in North and Middle</b>

	residential and 3 non-residential) visited : Yes/No (iv) if yes write the number	<b>Andaman district of UT.</b>
	(v) 2 schools from civil works sanctioned Yes/No (vi) if yes write the number	<b>Yes 2</b>
	(vii) 2 schools from NPEGEL blocks Yes/No (viii) if yes write the number	<b>This intervention is not being implemented in North and Middle Andaman district of UT.</b>
	(ix) 3 schools from CWSN (priority to those having other than Orthopaedic Impairment (OI children) Yes/ No (x) if yes write the number	<b>Yes 3</b>
	(xi) 3 schools from Computer Aided Learning (CAL) and KGBV scheme Yes/No (xii) if yes write the number	<b>This intervention is not being implemented in the Sample district.</b>
	(xiii) 3 schools from KGBV scheme Yes/No (xiv) if yes write the number	<b>This intervention is not being implemented in the Sample district</b>
<b>8.</b>	The selection of schools (for all the districts to be monitored) shall be done on the basis of the latest school report card generated through DISE, HHS data and consultation with the district SSA functionaries: Yes/No <i>Ref: TOR 2013-15 point 4(v) under scale of work (The procedure and criteria adapted, for the selection of schools shall form an essential part of the MIs report.)</i>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>9.</b>	Total number of elementary schools in each district allocated. Information is to be obtained from SPO/DPO office. <i>(Information is to be given for district wise )</i>	<b>North and Middle Andaman district 166 schools</b>
	District : (Write district name and also provide number of elementary schools in each district)	<b>North and Middle Andaman district 166 schools</b>
<b>10.</b>	Number of elementary schools (primary and upper primary) covered/ monitored <i>(Information is to be given district wise)</i>	<b>North and Middle Andaman district 40</b>
	District : (Write district name and also provide number of elementary schools monitored in each district)	<b>North and Middle Andaman district 40</b>
<b>11.</b>	Number of elementary schools visited by Nodal Officer of the Monitoring Institute	<b>North and Middle Andaman district 15</b>
	District : (Write district name and no. of schools visited by the Nodal Officer)	<b>North and Middle Andaman district 15</b>

<b>12.</b>	Whether the MI has sent their report to the SPO at the draft level : YES / NO (Ref: TOR 2013-15 point 5(i) under Reports)	<b>Yes</b>
<b>13.</b>	After submission of the draft report to the SPO office whether the MI has received any comments from the SPO office : YES / NO (Ref: TOR 2013-15 point 5(ii) under Reports)	<b>Draft report submitted</b>
<b>14.</b>	Before sending the reports to the GOI whether the MI has shared the report with SPO: YES / NO (Ref: TOR 2013-15 point 5(iii & iv) under Reports)	<b>Yes</b>
<b>15.</b>	Items to be attached with the report	
	a) List of Schools with DISE code visited by MI and list of schools visited by the Nodal Officer.- Annexure I	<b>Yes</b>
	<b>b) Any other relevant documents (only circulars/Amendments/Notices) – Annexure II</b>	<b>Yes</b>

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## **Executive Summary**

The monitoring of Mid-Day Meal scheme was carried out by National Institute of Rural Development, Hyderabad in North and Middle Andaman District of Andaman and Nicobar Islands (UT). The team monitored 40 schools that were preparing MDM at school point. Of all the sample schools which were cooking MDM at school point, there were 18 Primary Schools and 22 Upper Primary Schools.

### **Regularity in Serving Meal**

In North and Middle Andaman district the Monitoring Institute has observed that in majority of the sample schools well cooked hygienic hot meal is served on daily basis.

### **Trends**

The Monitoring Institute has observed that in North and Middle Andaman district, total enrollment in all the sample schools is 3295, out of this 2755 (83.6%) are availing the MDM daily as per the school registers. On the day of MI visit 2147 (65.0%) availed MDM. This is because of examinations and end of the academic session.

### **Regularity in Delivering Food grains to School Level**

In majority sample schools the food grains are delivered regularly but not at the school point. The cooking agencies are lifting the food grains from the fair price shop dealers. In some schools the cooking agencies are lifting the food grain by bearing the transport charges.

Buffer stock is maintained in 60% sample schools of the district.

### **Regularity in Delivering Cooking Cost to School**

In 13 Primary Schools it is noticed that food grains are supplied in time, whereas in 5 Primary Schools the delay in supply of food grains is noticed. This is also observed in 8 Upper Primary/Middle Schools.

### **Social Equity**

In all the sample schools of North and Middle Andaman district it is noticed that there is no caste, gender and community discrimination in cooking or serving or in seating arrangements made in Mid- Day- Meal.

### **Variety of Menu**

In majority of the Primary Schools and Middle Schools visited by MI team in North and Middle Andaman district, it is observed that variety of the food is being served. The daily menu includes rice and dal in all the schools. Whereas occasionally vegetables are being served along with papad to the children. And eggs are given twice a week depending on the availability.

Further it is also observed by the Monitoring team that in some schools the Idli and Sambar is also served on the demand of children. The team members also tasted the food and found it good.

### **Display of Menu board**

In all the sample schools of North and Middle Andaman district it is noticed that the majority of the schools are have menu chart in head masters room. The menu has to be displayed in the noticeable place of the school. However, the schools have not displayed the entitlements for each student under MDM.

### **Quality and Quantity of meal**

In almost all the sample schools the children are feeling satisfied with the quality and quantity of the MDM served.

### **Supply of micro nutrients**

In majority of the sample schools of North and Middle Andaman district, it is observed that the supplementary nutrients like folic acid and Vit A are supplied with convergence of health department. In few schools the supplementary nutrients were not provided.

Student's health card was not maintained in any of the sample schools visited by the MI.

### **Status of Cooks**

In majority of the sample schools of North and Middle Andaman district visited by MI it is noticed that majority of the cook cum helpers are appointed by the SHGs as per the strength of the children.

### **Payment of remuneration to cook cum helpers**

The Monitoring Institute has observed the delay in payment of remuneration to cook cum helpers under MDM in the entire sample schools of North and Middle Andaman district. It is reported by the cooking agencies that the payment has been delayed by 6 months in almost all the sample schools.

### **Social composition of cooks**

In majority of the sample schools of North and Middle Andaman district the cook cum helpers for cooking the Mid- Day- Meal are provided by Self Help Groups. The Social composition of the Cooks indicates that majority are from the OBC community, followed by minority community.

### **Infrastructure**

The Monitoring Institute has observed that in majority schools of North and Middle Andaman district the pucca kitchen sheds are not available. It was observed that the SHG women were pooling in money and constructing temporary kitchen sheds.

### **Storage of Food grains**

The Monitoring Institute has noticed that in all the sample schools in North and Middle Andaman district, the storage of food grains is done in class rooms/ Head Master's room of the school whereas in some schools the food grains are stored in SHG house / or in the houses of the cooking agencies. Further the Monitoring Institute has observed that the storage of food grains in most of the schools is not done properly. As a result food grains are eaten away by rodents and sometimes the traces of urine and excreta is found mixed with the food grains for days together.

It is also observed that the storage of food grains are not proper in most of the sample schools.

### **Potable water available for cooking purpose**

In 77.8% PS and 86.4% UPS among all the sample schools in North and Middle Andaman district, tap water was being consumed. At rest of the schools, water filters were being used to filter water and provide safe and clean drinking water to children.

In few schools the water filters are donated by State Bank of India.

### **Kitchen Utensils**

The Monitoring Institute has observed that in majority of the sample schools of North and Middle Andaman district, all schools had adequate utensils for cooking MDM. Self Help Group women (cooking agencies) are arranging these utensils themselves by investing the money in some schools and in other schools the cooking agencies are forced to cook the food with old utensils.

### **Fuel**

The Monitoring Institute has noticed that in 72.2% PS and 95.5% UPS, firewood was being used as fuel.

