

# **Mid Day Meal Programme**

## **Annual Work Plan and Budget 2014-15**

*(Please do not change serial numbers below)*

### **1. Introduction:**

#### **1.1 Brief history.**

The Mid-Day-Meal Programme was introduced in the year 1995 to provide a cooked noon meal to primary school children of all Government and Government-aided Schools studying in Class I to V all over the State for about 210 working days in a year. The Scheme aims at increasing the enrolment and reducing the number of school dropouts while improving the nutritional status of the children. However, during 2001-2002, w.e.f. the 1<sup>st</sup> of July 2001, it was decided to provide cooked meal to the children in all Govt. and Govt.-aided Primary schools only in the rural areas of the 8 KBK districts (80 Blocks including 44 ITDA Blocks) and in 74 ITDA Blocks of the Non-KBK districts. Thus, cooked food under the MDM Programme was being provided only in the KBK and the ITDA Blocks. As regards the other districts of the State, dry ration, @ 3 kgs. of rice per beneficiary per month was being supplied. During the year 2002-03, the cooked meal system under the MDM Programme was also extended to the Primary school children in the backward district of Boudh w.e.f. 01.04.2002. Thus, 157 Blocks out of the 314 Blocks in the State were covered under the 'dry ration system' till 31.08.2004.

In congruence with the direction of the Apex Court, cooked meal at noon time is being provided to all students of all the Govt./Govt.-aided Primary Schools, EGS & AIE Centres w.e.f 01.09.2004. Further extended to Upper Primary school children from 1<sup>st</sup> October, 2007 and from 2010-11 for NCLP.

#### **1.2 Management structure.**

Steering-cum-Monitoring Committee have been formed at the State, District & Block level to oversee the implementation of the programme. A State level Project Management Unit has been set up in the S&ME Deptt. to look into the day to day implementation of the programme. The main objective of this unit is to release funds and allocate food grains to the districts in time. Similarly, District Project Management Units (DPMUs) have been set up in all the districts & District Education Officers are Nodal Officer on MDM Programme. Its main function is to ensure uninterrupted supply of mid day meal to the students, availability of rice, cooking cost & payment of honorarium to cook-cum-helpers. Likewise at the Block level Block Education Officers are designated as Nodal Officers who look into the day to day implementation of the programme as well as redressal of the grievances. The CRCCs have been designated as Cluster level Nodal Officers.

### **1.3 Process of Plan Formulation.**

No separate Directorate in the State has been formed to implement the programme. However, the State Project Management Unit works as a composite directorate of the Deptt. for MDM. The data collection analysis plan formulation are made in the SPMU.

## **2. Description and assessment of the programme implemented in the current year (2013-14) and proposal for next year (2014-15) with reference to:**

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

Meal is provided regularly to the students and it is wholesome and palatable. The cost of per meal is Rs.3.79 for primary classes and Rs.5.65 for Upper primary classes.

The central Govt. allocates rice @ 100 gms. per child per day free of cost for Primary students and @ 150 gms. per child per day free of cost for Upper Primary students.

The State Govt's share for primary & upper primary students is Rs. 1.28 & Rs. 1.90 respectively. The cooks-cum-helpers are being paid honorarium @ Rs.1000/- per month w.e.f. 01.04.2012.

The ration cost will be enhanced @ 7.5% from 01.04.2014 as per decision of the Government of India.

### **2.2 Coverage of children of NCLP schools as per upper primary norm. NCLP schools are primary schools but eligible for benefit as per upper primary norm.**

Programme Approval Board on Mid Day Meal Scheme decided to provide mid day meal to the children of NCLP school as per norms applicable to the Upper Primary children w.e.f. November, 2011. Accordingly, necessary instructions has been issued to all the Collectors of the districts to provide mid day meal to the children of NCLP schools as per norms applicable to the upper primary children. However, S&ME Deptt. has taken a principled decision to mainstream all children of NCLP from 2014-15.

