

**2<sup>nd</sup> Half Yearly Monitoring Report of  
North Bengal University, (Monitoring Institution)  
On  
MDM SCHEME for the State of  
SIKKIM for the  
Period : 1<sup>st</sup> April 2012 to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2012**

**District Covered :**

**North District**

*Dyutish Chakrabarti  
Nodal Officer, & Coordinator  
North Bengal University*

(i)	<b><i>Name of the Monitoring Institution</i></b>	University of North Bengal
(ii)	<b><i>Name of the District Monitored:</i></b>	North District,Sikkim
(iii)	<b><i>Total number of elementary schools / EGS / AIE Centers in the Districts</i></b>	82( 49 Primary and 18 Upper primary )
(iv)	<b><i>Number of elementary schools (primary and upper primary) / EGS / AIE Centers covered / monitored</i></b>	22 schools
(v)	<b><i>Date of visit to the Districts/EGS/schools</i></b>	December 2012

District wise Summary:

As only one district ( North District ) was covered ,therefore district-wise summary has not been prepared.

## 1. REGULARITY IN SERVING MEAL:

i)	<i>Percentage of schools serving hot cooked meal regularly.</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hot cooked meal is served daily as food is cooked in the school premise. Only 2 schools mentioned that they do not serve meals on examination days ( Meyong Primary School and Voong P.S.)</li> </ul>
ii)	<i>If hot cooked meal is not served regularly ,reasons thereof.</i>
	Does not arise.
iii)	<i>Is there any prescribed norm for consideration for irregularity in serving MDM</i>
	There is no prescribed norms; if MDM is not served on a working day, that may be considered as irregularity.
iv)	<i>Quality and quantity of meal in the opinion of teachers, students or SMC members and any problems to children in serving MDM.</i>
	Teachers reported that students get sufficient quality of food and quality also is not bad. Teachers/SMC of Nampatam Primary School admitted that quality always could not be maintained because of prices. In Tinchin Junior High School, it was reported that quantity is not enough for class 7 and class 8 students.
(v)	<i>Where do the children take their meal?</i>
	In most of the schools, students take their meals in the class-room or kitchen or in open field. Only in Namok JHS there exists a dining hall and in Meyong PS benches are there in the arcade.
2.	<b><u>TRENDS:</u></b> <b>EXTENT OF VARIATION (AS PER SCHOOL RECORDS VIS-À-VIS ACTUALS ON THE DAY OF VISIT)</b>
i)	<i>Enrollment (Total)</i>
	2684 students
ii)	<i>Number of children opted for Mid-day Meal.</i>
	All children take MDM and there is no question of option.
iii)	<i>No. of children attending the school on the day of visit (Day previous to date of visit --- On the day of visit)</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Day of visit-2542</li> <li>Previous day-not verified</li> </ul>
iv)	<i>No. of children availing MDM as per MDM Register (Day previous to date of visit --- On the day of visit)</i>
	All children present on the day take MDM.
3.	<b><u>REGULARITY IN DELIVERING FOOD GRAINS TO SCHOOL LEVEL:</u></b>
i)	<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?</i>
	Food grains are sent regularly and on quarterly basis. No incident of delay in delivery has been reported.
ii)	<i>Is buffer stock of one-month's requirement is maintained?</i>

	Six schools reported that one month's buffer –stock could not be maintained, but 10-15 days' stock remains.
iii)	<i>Is the food grains delivered at the school?</i>
	In all schools except , Naga JHS, Nampatam PS and Voong PS grains are delivered in the school. In these 3 schools roads at present are badly damaged because of earthquake and flash floods.
iv)	<i>Is the quality of food grain good?</i>
	Quality is fair ( On the basis of checking by MI)
4.	<b><u>REGULARITY IN DELIVERING COOKING COST TO SCHOOL LEVEL:</u></b>
i)	<i>Is school receiving cooking cost in advance regularly? If there is delay in delivering cooking costs regularly what is the extent of delay and reasons for it?</i>
	Advance for cooking cost is not provided with. All schools received cooking cost ( upto June/July ) in October 2012.However Headmasters' said that situation had improved as cooking cost now given in instalments still a 3 months' gap exists.
ii)	<i>In case of delay, how schools manage to ensure that there is no disruption in the feeding programme?</i>
	Schools run the MDM programme by purchasing items on credit.In cases, credit is offered by the Head master and SMC members.
iii)	<i>Is cooking cost paid by Cash or through banking channel?</i>
	Some times cash,other-wise cheque.Last payment ( October 2012)
5.	<b><u>SOCIAL EQUITY:</u></b>
i)	<i>Did you observe any gender or caste or community discrimination in cooking or serving or seating arrangements?</i>
	No such discriminatory practices are discernible. In fact , most of the schools in North District have substantial number of students belonging to ST category.
ii)	<i>Is there any discrimination in sitting arrangement?</i>
	Students sit ( during meal time ) peer group-wise.
6.	<b><u>VARIETY OF MENU:</u></b>
i)	<i>Has the school displayed its weekly menu, and is it able to adhere to the menu displayed?</i>
	In majority of schools ( 12 ) Menu is not displayed.In 2 schools ( Tingchim JHS and Naday Primary School ) menu is written in MDM register, but not displayed.
ii)	<i>Who decides the Menu</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Menu is finalized generally by the Head master in consultation with teachers and SMC members. In 2 schools it is done by the cooking agency.Two schools ,however follow a novel practice.</li> <li>• In those schools ( Voong PS and Namok Junior High School ) menu is finalized in consultation with students.</li> </ul>