### **Safety and Hygiene**

The Monitoring Institute has noticed that in majority of the sample schools of North and Middle Andaman district the safety measures were taken up for cooking of MDM. Further it is also observed that the cooking agencies are wearing head gears, hand gloves, aprons while cooking and serving.

In very few schools it is noticed that the cooking agencies were not using hand gloves, head gear and aprons.

### **Community Participation**

The monitoring team observed the participation of parents, VEC members, Panchayats and urban bodies in school management activities.

The Monitoring Institute has observed that in majority of the sample schools in North and Middle Andaman district, SMC members are visiting the schools occasionally for

participation in school activities. The MI team also observed that people had low awareness about SSA and MDM entitlements.

Further it is also observed that the quantity of ingredients used for cooking of MDM varies from school to school. However the quantity supplied by the cooking agencies is within the norms.

### **Inspection and Supervision**

The Monitoring Institute has observed that the block and district authorities are occasionally visiting the schools to inspect and supervise the Mid- Day- Meal.

### **Impact**

In majority of the sample schools visited by MI in North and Middle Andaman district it is observed that the Mid- Day- Meal is helping the poorest of the poor children of the schools to satiate their hunger at least one time of a day.

The Mid- Day- Meal in the school is encouraging the children to continuously attend the school. As far as nutritional support is concerned Mid- Day- Meal cannot be the main source for children's health. It is also noticed that most of the children of the sample schools seem to be malnourished. The MI has closely monitored the process of cooking of Mid- Day- Meal and noticed that while cooking the rice almost all the starch water is drained and the cooking agencies are quite reluctant in their behavior to provide the prescribed quantity of yellow dal.

**Recommendations for improvement of the implementation of MDM:**

1. In each block for better implementation of MDM monitoring cells are to be established
2. Menu boards should be displayed along with the entitlements of MDM in noticeable places of the schools for better awareness among students and parents.
3. Kitchen utensils are to be replaced immediately in all the sample schools of the district.
4. Awareness generation programmes for teachers, community members and cooking agencies are to be organized for effective implementation.
5. Kitchen sheds should be constructed as per the strength of the students and norms of MDM immediately in all the schools.
6. The state should evolve a mechanism for reducing the delay of payment of remuneration to cook cum helpers as well as the cooking cost to the cooking agencies.
7. Proper monitoring mechanism has to be established from cluster to block level for better delivery of MDM.
8. The infrastructure facilities like kitchen shed and utensils should be provided by the UT from MDM funds since the cooking agencies are unable to meet the cost of the kitchen shed and utensils.
9. The UT administration should arrange the transportation charges or the transportation facility for lifting the monthly quota of raw rice from the Civil Supplies Godown to the school point.
10. The UT administration should allow the cooking agencies i.e Self Help Group women to meet the expenditure of vegetables, pulses, oil and fire wood only from the conversion cost.
11. The UT administration is inviting the sealed tenders from the registered groups or firms for supplying the cooked Mid-Day-Meal but in practice majority of the Self Help Group women are only applying for the tenders. As a result the Self Help Groups are attracting payment of income tax for the claims. Therefore the MI recommends that instead of inviting tenders from the SHGs the cost quotations at the local level may be invited from SHGs / cooking agencies for healthy competition as well as reducing the burden of income tax.

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# 1. Introduction

## 1.1 Introduction

The Mid-Day-Meal scheme is the world's largest school feeding programme reaching out to about **12 crore children** in over 12.65 lakh schools/EGS centres across the country. With a view to enhance enrolment, retention and attendance and simultaneously improving nutritional levels among children, the National Programme of Nutritional Support to Primary Education (**NP-NSPE**) was launched as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme on **15th August 1995**, initially in 2408 blocks in the country. By the year 1997-98 the NP-NSPE was introduced in all blocks of the country. It was further extended in 2002 to cover not only children in classes I -V of Government, Government aided and local body schools, but also children studying in EGS and AIE centres. Central Assistance under the scheme consisted of free supply of food grains @ 100 grams per child per school day, and subsidy for transportation of food grains up to a maximum of Rs 50 per quintal. During 2004 the scheme was revised to provide cooked Mid-Day-Meal with 300 calories and 8-12 grams of protein to all children studying in classes 1- V in Government and aided schools and EGS/AIE centres.

From 2008-09 i.e. **1st April, 2008**, the programme has been covering all children studying in Government, Local Body and Government-aided primary and upper primary schools and the EGS/AIE centres including Madarsa and Maqtabas supported under SSA of all areas across the country. The calorific value of a mid-day meal at upper primary stage has been fixed at a minimum of 700 calories and 20 grams of protein by providing 150 grams of food grains (rice/wheat) per child/school day.

During the year 2009 the following changes have been made to improve the implementation of the scheme:-

- a) Food norms have been revised to ensure balanced and nutritious diet to children of upper primary group by increasing the quantity of pulses from 25 to 30 grams, vegetables from 65 to 75 grams and by decreasing the quantity of oil and fat from 10 grams to 7.5 grams. b) Cooking cost (excluding the labour and administrative charges) has been revised from Rs.1.68 to Rs. 2.50 for

primary and from Rs. 2.20 to Rs. 3.75 for upper primary children from 1.12.2009 to facilitate the serving of meal to eligible children as per the prescribed quantity and quality .The revised cooking cost per child per school day w.e.f 1.07.2013 for primary is Rs. 3.34 per child per day and Rs.5.00 for upper primary children.

#### **(b)Engagement of cook-cum-helpers**

The honorarium for cooks and helpers was beuing paid from the labour and other administrative charges @ Rs.0.40 per child per day provided under the cooking cost. In many cases the honorarium was so little that it became very difficult to engage manpower for cooking the meal. A separate component for Payment of honorarium @ Rs.1000 per month per cook- cum-helper was introduced from 1.12.2009.Honorarium at the above prescribed rate is being paid to cook-cum-helper. Following norms for engagement of cook-cum-helper have been made:

- (i) One cook- cum-helper for schools up to 25 students.
- (ii) Two cooks-cum-helpers for schools with 26 to 100 students.
- (iii) One additional cook-cum-helper for every addition of up to 100 students.

The expenditure towards honorarium of cook-cum-helper is shared between the center and the NER states on 90:10 basis and with other states/UT's on 75:25 basis

#### **1.2 Management, Monitoring and Evaluation (MME).**

Provide assistance to States/ UTs for Management, Monitoring & Evaluation (MME) at the rate of 1.8% of total assistance on (a) free food grains, (b) transport cost (c) cooking cost and (d) Honorarium to cook-cum-helpers. Another 0.2% of the above amount will be utilized at the Central Government level for management, monitoring and evaluation. The detailed guidelines are issued by the Ministry vide letter No. F.1-15/2009-Desk (MDM) dated 21st June, 2010.



**(a) Provision of mid-day meal during summer vacation in drought affected areas.**

**(b) Provision of essential infrastructures:-**

**I) Kitchen-cum-stores :-**

The cost of construction of Kitchen-cum-store is determined on the basis of State Schedule of Rates and the plinth area norm laid down by the Department of School Education and Literacy, Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India depending on the number of children studying in schools. However, in case of unconventional item, which is not part of Schedule of Rates, the rates are to be approved by the State level Steering-cum-Monitoring Committee for MDM Scheme with the condition that such estimates should not exceed the cost of the similar design made through conventional item available in the Schedule of Rates. The cost of construction of Kitchen-cum-store is shared between the Centre and the NER States on 90:10 and with other States /UTs on 75:25 basis. The norm for construction of kitchen-cum-store is given below:- 20 sq. mts. plinth area for construction of Kitchen-cum-store in schools having upto 100 children. For every additional upto 100 children additional 4 sq.mt. plinth area will be added. Slab of 100 children may be modified by the States/UTs depending upon local conditions. For example, the hilly areas, where the number of children in schools is less, may have larger slabs. In one State/UT, there can be more than one slab. However, the modified prescription of plinth area will have to conform to the above ceiling.