### **2.3 Food grains management, including adequacy of allocation, timeline of lifting, transportation and distribution, and suitability of storage at different levels. Challenges faced and plan to overcome them.**

The Govt. of India allocates food grains (Rice) as per the list of students approved by PAB. The State Govt. reallocates the rice in favour of the districts. The cost of food grains is released to all districts as per allocation of food grains. The respective Collectors lift the rice through the S&T Agents selected by them through tender procedure from the nearest FCI godown. The S&T agent for transportation of foodgrains (Rice) from FCI depot to school point without transit. The Headmaster / Teachers in- charge of MDM receive the rice at the school level. This process is done quickly and timely.

The Collectors have been instructed to take care of proper storage of food grains at school level. Storage bins are provided to schools for storage of food grains.

**2.4 System for payment of cost of food grains to FCI. Status of pending bills of FCI of the previous year.**

The administrative Deptt. (SPMU) allocates funds to the Nodal District Education Officers (MDM) quarterly under the scheme. The payment is released in favour of FCI within 3 days of the submission of the bills.

**2.5 System for release of funds provided under MDM (Central and State). Please indicate the dates when the fund was released to State authority/ Directorate / District / Block / Gram Panchayat and finally to the Cooking Agency/ School.**

Director, Elementary Education is the controlling officer so far as financial transactions are concerned. He draws the amount under different components of MDM scheme and deposit in the joint account opened in the SPMU. It takes maximum three days for drawal and deposit in the joint account. The same fund is transferred to the Districts through e-transfer the same day. At District level DEOs with the approval of the Collector releases funds meant for each school of the Block through e-transfer according to the requirement direct to the joint Account maintained at school within seven days of receipt. At school level, joint account in the name of the HM & SHG/ SMC/VEC has been opened. However as per the present arrangement, the DDO of the S&ME Deptt. would draw the MDM allotment and place it with SPMU.

**2.6 Submission of information in Mandatory Table (AT-24).**

Submitted as per the proforma.

**2.7 System and mode of payment of honorarium to cook-cum-helpers and implementing agencies viz. NGOs/ SHGs/ Trust/ centralized kitchens etc.**

The honorarium to cook-cum-helpers is released quarterly to the Nodal District Education Officers. The Nodal DEOs releases honorarium to the Bank Account of each cook-cum-helper by 1<sup>st</sup> of the succeeding month.

**2.8 System for procuring cooking ingredients (pulses, vegetables including leafy ones, salt, condiments, oil and fuel etc.), Commodities, which are centrally purchased and supplied to schools or locally purchased at school level.**

The Govt. have instructed to all Collectors to introduce decentralized procurement system from 01.04.2011 positively. Accordingly, they have been issued guidelines for procurement of food materials under different feeding programmes run through this Govt. As per the new guideline procurement of foodstuffs shall be made locally by SHG/SMC as per their requirement on daily or weekly basis.

## **2.9 System for cooking, serving and supervising mid day meals in the school and measures to prevent any untoward happening.**

Almost 48% schools of the state have been handed over to the WSHGs who are managing the programme. They cook the food through the cooks and helpers engaged under the programme. In other schools cooks and helpers engaged by the VEC/SMC are managing the same. The Akshaya Patra Foundation and the Nandi Foundations are providing Mid-day-Meal from Centralised kitchens in Puri, Nayagarh, Sundargarh, Ganjam, Kalahandi & Keonjhar Districts respectively. The State Govt. have allowed them to distribute MDM from centralized kitchen in some other parts of the State which is on the anvil. In these cases the cooks and helpers engaged previously have been retained to serve the meal to the children and clean the utensils. The headmaster of the school supervises the programme. Further, mothers of the children come in turn to oversee the programme. The District & Block level officers are also monitoring the scheme. A Jaanch Committee has been formed consisting of five members of different stakeholders to look into day to day implementation of the programme.