iii)	<i>Does the daily menu include rice / wheat preparation, dal and vegetables?</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rice is given daily, but not dal. The MI was informed that the days when egg or kheer is given, dal is not served.</li> </ul>
iv)	<i>Number of Schools where variety of foods is served daily</i>
	Variety is attempted, but occasionally this cannot be done.
v)	<i>Number of Schools where same food is served daily</i>
	Same menu is not repeated, different combinations are served ( all schools).
7.	<b><u>STATUS OF COOK CUM HELPERS</u></b>
i)	<i>Number of schools where cook cum helpers are engaged as per the norm of GOI or State Govt.</i>
	In all schools cooks have been engaged on the basis of State Government ( HRDD ) instructions. All Headmasters except one of Tingchim JHS said that the school have adequate number of cooks and helpers.
ii)	<i>Who engages cook cum helpers in these schools</i>
	Headmaster in one school in all other schools ,the SMC appoints cooks and helpers.
iii)	<i>Number of schools served by centralized kitchen</i>
	Sikkim does not have such kitchens.
iv)	<i>Number of schools where SHG is involved</i>
	In Meyong PS and Voong PS,SHG is not involved.In Tingchim SHG was not cooperating and has been removed.In others SHGs operate as implementing agency.
v)	<i>What is remuneration paid to cook cum helpers,mode of payment and intervals of payment?</i>
	Cooks salary is Rs. 1000/- per month ( all schools ).
vi)	<i>Social Composition of cooks cum helpers? ( SC/ST/OBC/Minority?Others)</i>
	90% of cooks belong to Scheduled Tribes.
8.	<b><u>COMMUNITY MOBILIZATION</u></b>
i)	<i>Familiarity level of SMC members with their roles and responsibilities and eligibility and entitlement of children as notified by the state government.</i>
	SMC members have not seen government notifications/instructions but have fairly good idea of their responsibilities regarding running of MDM.They do not have the clear idea of cooking cost,account etc.SMC members also lack clear idea of children's entitlements. Only 8 SMC members posses good knowledge about cooking cost,accounts,menu and children's entitlements.
ii)	<i>Number of schools where there is a roaster of parents for daily monitoring and supervision of MDMS</i>
	In no school such a roaster was found.
iii)	<i>Number of members received training regarding MDMS and its monitoring</i>
	No training about MDM was imparted to them.
9.	<b><u>SCHOOL HEALTH PROGRAMME</u></b>
i)	<i>Number of schools where Health card is maintained for each child?Who administers these medicines and at what frequency where MDM register</i>

	<i>is in place and maintained.</i>
	Health Card under the school Health programme is available. In Tinchin JHS card was there but not signed by any doctors.
ii)	<i>What is the frequency of health check-up?</i>
	Check-up done by Health Department's doctors and it is done annually.
iii)	<i>Number of children given Vitamin A</i>
	Children are given vitamin but no records would be found.
iv)	<i>Number of children given IFA tablets</i>
	According to schools all are given.
v)	<i>Number of children given de-worming tablets</i>
	De-worming tablets are given.
vi)	<i>Who administers these medicines.</i>
	Occasionally Health department, otherwise teachers.
vii)	<i>Number of schools where iodized salt is used</i>
	All schools use iodized salt in kitchen.
viii)	<i>Number of schools where children wash their hand before and after eating</i>
	Teachers claim that they wash, but MI found that children use spoons.
10.	<b><u>INFRASTRUCTURE</u></b>
i)	<i>Number of Schools where pucca kitchen cum stores is available and in use.</i>
	Pucca kitchen available but not used in three schools ( Meyong PS, Voong PS and Naga JHS). In other schools pucca kitchen is in use.
ii)	<i>Is potable water available for cooking and drinking?</i>
	Water for drinking is available but 4 schools have temporary connection. Water connection in kitchen is not available, it is outside.
iii)	<i>Whether utensils are available and adequate?</i>
	Utensils are available but in Pakshep JHS it is inadequate, according to the cook.
iv)	<i>What kind of fuel is used?</i>
	Six schools use only fuel wood. Other schools use both fuel wood and gas depending upon the availability.
11	<b><u>MIS.</u></b>
i)	<i>Number of schools where MDM register is in place and maintained</i>
	In all the schools 2 types of registers are there: a ) Register for daily students attendance b ) Register for food grains In Voong PS register could not be produced.
ii)	<i>Whether any training on maintaining MDM information is imparted to the teacher/head teacher?</i>
	Head Masters of only 4 schools received training.
iii)	<i>What is mechanism of flow of information from school to district and onwards</i>
	Schools send reports and bills to CRC from where it is sent to the district.
iv)	<i>What is the prevalent MIS system?</i>
	Separate record books for account ( Cash Book ) and food grains ( MDM stock register,).
v)	<i>What is the interval of furnishing information from school to Block and onwards?</i>

	Monthly reports are sent from school before 3 <sup>rd</sup> day of the month.
12.	<b><u>FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT</u></b>
i)	<i>Nature of financial records and registers maintained at the implementing agency level?</i>
	A ) Account book and Cash book for MDM B ) Stock register for food grains.
ii)	<i>Mode of transfer of fund to the implementing agency level from the state or district levels.</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Both cash and cheque.</li> </ul>
iii)	<i>Type of account maintained and system for the withdrawal of fund from the SMC/VEC account.</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Schools received Govt. circular to open separate MDM account in bank. Six schools opened Saving Accounts but the process is not complete.</li> </ul>
iv)	<i>If the proposals for expenditure and expenditure statements are shared with the community.If yes,is there any instance of community expressing objection/reservation about any transaction?</i>
	Expenditure Statements are placed before SMC but Social audit is not done.