**II) Kitchen Devices:-**

Provide assistance in a phased manner for provision and replacement of kitchen devices at an average cost of Rs. 5,000 per school. States/ UT Administration will have the flexibility to incur expenditure on the items listed below on the basis of the actual requirements of the school (provided that the overall average for the State/ UT Administration remains Rs 5000 per school): a. Cooking devices (Stove, Chulha, etc) b. Containers for storage of food grains and other ingredients c. Utensils for cooking and serving.

### **1.3 Objectives of Monitoring by the Independent Research Institution:**

Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) is an initiative of the Government of India to achieve the goal of Universalization of Elementary Education. For successful implementation of the Programme, an effective monitoring system is essential. Monitoring is very important for any programme and it is required on continuous basis. The Ministry felt that it would be more fruitful to involve professional institutions in this task. Accordingly, the Department of School Education & Literacy, during the year 2003-2004, had identified key monitoring institutions to monitor the implementation of the programme in the States/ UTs.

After enactment of RTE Act, 2009 the education scenario has changed and in order to undertake the field monitoring more intensively and rigorously, the Ministry has recently revised the Terms of Reference (ToR) in consultation with MIs, in a National Review Meeting held in June, 2010 for Monitoring of SSA-RTE. The revised ToR would be for two years and is effective from October 1st, 2010,

The MI shall monitor the Schemes with the objectives of

- (i) Assessment and analysis of the implementation of the approved interventions and processes underlying these Interventions at the habitation and school level keeping in view the overarching goals of these schemes and the provisions under RTE Act, 2009 and
- (ii) Identification of the social, cultural, linguistic or other barriers coming in the way of successful implementation of the schematic interventions and attainment of these goals.

### **1.4 Methods Used**

Data collection tools were developed by the Sub Group of Monitoring Institutions formulated by the Ministry of Human Resource Development; GoI. Data was then collected by the qualified monitors from the six districts. The methods used in data collection included observation, interviews, focus group discussions and meetings. The tools used included questionnaires, interview schedules, observation schedules and focus group discussion checklists.

## **1.5 Collection of Data**

For the purpose of data collection, the study team made physical visit to all the schools for preliminary interaction with teaching staff and appraising themselves with the physical and academic conditions prevailing there of. Since the data collection is to be covered in a span of less time and the task is of gigantic proportion, required number of research investigators were identified and trained thoroughly in terms of appropriate data collection methods. Specific care has been taken to identify the research investigators keeping in view the requirement of exposure to school education. Hence, Post Graduates having B.Ed, M.Ed, and M.Phil qualification were specifically drafted as research investigators for the purpose of the study. They were in turn given a five-day orientation on data collection, observation and capturing the information from the schools and then placed for actual data collection. The school management concerned was informed in advance to keep the records ready for secondary data collection as well. On the day of visit to the schools, the structured schedule was administered for primary data collection under the supervision of research team.

## **1.6 Monitored Schools**

The schools that were monitored during Second Half yearly period i.e. October 1, 2013 to March 31, 2014, by the monitoring institute i.e. National Institute of Rural Development, Rajendranagar, Hyderabad in one district of Andaman and Nicobar Islands include North and Middle Andaman.

In each district as per the TOR the Monitoring Institute is supposed to monitor the 40 schools with due representation to certain interventions as well as Urban and Rural areas. Before starting the monitoring activity the State Project Office has been informed about the monitoring districts and requested the Commissioner and Director of School Education for Mid-Day-Meal scheme to instruct the concerned District Educational Officers about the activity of monitoring. The schools in each district are identified in consultation with the District Project Officers/ District Educational Officers of the concerned district and at the time of monitoring the District project officers, DEO's and their representatives also accompanied along with the monitoring teams of the Monitoring Institute. The selected schools in each district represents 40 out of this 8 schools are from the Urban area, 3 schools from Computer Aided Learning Schools, 3 schools from KGBV, 2 Schools from Civil Works and the

remaining schools are from Rural and Special training centers and NCLP schools where ever the establishments are available. Out of the 40 schools the schools which are implementing mid-day-meal scheme are covered for monitoring of MDM. The detailed monitoring schools are provided in Annexure I.

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## 2. District Level half yearly Monitoring Report

### District: North and Middle Andaman

<b>REGULARITY IN SERVING MEAL:</b>				Students, Teachers & Parents
<b>Whether the school is serving hot cooked meal daily? If there was interruption, what was the extent and reasons for the same?</b>				
The monitoring of Mid-Day Meal scheme was carried out by National Institute of Rural Development, Hyderabad in North and Middle Andaman District of Andaman and Nicobar Islands (UT). The team monitored 40 schools that were preparing MDM at school point. Of all the sample schools which were cooking MDM at school point, there were 18 Primary Schools and 22 Middle Schools.				
<b>Table 1: Regularity in serving hot cooked meal</b>				
Regularity in serving hot cooked meal		Category		Total
Type of School		Rural	Urban	
Primary	Yes	13	3	16
		86.7%	100.0%	88.9%
	No	2	0	2
		13.3%	.0%	11.1%
Total		15	3	18
		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Upper Primary	Yes	15	5	20
		88.2%	100.0%	90.9%
	No	2	0	2
		11.8%	.0%	9.1%
Total		17	5	22
		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

1. It was observed by the monitoring team that 88.9% of the Primary and 90.0% Middle Schools served hot cooked food on a regular basis at the sample schools in North and Middle Andaman District.

No interruption in serving MDM had been reported.

	<p><b><u>TRENDS:</u></b>  <b>Extent of variation (As per school records vis-à-vis actuals on the day of visit)</b></p>	<p>School level registers, MDM Registers, Head Teachers, Schools level MDM functionaries / Observation of the monitoring team.</p>																																												
2	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Table 2: Number of children enrolled, attended and availed</b></p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 15%;">Location</th> <th style="width: 15%;">Category</th> <th style="width: 15%;">Number of children enrolled</th> <th style="width: 15%;">Number of children availing MDM</th> <th style="width: 15%;">Number of children present on day of visit for MDM</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td rowspan="3"><b>Rural</b></td> <td>PS</td> <td>455</td> <td>449</td> <td>381</td> </tr> <tr> <td>UPS</td> <td>964</td> <td>957</td> <td>701</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>1419</td> <td>1406</td> <td>1082</td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="3"><b>Urban</b></td> <td>PS</td> <td>339</td> <td>143</td> <td>56</td> </tr> <tr> <td>UPS</td> <td>1537</td> <td>1206</td> <td>1009</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>1876</td> <td>1349</td> <td>1065</td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="3"><b>Total</b></td> <td>PS</td> <td>794</td> <td>592</td> <td>437</td> </tr> <tr> <td>UPS</td> <td>2501</td> <td>2163</td> <td>1710</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>3295</td> <td>2755</td> <td>2147</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>The MI has observed that in the sample schools visited in North and Middle Andaman District, total enrollment in all the sample schools is 3295, out of this 2755 (83.6%) availing the MDM daily as per the school registers. Whereas on the day of the visit by MI 2147 (65.0%) availed MDM. This is because of examinations and end of academic session.</p>	Location	Category	Number of children enrolled	Number of children availing MDM	Number of children present on day of visit for MDM	<b>Rural</b>	PS	455	449	381	UPS	964	957	701	Total	1419	1406	1082	<b>Urban</b>	PS	339	143	56	UPS	1537	1206	1009	Total	1876	1349	1065	<b>Total</b>	PS	794	592	437	UPS	2501	2163	1710	Total	3295	2755	2147	
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3	<p><b><u>REGULARITY IN DELIVERING FOOD GRAINS TO SCHOOL LEVEL:</u></b></p> <p>(i) Is school receiving food grain regularly? If there is delay in delivering food grains, what is the extent of delay and reasons for the same?</p> <p>(ii) Is buffer stock of one-month's requirement is maintained?</p> <p>(iii) Is the food grains delivered at the school?</p>	<p>School level registers, MDM Registers, Head Teacher, School level MDM functionaries.</p>																																												

Among the sample schools visited by the Monitoring Institute it is noticed that the majority of the schools are receiving the food grains from the dealers but as per the MDM guidelines the dealers are to deliver the food grains at the school point. In 27.8% of the schools it is reported that the food grains are not delivered regularly. The cooking agencies are procuring the food grains from the dealers by bearing the transport expenditure. Majority of the cooking agencies in the sample schools reported that bearing the transport expenditure is very difficult.