## **2.10 Procedure and status of construction of kitchen-cum-store. This section should also include progress of construction of kitchen-cum-store during this year and target for the next year.**

From 2006-07 to 2009-2010 a sum of Rs.42074.70 lakh has been released to all the districts for construction of 69152 nos. of kitchen-cum-store in Primary & Upper Primary schools @ Rs. 60,000/- and above per unit. All Collectors have been instructed to complete construction work during the current financial year. During the current financial year 2013-14 a sum of Rs.13116.00 lakhs Govt. of Odisha has been released from State budget for 10930 units for construction of Model kitchen @Rs.1.20 lakhs per unit. This is an innovative scheme of Ama Madhyan Bhojan Rosei Ghar with all composite features of Model Kitchen-shed.

## **2.11 Procedure of procurement of kitchen devices from (i) funds released under the Mid Day Meal Programme (ii) other sources.**

A sum of Rs.3319.15 lakh received from the Govt. of India has already been released in favour of the District Collectors for repair/ replacement of kitchen equipments/devices for primary & upper primary schools till end of the year 2009-10. For the financial year 2013-14 a sum of Rs.2711.40 Lakh received from the Govt. of India has already been released in favour of the Districts for repair/ replacement of kitchen equipments/devices for primary & upper primary schools. No fund is available under the head.

## **2.12 Capacity building and training conducted for different categories of persons involved in the Mid Day Meal Programme. This section should include details of the training programme conducted for cook-cum-helpers, State level officials, SMC members, school teachers and other stakeholders along with the target for the next year.**

Capacity building and trainings are conducted for different categories of persons involved in the Mid-Day-Meal Programme. The DEOs have been

allocated funds for capacity building and training of WSHGs / Headmasters/ Teachers in charge/ CCHs, who are managing the scheme at school level. 60 Nos. Cook-cum-Helpers around the state have attended a 10days residential training programme at Institute of Hotel Management, VSS Nagar, BBSR and 120 Nos. Cook-cum-Helpers around the state have attended 3 days non residential training programme held at capital high school, Unit-III, BBSR by Akshya Patra Foundation.

### **2.13 Management Information System at School, Village/ Gram Panchayat, Block, District and State level and its details.**

Management and Information System has been extended up to block level to monitor the programme effectively. Extension of the system to the school level will take some more time.

At the state level State Project Management Unit (SPMU) has been established for management of the programme. This Cell sends information to field and receives the feedback from the district and block level offices through e-mail.

A student helpline has been opened at OPEPA and this helpline is used for Mid-Day-Meal Programme and accordingly, instructions have been issued to all district functionaries. Complaints are received from the students, general public, SMCs/ SHGs/ Mothers' Committee/ Parents Teachers Association through this student's helpline.

### **2.14 Systems to ensure transparency, accountability and openness in all aspects of programme implementation, including inter alia, food grains management, ingredients procurement, cooking and serving, appointment of cooking staff, construction of kitchen-cum-store, and procurement of cooking devices.**

**Food grain Management:-** The S&T Agents appointed by the Collectors through tender procedure lift the rice from the FCI and transport the same to the School point.

**Cooking & Serving:-** This work is done by the Cooks-cum-Helpers engaged under the programme through the WSHGs/ VEC/ SMC at village level.

**Appointment of Cooking Staff:-** The Cooks-cum-Helpers are engaged by the WSHGs, VEC or SMC at the school level.

**Construction of Kitchen-sheds:-** The Collectors have been instructed to construct the kitchen-cum-store in the schools under the scheme through the VEC /SMC and complete construction work during the current financial year.

**Procurement of Cooking Devices:-** The scheme was introduced in the year 1995 in the state and at that time provision was made for purchase of cooking devices/utensils. Proposal for procurement of 9,310 unit of Kitchen devices for the PAB meeting 2014-15.

### **2.15 Measures taken to rectify:**

- a) Inter-district low and uneven utilization of food grains and cooking cost.  
Low and uneven utilization of food grains and cooking cost came to the

notice of the Govt. in some of the districts. The Collectors have been directed to ensure regular payment and review of the scheme.

b) Inter-district mismatch in utilization of food grains and cooking cost.

As above.

c) Delay in delivering cooking cost at school level.

All out efforts are being made to release the cooking cost through e-transfer by the Nodal DEOs direct to the Joint Bank Account operated at school level.