Coming to the buffer stock of one month's requirement it is observed by the MI that in 24 schools, stock of food grains for one month is available.

**List of schools where one months' buffer stock is not available:**

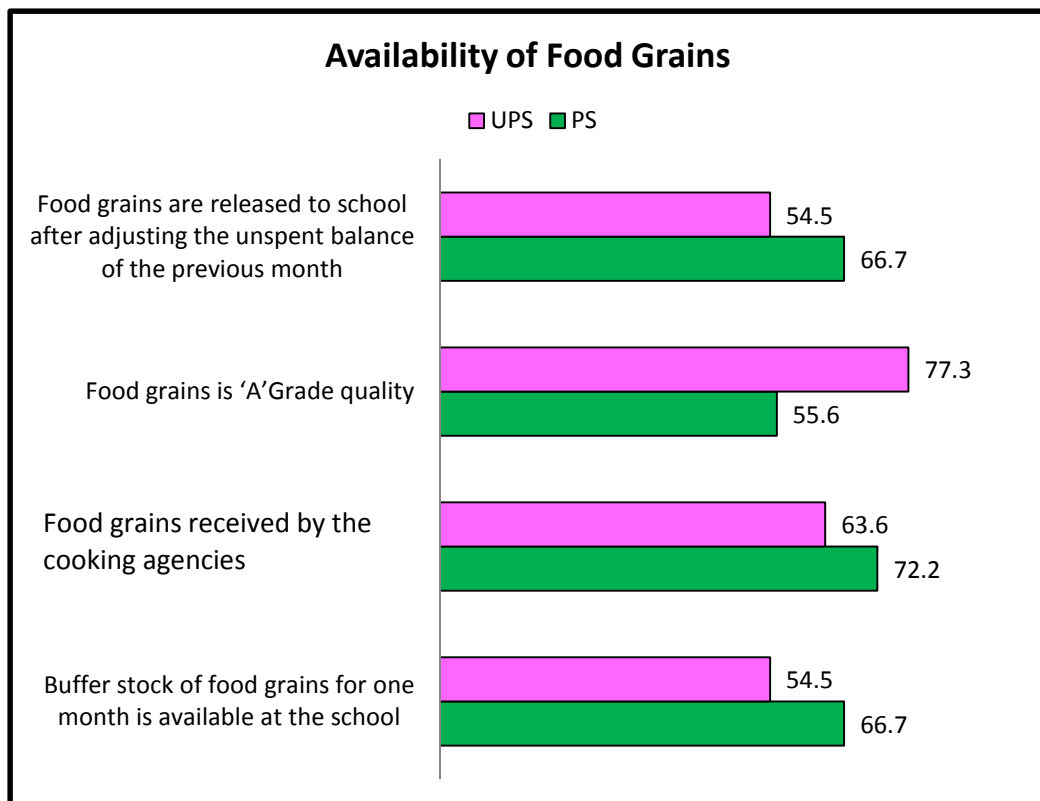
GMS Smith Island; GMS Khudirampur; GSSS Sitanagar; GMS Kadamtala; GSS Laxmipur  
GPS Shantanu; GSSS Pahalgaoon; GPS Pokhadera and GMS Rampur.

<b>Table 3: Food grains are delivered in school in time by the lifting agency</b>				
<b>Category</b>	<b>Response</b>	<b>Location</b>		<b>Total</b>
		<b>Rural</b>	<b>Urban</b>	
PS	Yes	10	3	13
		66.7%	100.0%	72.2%
	No	5	0	5
		33.3%	.0%	27.8%
Total		15	3	18
		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
UPS	Yes	9	5	14
		52.9%	100.0%	63.6%
	No	8	0	8
		47.1%	.0%	36.4%
Total		17	5	22
		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%



**Storage of food grains**

**Figure 1: Availability of Food grains**



In 13 Primary Schools it is noticed that food grains are supplied in time. Whereas in 5 Primary Schools the delay in supply of food grains was noticed. In 77.3% Middle Schools and 55.6% Primary Schools it is noticed that the food grain is of A grade quality. In 63.6% Middle Schools and 72.2% Primary Schools the cooking agencies reported that they are lifting the food grains from the dealers by arranging their own transport. Whereas in 54.5% Middle Schools and 66.7% Primary Schools the buffer stock of food grains is available.



**REGULARITY IN DELIVERING COOKING COST TO SCHOOL LEVEL:**

**Is school receiving cooking cost in advance regularly? If there is delay in delivering cooking cost what is the extent of delay and reasons for it?**

**In case of delay, how schools manage to ensure that there is no disruption in the feeding programme?**

**Is cooking cost paid by Cash or through banking channel?**

School level registers, MDM Registers, Head Teacher, School level MDM functionaries.

4

Category	Yes/No	Location		Total
		Rural	Urban	
PS	Yes	3	1	4
		20.0%	33.3%	22.2%
	No	12	2	14
		80.0%	66.7%	77.8%
	Total	15	3	18
		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
UPS	Yes	1	1	2
		5.9%	20.0%	9.1%
	No	16	4	20
		94.1%	80.0%	90.9%
	Total	17	5	22
		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

The Monitoring Institute has observed that among the Primary Schools of the sample, 14 schools are not receiving the cooking cost on time. Whereas 4 schools reported that cooking cost is received on time.

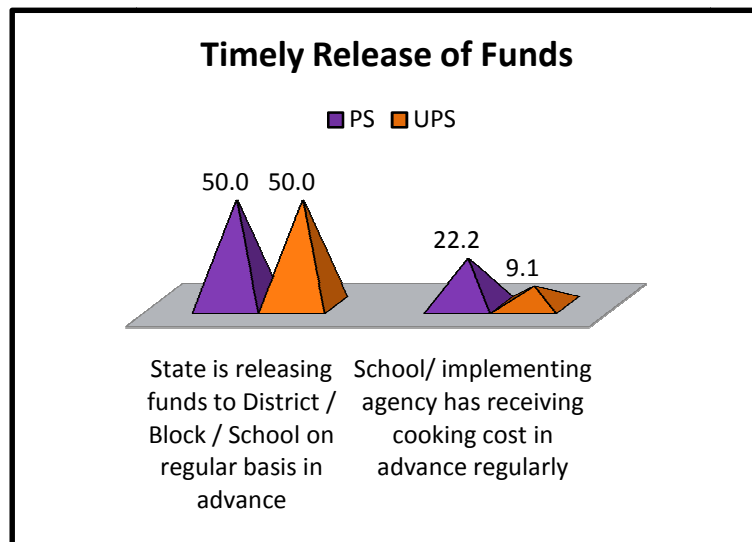
In 20 schools among middle schools the implementing agencies are not receiving the cooking cost regularly. There is delay in receiving the cooking cost. Whereas in 2 schools it is noticed that the cooking cost is received timely.

In majority of the sample schools the cooking agencies reported that the Government is charging 2% tax on the claim of cooking cost.

Category	Yes/No	Location		Total
		Rural	Urban	
PS	Cash	1	1	2
		6.7%	33.3%	11.1%
	Cheque	4	1	5
		26.7%	33.3%	27.8%
	E-Transfer	10	1	11
67.7%		33.3%	61.1%	
Total	15	3	18	
	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	
UPS	Cash	0	2	2
		.0%	40.0%	9.1%
	Cheque	9	3	12
		52.9%	60.0%	54.5%
	E-Transfer	8	0	8
47.1%		.0%	36.4%	
Total	17	5	22	
	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	

Regarding the mode of payment of cooking cost it was observed that in 11.1% PS the amount was paid in cash, in 27.8% schools it was paid by cheque, and in 38.9% PS it was paid through e-transfer. Among Middle Schools it is noticed that in 12 schools it is through cheque and in 8 schools it is through e-transfer and in 2 schools cash payment is observed.

**Figure 2: Timely release of funds**



5	<p><b><u>SOCIAL EQUITY:</u></b>  <b>Did you observe any gender or caste or community discrimination in cooking or serving or seating arrangements?</b></p>	Observations																																																											
<p>It is noticed by the Monitoring Institute that there is no discrimination in cooking or serving of Mid-Day-Meal in the sample schools.</p>																																																													
6	<p><b><u>VARIETY OF MENU:</u></b>  <b>Has the school displayed its weekly menu, and is it able to adhere to the menu displayed?</b></p>	Observations and discussion with children, teachers, parents, VEC members, Gram Panchayat members and cooks.																																																											
<p>As per the norms the schools have to display the menu boards in noticeable places of the school premise and follow the same daily. It was noticed by the MI that 100.0% of the Primary Schools and 95.5% of Middle Schools have displayed menu at a prominent place so that it was noticeable to the community. However, the schools have not displayed the entitlements for each student under MDM. It is also observed that the schools are supplying variety of menu in Mid-Day-Meal.</p>																																																													
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Table 6: Display of menu boards</b></p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="2" rowspan="2">Display of menu boards</th> <th colspan="2">Location</th> <th rowspan="2">Total</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Rural</th> <th>Urban</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td rowspan="3"><b>PS</b></td> <td rowspan="2">Yes</td> <td>15</td> <td>3</td> <td>18</td> </tr> <tr> <td>100.0%</td> <td>100.0%</td> <td>100.0%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>No</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>.0%</td> <td>.0%</td> <td>.0%</td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="2">Total</td> <td></td> <td>15</td> <td>3</td> <td>18</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>100.0%</td> <td>100.0%</td> <td>100.0%</td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="3"><b>UPS</b></td> <td rowspan="2">Yes</td> <td>16</td> <td>5</td> <td>21</td> </tr> <tr> <td>94.1%</td> <td>100.0%</td> <td>95.5%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>No</td> <td>1</td> <td>0</td> <td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>5.9%</td> <td>.0%</td> <td>4.5%</td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="2">Total</td> <td></td> <td>17</td> <td>5</td> <td>22</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>100.0%</td> <td>100.0%</td> <td>100.0%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			Display of menu boards		Location		Total	Rural	Urban	<b>PS</b>	Yes	15	3	18	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	No	0	0	0			.0%	.0%	.0%	Total		15	3	18		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	<b>UPS</b>	Yes	16	5	21	94.1%	100.0%	95.5%	No	1	0	1			5.9%	.0%	4.5%	Total		17	5	22		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
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<b>Table 7: Menu being followed uniformly</b>				
<b>Menu being followed uniformly</b>		<b>Location</b>		<b>Total</b>
		<b>Rural</b>	<b>Urban</b>	
<b>PS</b>	Yes	15	3	18
		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
	No	0	0	0
		.0%	.0%	.0%
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100.0%		100.0%	100.0%	
<b>UPS</b>	Yes	16	4	20
		94.1%	80.0%	90.9%
	No	1	1	2
		5.9%	20.0%	9.1%
	Total	17	5	22
100.0%		100.0%	100.0%	

Regarding the menu being followed uniformly, the monitoring team found that 10% of the Primary Schools and 90.9% of the Middle Schools followed the menu uniformly. In 94.4% Primary Schools and 90% Middle Schools the menu included locally available ingredients. Whereas in 2 Middle Schools it is noticed that the menu is deviated.



**Display of Menu in the dining hall**

7.	<p>(i) <b>Is there variety in the food served or is the same food served daily?</b></p> <p>(ii) <b>Does the daily menu include rice / wheat preparation, dal and vegetables?</b></p>	<p>Observations and discussion with children, teachers, parents, VEC members, Gram Panchayat members and cooks.</p>																																																																																				
<p>In majority of the Primary Schools and Middle Schools visited by MI team in North and Middle Andaman district, it is observed that variety of the food is being served. The daily menu includes rice and dal in all the schools where as occasionally vegetables are being served along with papad. And eggs are given twice a week depending on the availability.</p>																																																																																						
<p><b><u>QUANTITY &amp; QUALITY OF MEAL:</u></b></p> <p><b>Feedback from children on</b></p> <p>a) <b>Quantity of meal:</b></p> <p>b) <b>Quality of meal:</b></p> <p>c) <b>{If children were not happy Please give reasons and suggestions to improve.}</b></p>		<p>Observations of Investigation during MDM service</p>																																																																																				
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The Monitoring team has observed that out of 18 sample Primary Schools in 12 schools it is reported that the quantity of the meal supplied is good whereas in 2 schools it is reported that the quantity of the meal is very good. In case of 4 Primary Schools it is reported that the quantity of the meal is satisfactory.

In case of Middle Schools out of 22 sample schools in 7 schools the food quantity is satisfactory, in 6 schools the quantity is found to be very good and in 5 schools the quantity is good whereas in 4 Middle Schools the quantity of the Mid-Day-Meal is found to be excellent.

The Monitoring Institute has observed the children's reaction towards quality of meal served in the sample schools and it is noticed that in majority of the sample schools i.e 60% the quality of the meal is reported to be good whereas in 40% of the sample schools visited by MI the children reported that the quality of the meal is satisfactory.

The Monitoring team also tasted the meal in sample schools and observed that its quality is good.



**children taking Mid-Day-Meal in the sample school**



**Cooking of Mid-Day-Meal in the sample school**

	<p><b><u>SUPPLEMENTARY:</u></b></p> <p>(i) Whether children are given micronutrients (Iron, folic acid, vitamin – A dosage) and de-worming medicine periodically?</p> <p>(ii) Who administers these medicines and at what frequency?</p> <p>(iii) Is there school Health Card maintained for each child?</p>	<p>Teachers, Students, School Record</p>																																																								
8.	<p>The Monitoring Institute has observed that in 18 Primary Schools and 19 Middle Schools the children were given micro nutrients iron, folic acid and Vit A whereas in 6 Primary Schools and 3 Middle Schools the micro nutrients were not given to the children. It is also observed that the school health card was not maintained in any of the sample schools.</p> <p>In all the sample schools it is observed that in general the Teachers and Head Masters, administrators the micro nutrients on monthly basis.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="466 860 1189 1467"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="5">Table 9: Children being given micro nutrients like Folic acid, Iron, and Vitamins</th> </tr> <tr> <th rowspan="2">Category</th> <th rowspan="2">Children being given micro nutrients like Folic acid, Iron, and Vitamins</th> <th colspan="2">Category</th> <th rowspan="2">Total</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Rural</th> <th>Urban</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td rowspan="4">PS</td> <td rowspan="2">Yes</td> <td>10</td> <td>2</td> <td>12</td> </tr> <tr> <td>66.7%</td> <td>66.7%</td> <td>66.7%</td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="2">No</td> <td>5</td> <td>1</td> <td>6</td> </tr> <tr> <td>33.3%</td> <td>33.3%</td> <td>33.3%</td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="2">Total</td> <td>15</td> <td>3</td> <td>18</td> </tr> <tr> <td>100.0%</td> <td>100.0%</td> <td>100.0%</td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="4">UPS</td> <td rowspan="2">Yes</td> <td>16</td> <td>3</td> <td>19</td> </tr> <tr> <td>94.1%</td> <td>60.0%</td> <td>86.4%</td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="2">No</td> <td>1</td> <td>2</td> <td>3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5.9%</td> <td>40.0%</td> <td>13.6%</td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="2">Total</td> <td>17</td> <td>5</td> <td>22</td> </tr> <tr> <td>100.0%</td> <td>100.0%</td> <td>100.0%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Table 9: Children being given micro nutrients like Folic acid, Iron, and Vitamins					Category	Children being given micro nutrients like Folic acid, Iron, and Vitamins	Category		Total	Rural	Urban	PS	Yes	10	2	12	66.7%	66.7%	66.7%	No	5	1	6	33.3%	33.3%	33.3%	Total	15	3	18	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	UPS	Yes	16	3	19	94.1%	60.0%	86.4%	No	1	2	3	5.9%	40.0%	13.6%	Total	17	5	22	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
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9	<p><b><u>STATUS OF COOKS:</u></b></p> <p>(i) Who cooks and serves the meal? (Cook/helper appointed by the Department or Self Help Group, or NGO or Contractor)</p> <p>(ii) Is the number of cooks and helpers adequate to meet the requirement of the school?</p> <p>(iii) What is the remuneration paid to cooks/helpers?</p> <p>(iv) Is the remuneration paid to cooks/helpers regularly?</p> <p>(v) Social Composition of cooks /helpers? (SC/ST/OBC/Minority)</p>	<p>Observations and discussion with children, teachers, parents, SMC members, Gram Panchayat members and cooks.</p>																																																								