## **2.16 Details of Evaluation studies conducted by State/ UTs and summary of its findings.**

Efforts are being made to engage an outside Agency to evaluate the programme. The third party impact & evaluation is in the final stage of selection which would commence its work run 2014-15.

## **2.17 Brief write up on best practices followed in the State.**

- 1. CPSMS**
- 2. Transparency**
- 3. Convergence**
- 4. School Health Programme.**
- 5. IEC Activities, MDM Awareness Mela..**
- 6. Multi-Tap Multi-Cap.**
- 7. MDM contingency plan & MDM protocol.**

Funds under different components of the Scheme is released to the joint Account of the School of District through e-transfer by the Noda DEOs.

## **2.18 Instances of unhygienic food served, children falling ill, sub-standard supplies, diversion/misuse of resources, social discrimination and safety measures adopted to avoid recurrence of such incidents.**

Expeditious action is taken whenever there are instances of supply of unhygienic food to the students under the scheme. Instructions have been issued to all the collectors that the food cooked under the scheme should be tasted by the Head master or the teacher in charge of MDM before it is served to the students.

## **2.19 System of Tasting of food by teachers and testing of food sample by any reported labs.**

The system / practice of food testing by teachers/ Cook-cum-Helpers / SMC members has been rigidly monitored to avoid any untoward incident.

## **2.20 Extent of involvement of NGOs and Civic Body Organizations (CBOs)/PRIs in the implementation and monitoring of the Scheme.**

The Akshya Patra Foundation a Bangalore-based NGO is managing the scheme in Puri Municipality, Puri Sadar, Gop Block and Satyabadi Block of the state. The organization provides cooked noon meal to around 58,586 students from a centralized kitchen. Moreover, they are providing MDM to 29,013 nos. of children in Nayagarh district (Bhapur & Khandapada Block) through decentralized mode. It has expressed its willingness to extend the programme to Bhubaneswar and Cuttack Municipal areas from a centralized kitchen. A Hyderabad-based NGO namely Naandi Foundation are covering about 76,012 students under the scheme from a centralized kitchens in Ganjam and 5,845 students of Lanjigarh Block of Kalahandi Districts. The Naandi Foundation has been allowed to provide MDM in Keonjhar District for 23,800 students.

## **2.21 Status of School Health Programme with special focus on provision of micro-nutrients, Vitamin-A, de-worming medicine, Iron and Folic acid, Zinc, distribution of spectacles to children with refractive error and recording of height, weight etc.**

The NRHM has undertaken to check-up the health status of the children and to supply micro-nutrients, Iron, Folic acid and Vitamin-'A' to schools students. Steps are taken to eradicate refractive errors and to provide de-worming tablets wherever it is required.

## **2.22 Present monitoring structure at various levels. Strategy for establishment of monitoring cell at various levels viz. Block and State level for effective monitoring of the scheme.**

- Steering-cum-Monitoring Committees have been formed at the State, District levels to oversee the implementation of the programme. A State level Project Management Unit has been set up in S&ME Deptt. to look into the day to implementation of the programme. The main objective of this Unit to release funds and allocate food grains to the districts in time.
- Similarly, District Project Management Units (DPMUs) have been set up in all the districts & its function is to ensure uninterrupted supply of MDM to the students, availability of rice and payment of cooking cost and honorarium to cooks & helpers in time.
- Joint Review Meetings consisting of District Education Officers/ DPCs/ BEOs etc. are held under the Chairmanship of the Commissioner-cum-Secretary in every two months and take stock of the situation in respect of MDM Programme.
- The Districts are visited by the senior officers from the State Hqrs. to oversee the implementation of the programme.
- Grievances are heard at SPMU (MDM) every working Monday and corrective measures are taken.