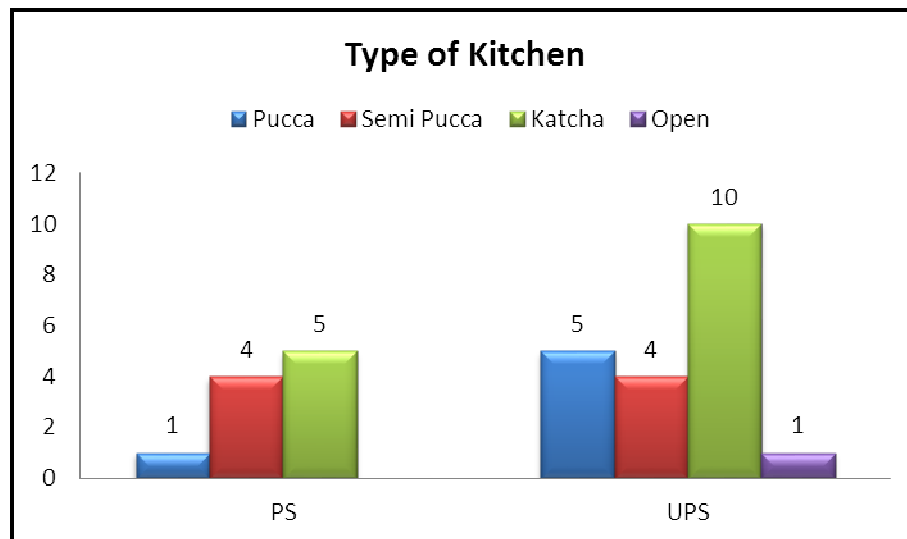
	<p>The meal is cooked by the cooks and helpers belong to the Self-Help Groups. It is observed that the number of cooks and helpers are adequate in the sample schools and meet the demand in almost all the schools. It was also observed that in 21 schools out of 40 sample schools, the cook-cum-helpers were receiving their remuneration on time. Regarding the payment given to cook-cum-helpers, it was found by the monitoring team that in 6.2% PS cook was being paid Rs. 750, and in 81.2% PS they were paid Rs. 1000. In 63.2% Middle Schools it is noticed that the cooks were being paid Rs. 1000. In some schools the Monitoring Institute observed that the payment of remuneration to cook cum helpers was delayed.</p> <p>The cooks mainly belonged to OBC followed by other communities like minority community.</p> <p><b>List of schools where cook-cum-helpers did not receive remuneration regularly:</b> GMS Rangat Bay; GMS Janakpur; GSS Uttara and GSS Kadamtala</p>
	<p><b><u>INFRASTRUCTURE:</u></b> <b>Is a pucca kitchen shed-cum-store:</b> (a) Constructed and in use (b) Constructed but not in use under (c) Under construction (d) Sanctioned, but constructed not started (e) Not sanctioned Any other (specify)</p> <p>School records, discussion with head teacher, teacher, VEC, Gram Panchayat members.</p>
10	<div data-bbox="576 1323 1080 1641" data-label="Image"> </div> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Temporary kitchen shed in Pudumadurai</b></p> <p>The Monitoring Institute has observed that out of 40 sample schools, in 6 schools the pucca kitchen shed is available which include 1 primary and 5 Middle Schools followed by</p>



15 schools having katcha kitchen shed constructed by the cooking agencies. In 8 schools it is reported that the semi pucca kitchen sheds are available. In few schools the MI has observed that kitchen cum dining hall is also constructed and the school is using the same

Further the MI has observed that in majority of the schools the cooking agencies are using fire wood as the fuel for cooking the meal but in constructed kitchen cum dining halls there is no provision to cook the meal by using fire wood as a result the cooking agencies are not using the constructed kitchen sheds instead they are arranging temporary kitchen sheds for cooking the Mid-Day-Meal.

**Figure 3:Type of kitchen**



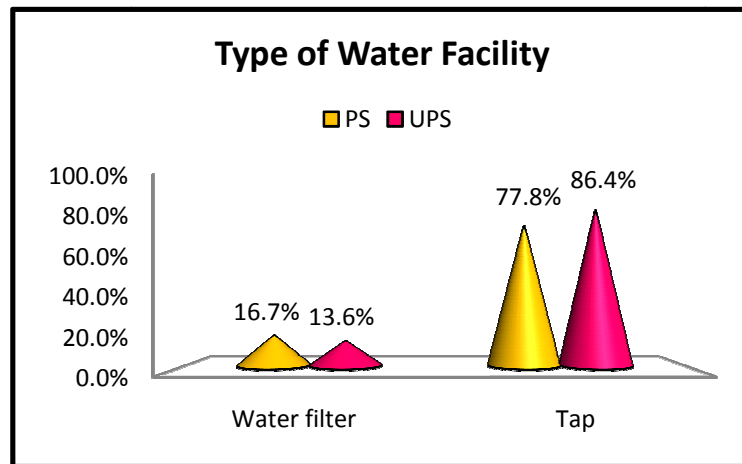
**Cooking agencies cooking the food without wearing apron and hand gloves**

	<p>Regarding the usage of the kitchen shed-cum-store, it was observed by the monitoring team that in 5.6% PS kitchen shed was constructed but not in use. While in 13.6% UPS kitchen sheds were constructed and in use, and in 4.5% UPS it was sanctioned but construction had not yet started.</p>	
<p><b>11.</b></p>	<p><b>In case the pucca kitchen shed is not available, where is the food being cooked and where the food grains /other ingredients are being stored?</b></p>	<p>Discussion with head teacher, teacher, VEC, Gram Panchayat members Observation?</p>
<p>It is observed by the monitoring team that in 15 schools the cooking agencies are cooking the food in temporary kitchen sheds i.e thatched houses whereas in 6% Primary Schools, cooking was done in open space. The food grains are stored in temporary kitchen sheds as well as in class rooms of the schools. In few schools the storage of food grain is in constructed kitchen shed.</p>	<div data-bbox="263 920 1391 1285" data-label="Image"> </div> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Storage of food grains in the kitchen shed - Student's taking MDM in dining hall</b></p>	
<p><b>12.</b></p>	<p><b>Whether potable water is available for cooking and drinking purpose?</b></p>	<p>-do-</p>
<p>The Monitoring team has observed that the majority of the sample schools of North and Middle Andaman have water facility for cooking the Mid-Day-Meal and also for drinking purpose of the children. It is observed that out of 40 sample schools 33 schools have the water facility of tap connection followed by 6 schools having the facility of water filters for drinking purpose. On the whole 93% Primary Schools of the sample and 99% of the Middle Schools have water facility for cooking as well as drinking purpose.</p>		



**Drinking water facility in the sample school**

**Figure 4: Type of water facility**



**Girl washing hands before having Mid-Day-Meal with water in the tank**

	<b>Whether utensils used for cooking food are adequate?</b>	Teachers/Organizer of MDM Programme																											
13.	Among the 40 sample schools of North and Middle Andaman district visited by the MI it is observed that all schools have adequate cooking vessels for cooking the MDM. In majority of the schools the cooking utensils are arranged by the cooking agencies themselves.																												
	<b>What is the kind of fuel used? (Gas based/firewood etc.)</b>	Observation																											
	The Monitoring Institute has observed that in 36 out of 40 schools the fire wood is the fuel used for cooking of Mid-Day-Meal whereas in few schools it is observed that kerosene stoves are used for cooking of MDM.																												
	<b><u>SAFETY &amp; HYGIENE:</u></b> i. General Impression of the environment, Safety and hygiene: ii. Are children encouraged to wash hands before and after eating iii. Do the children partake meals in an orderly manner? iv. Conservation of water? v. Is the cooking process and storage of fuel safe, not posing any fire hazard?	Observation																											
14.	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Figure 5: Safety &amp; Hygiene</b></p> <table border="1"> <caption>Data for Figure 5: Safety &amp; Hygiene (%)</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Category</th> <th>PS (%)</th> <th>UPS (%)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>General impression of...</td> <td>94.4</td> <td>95.5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Children encouraged to...</td> <td>83.3</td> <td>100.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Children take meals in...</td> <td>94.4</td> <td>95.5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Children conserve...</td> <td>94.4</td> <td>90.9</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cooking process and...</td> <td>83.3</td> <td>81.8</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Safe from fire hazard</td> <td>77.8</td> <td>90.9</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pests</td> <td>44.4</td> <td>22.7</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Adulteration</td> <td>27.8</td> <td>22.7</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Category	PS (%)	UPS (%)	General impression of...	94.4	95.5	Children encouraged to...	83.3	100.0	Children take meals in...	94.4	95.5	Children conserve...	94.4	90.9	Cooking process and...	83.3	81.8	Safe from fire hazard	77.8	90.9	Pests	44.4	22.7	Adulteration	27.8	22.7
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**Children washing hands and utensils after having MDM**

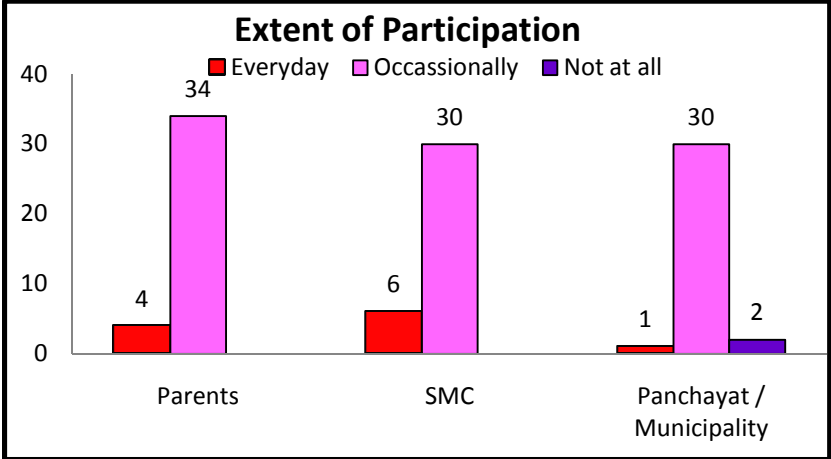


**Children taking food in an orderly manner**

Regarding the safety and hygiene of the school campuses, the monitoring team observed 94.4% of the Primary Schools and 95.5% Middle Schools were found to be clean. It is observed that teachers are encouraging the children to wash hands before and after the meal.

The monitoring teams observed that in 83.3% of the Primary Schools and 100.0% MS, Teachers are deputed to see that children sit in proper rows, preferably on jute mats, after washing hands, and say a word of prayer before taking their food.

The monitoring institute found that in 94.4% PS and 95.5% MS the children took food in an orderly manner. In 94.4% of the Primary Schools and 90.0% of the UPS, the children were found to be conserving water while washing hands and utensils. In 83.3% of the PS and 81.8% of the UPS, the monitoring team found that cooking process and storage of fuel was safe. Further it is observed that majority of the schools are provided with fire extinguishers in the school premises.

15	<p><b>COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION:</b>  <b>Extent of participation by Parents/VECs/Panchayats/Urban bodies in daily supervision, monitoring, participation</b></p>	<p>Discussion with head teacher, teachers, VEC, Gram Panchayat members</p>																
<p>It is generally observed that community participation is an integral part of development of schools. The monitoring team observed that there was participation from parents, VEC members, Panchayats and urban bodies in school management activities.</p> <p>It is observed by the MI team that in 30-34 sample schools it is reported that parents , SMC members and Panchayat members are occasionally visiting the schools for observing the Mid- Day- Meal and other school activities whereas in 4-6 schools the parents and SMC members are visiting daily.</p>																		
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Figure 6: Extent of participation</b></p>  <table border="1" data-bbox="411 815 1246 1272"> <caption>Extent of Participation</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Category</th> <th>Everyday</th> <th>Occasionally</th> <th>Not at all</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Parents</td> <td>4</td> <td>34</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>SMC</td> <td>6</td> <td>30</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Panchayat / Municipality</td> <td>1</td> <td>30</td> <td>2</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			Category	Everyday	Occasionally	Not at all	Parents	4	34	0	SMC	6	30	0	Panchayat / Municipality	1	30	2
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16	<p><b>INSPECTION &amp; SUPERVISION</b>  <b>Has the Mid- Day- Meal programme been inspected by any state/district/block level officers/officials?</b></p>	<p>School records, discussion with head teacher, teachers, VEC, Gram Panchayat members</p>																
<p>It is observed by the monitoring team that the schools are visited by block level officials/ BRC coordinator and Deputy Educational Officer occasionally.</p>																		

In 86.7% Middle Schools of the sample it is noticed that the BRC coordinators inspect the quality of Mid- Day- Meal 20.8% Primary Schools reported that the Deputy Educational Officers sometimes visit the schools to inspect MDM programme.

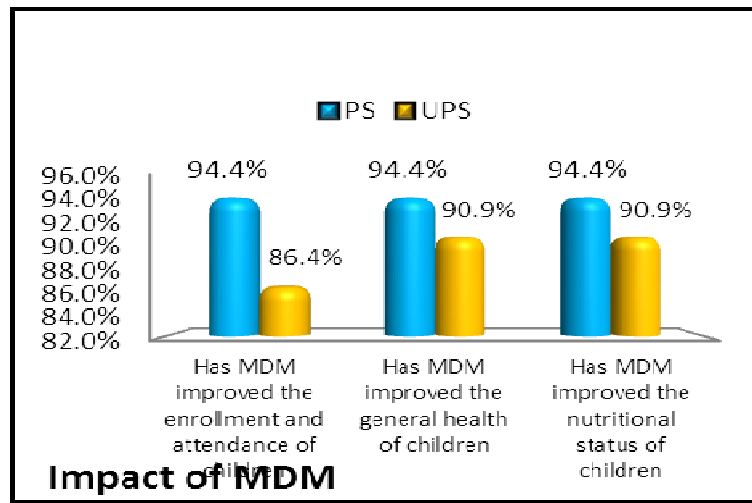
**IMPACT**

Has the Mid- Day- Meal improved the enrollment, attendance of children in school, general well-being (nutritional status) of children? Are there any other incidental benefits due to serving cooked meal in schools?

School records, discussion with head teacher, teachers, students, VEC, Gram Panchayat members.

17.

**Figure 8: Impact of MDM**



The Monitoring Institute has observed the MDM scheme has motivated the parents to enroll the children in the schools and it is also noticed that for poor children the MDM has given lot of support to overcome the class room hunger. In 94.4% PS and 90.0% MS, MDM has contributed to the general health of children

The overall implementation of MDM program was found to be quite satisfactory.

### **3. Conclusions and recommendations:**

The Monitoring of Mid-Day- Meal scheme in North and Middle Andaman district of Andaman and Nicobar Islands (UT) by the National Institute of Rural Development (Monitoring Institute) reveals that some schools have not provided the relevant information. It shows that Head Masters and teachers concerned in the sample school do not have proper awareness about the MDM guidelines and also the children's entitlements. In all together the monitoring work for the Second Half Yearly period i.e 1<sup>st</sup> October, 2013 to 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2014 in North and Middle Andaman district indicates the status of implementation of MDM. On the basis of field monitoring by the investigators and the project monitoring team of NIRD in all the sample schools of the district the following conclusions are drawn.