- All the field level officers right from DEO to ABEOs have been assigned the task of rigorous visit of schools. Monthly review meetings on a fixed day of the month on implementation MDM programme are conducted regularly by the District Collectors.
- A toll free number for School Students Helpline (18003456722) has been assigned for redressal of various complaints received from the students, general public, SMCs/ SHGs/ Mothers' Committees / Parents Teachers Association.
- At school level SMC, Jaanch Committee & Mothers' Committee are authorized to ensure quality, quantity and uninterrupted service of cooked meals. One SI of schools has been designated as ABEOs to look after the day to day functioning of MDM at the Block level and coordinates with other SIs to see that there is uninterrupted serving of meals to the students.

**2.23 Steps taken to strengthen the monitoring mechanism in the Block, District and State level and status of constitution of SMCs at these levels. Status of formation on School Management Committee at village / school / cooking agency level in the light of Right to Education Act, 2009.**

Steering-cum-Monitoring committees in District and State levels have been formed to monitor the scheme. The quality of dal supplied under the scheme is tested by the mothers of the student. The mothers are coming in turn to oversee the programme at the time of cooking and distribution of meals in school. In most of the schools of the state local SHGs have been associated with management of the scheme in which some of the mothers are members of the group.

**2.24 Frequency of meeting of District Vigilance & Monitoring Committee held under the chairmanship of senior most MP of the District to monitor the scheme. Gist of the issue discussed and action taken thereon.**

State level Steering-cum-Monitoring Committee meeting on 21.03.2014.  
District vigilant monitoring committee meeting  
Koraput District on 31.07.2013

**2.25 Arrangement for official inspections to MDM centres and percentage of schools inspected and summary of findings and remedial measures.**

There is a provision for inspection of MDM centres by Senior Officers like ADMs/PD DRDA/Sub-Collectors and Senior Officers of School and Mass Education Deptt., Health & Family Welfare Deptt., Food supply and Consumer Welfare Deptt., Rural Development Deptt., Housing and Urban Deptt. and W&CD Deptt. The Officers of the aforesaid Deptts. make extensive tour to inspect minimum 2%, 5% and 10% of the institution in course of their tour in every year.

Secretaries of different departments in charge of individual Districts are also visiting schools and giving feedbacks about MDM Programme.



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

Reports from Dr. P. M. Institute of advance Study in Education, Sambalpur and Naba Krushna Choudhury Center for Development Studies (NKCDs), Bhubaneswar have been received. The views of the concerned Collectors on the study reports have been called for. The views of the concerned Collectors are awaited.

**2.27 Details of contingency plan to avoid any untoward incident.**

Has been formulated. SOP designed & MDM contingency plan is in operation.

**2.28 Grievance Redressal Mechanism if any, used by the State/ UTs. Details of complaints received, nature of complaints and time schedule for disposal of complaints.**

A student helpline has been opened at OPEPA and is being used for the programme. The Deptt. have opened a control room and installed toll free telephone as a measure for Grievance Redressal Mechanism. The complaints received from students / parents through student helpline are being sent to the concerned Collectors for immediate redressal. Video Conferencing are being held at regular intervals with District Collectors & other senior officials of the district for smooth implementation of the programme.

**2.29 Awareness Generation/ Media campaign, if any.**

Video, Audio, MDM Awareness Mela etc.

**2.30 Overall assessment of the manner in which implementation of the programme is contributing to the programme objectives and analysis of strengths and weakness of the programme implementation.**

The functioning of the programme in the state is satisfactory. The management work of the programme in most of the schools has been handed over to the WSHGs. The NGOs namely Akshaya Patra Foundation & the Naandi Foundation are providing Mid-day-Meals in Puri, Nayagarh, Ganjam & Kalahandi Districts respectively through centralized kitchens. They are prepared to provide hot cooked meal in Khurda, Keonjhar, Kalahandi & Puri Districts. They serve square and palatable meals to the students. Successful implementation has contributed a lot to the objectives of the programme. Moreover, involvement of mothers in testing the quality of dal and overseeing the programme in turn at school have intensified monitoring of the scheme at grass root level. The scheme has facilitated to reduce dropouts. Every scheme has its own drawbacks and shortcomings. Leaving apart stray incidents, the programme is implemented successfully in our State, since its inception in the year 1995.

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