1. In almost all the sample schools of the North and Middle Andaman district the schools are serving the hot cooked meal every day without any interruption.
2. The availment of the Mid-Day- Meal by the children in sample schools of the district is 65% only on the day of MI visit.
3. In majority of the sample schools it is observed that the food grains are received in time by the schools. However the cooking agencies are lifting the food grains by bearing the transport charges and felt that it is a financial burden.
4. In majority (80%) of the sample schools of the district it is noticed that buffer stock is maintained. But the storage of food grain is found to be improper.
5. In majority of the schools it is observed that the cooking cost is not regularly paid to the cooking agencies.
6. There is a huge delay in payment of remuneration to cook cum helpers in the sample district.
7. There is no discrimination of caste, gender and community in all the sample schools of the district in the serving of Mid-Day- Meal.
8. In all the sample schools it is observed that the variety of menu is being followed.
9. Majority (80%) of the schools has the cook cum helpers appointed by Self Help Groups and they belong to OBC community followed by Minority.
10. Majority (60%) of the schools in the sample district does not have pucca kitchen sheds and cooking is being undertaken in temporary kitchen sheds built by the cooking agencies.



11. The MI has observed that in some schools the constructed kitchen sheds are not suitable to use the fire wood for cooking as a result cooking agencies are not using the kitchen. The dining hall is being used as eating place for the children.
12. The supplied kitchen utensils to the schools are very old and it is observed that in some schools the cooking agencies are still using the same utensils and in majority schools the cooking agencies have arranged the kitchen utensils on their own.
13. In majority (70%) schools the food grain is being stored in class rooms only. The storage of food grains is found to be un-hygienic (rodents urine and excreta found in food grains).
14. In 90% of the sample schools the water facility is available for cooking and drinking.
15. In 85% of the schools in sample districts the fire wood is the fuel for cooking of the Mid-Day- Meal.
16. Safety and cleanliness in the schools
  - 75% of the schools have clean campus. In 90% of the schools teachers are encouraging the children to wash hands before and after the meal. In 80% of the schools children are found conserving the water while washing hands and utensils.
  - The cook cum helpers is not maintaining cleanliness while cooking the food in most of the sample schools (80%).
17. In 90% of the schools parents and SMC members visit the schools to observe MDM occasionally.
18. In majority of the schools (90%) the SHG, SMC members and parents are not having knowledge about the entitlements and quantity of food grain, pulses and vegetables for cooking the Mid-Day- Meal.
19. In 85% Primary Schools and 75% Upper Primary Schools the block level officials are visiting the schools to see the MDM but the visits are not contributing much to the improvement of the programme.
20. The Mid-Day- Meal programme is helping the poor children to meet the hunger needs.

### **Recommendations and suggestions for further improvement of the programme**

1. In each block for better implementation of MDM monitoring cells are to be established
2. Menu boards should be displayed along with the entitlements of MDM in noticeable places of the schools for better awareness among students and parents.
3. Kitchen utensils are to be replaced immediately in all the sample schools of the district.
4. Awareness generation programmes for teachers, community members and cooking agencies are to be organized for effective implementation.
5. Kitchen sheds should be constructed as per the strength of the students and norms of MDM immediately in all the schools.
6. The state should evolve a mechanism for reducing the delay of payment of remuneration to cook cum helpers as well as the cooking cost.
7. Proper monitoring mechanism has to be established from cluster to block level for better delivery of MDM.
8. The infrastructure facilities like kitchen shed and utensils should be provided by the UT from MDM funds since the cooking agencies are unable to meet the cost of the kitchen shed and utensils.
9. The UT administration should arrange for the transportation charges or provide the transportation facility for lifting the monthly quota of raw rice from the Civil Supplies godowns to the school point.
10. The UT administration should allow the cooking agencies i.e Self Help Group women to meet the expenditure of vegetables, pulse, oil and fire wood only from the conversion cost.
11. The UT administration is inviting the sealed tenders from the registered groups or firms for supplying the cooked Mid- Day- Meal but in practice majority of the Self Help Group women are only applying for the tenders. As a result the Self Help Groups are attracting payment of income tax for the claims. Therefore the MI recommends that instead of inviting tenders from the SHGs, the cost quotations at the local level may be invited from SHGs / cooking agencies for healthy competition as well as reducing the burden of paying income tax.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Annexure I**

**List of schools identified for monitoring of NIRD in North & Middle Andaman district of  
Andaman & Nicobar Islands (UT)**

S. No.	Name of the school	Block	Area	Intervention	U-DISE CODE
1	Govt. MS Rangat Bay	Rangat Bay	Rural	General	3503010170
2	Govt.Secondary School,	Nimbutala	Rural	General	NA
3	Govt.P.S, Dasarathpur	Mid	Rural	General	3503010210
4	Govt. Middle School, Janakpur	Rangat,M.An	Rural	General	3503010220
5	Govt.Middle School, Parnashala	M.Andaman	Rural	General	3503010240
6	Govt.Middle School,Smith Island	North	Rural	General	3503030180
7	Govt.MS Khudirampur	Diglipur,N.A	Urban	General	3503030120
8	Govt.Model SSS Sita Nagar	Dig,North	Urban	General	NA
9	Govt.Middle School, Sita Nagar	North	Urban	General	NA
10	Govt.Primary School,	Aamkunj	Urban	General	3503010180
11	G M S Kadamtala	Middle	Rural	General	3503010370
12	GPS Shantanu	Middle	Rural	General	3503010390
13	Govt.Sec.School, Kadamtala	Middle	Rural	General	3503010370
14	Govt.S S Uttara	Middle	Rural	General	3503010380
15	G.P.S. Ram Krishan Gram	Dig.N.Andam	Rural	General	0301501
16	GPS Subhas Gram, Diglipur	N.Andaman	Urban	General	0301102
17	G.S.S, Keralapuram, Diglipur	N.Andaman	Urban	General	NA
18	GSSS Subhasgram,Diglipur	N.Andaman	Urban	General	NA
19	Govt.P.S. Deshbandhugram,Diglipur	N.Andaman	Urban	General	3503020010
20	Govt.SecondarySchool,Madhupur	Dig.N.Andam	Rural	General	NA
21	Govt Secondary School, Laxmipur	N.Andaman	Rural	General	3503030040
22	Govt. Secondary School, Swaraj	Diglipur,N.A	Rural	General	NA
23	Govt.SSPahalgaon,	Mayabunder,	Rural	General	3503020100
24	Govt.Middle School	Tugapur-6	Rural	General	NA
25	Govt. Primary School	Tugapur-8	Rural	General	3503020110
26	Govt. Primary School, Lucknow	North.Andam	Rural	General	NA
27	Govt.PrimarySchool,Pokhadera	North.Andam	Rural	General	3503020070
28	Govt.S.S. Mohanpur-5	Andaman	Rural	General	3503020050
29	GPS, Karmatung-9	Karmatung-9	Rural	General	3503020060
30	Govt.Secondary School,	Karmatung-	Rural	General	3503020060
31	Govt.Middle School,Rampur	Mayabunder,	Rural	General	3503020040
32	Govt.PrimarySchool,Mayabunder	Andaman	Rural	General	3503020020
33	Govt.Middle School	Kalsi M.	Rural	General	3503010320
34	Govt.Senior Secondary School	Sabari,	Rural	General	3503010260
35	Govt.PS, shaktigarh	M. Andaman	Rural	General	3503010360
36	Govt.P.S. Uttara Corner	Middle	Rural	General	3503010380
37	GPS Phooltala	Middle	Rural	General	NA
38	Senior Secondary Oral Kacha	Middle	Rural	General	NA
39	GPS Mayabandar	Middle	Rural	General	NA
40	GPS Rangath	Middle	Rural	General	NA