

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION AND LITERACY**

**LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 227
TO BE ANSWERED ON 14.03.2016**

Mid Day Meal Scheme

***227. SHRIMATI P.K.SREEMATHI TEACHER:
SHRI HARIOM SINGH RATHORE:**

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any financial assistance is provided for the construction of kitchen-cum-store for cooking and safe storage of foodgrains in the schools under the Mid Day Meal Scheme and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the number of students benefited, people employed and details of budget allocated by the Government to the States under the Mid Day Meal along with the cooking cost per day per children reimbursed/incurred during the last three years, State and year-wise;
- (c) the number of complaints of irregularities/corruption, reported in the Mid Day Meal Scheme during the last three years along with the action taken thereon in the States, State/UT-wise and year-wise etc.;
- (d) whether the Government has set up any monitoring mechanism to ensure that quality food is served to students and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether the Government proposes to revise the guidelines related to Mid Day Meal Scheme and if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER
MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(SMT. SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)**

(a) to (e): **A statement is laid on the table of the House.**

Statement referred to in reply to parts (a) to (e) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 227 for 14.03.2016 raised by SHRIMATI P.K.SREEMATHI TEACHER AND SHRI HARIOM SINGH RATHORE regarding Mid Day Meal Scheme.

- (a): Financial assistance is provided for construction of kitchen-cum-stores as per the prescribed funding pattern, which has been revised w.e.f. 1.4.2015 and is 90:10 between Centre and States for North Eastern and 3 Himalayan States, 100% for Union Territories and 60:40 for all other States. The Central Government has released Rs. 8028.48 crore for construction of 10.06 lakh kitchen-cum-store till 29th February 2016. The State-wise details of sanction and construction of kitchen-cum-stores are given at Annexure-I.
- (b): The number of children covered under the scheme, the number of cook-cum-helpers engaged and details of funds released by the Central Government to the States in the last three years are given at Annexure-II, Annexure-III and Annexure-IV respectively. The Cooking Cost per day per child for Mid Day Meal Scheme during the last three year is as under:

(in Rs.)

Year	Primary	Upper Primary
2013-14	3.34	5.00
2014-15	3.59	5.38
2015-16	3.86	5.78

- (c): 139 complaints of irregularities/corruption have been reported in the Mid Day Meal Scheme during the last three years. The State-wise and year-wise status of these complaints and action taken thereon during the last three years are given at Annexure-V.
- (d): In order to ensure effective implementation of the MDMS, an elaborate monitoring mechanism exists at both State and the Central levels. At the national level, an Empowered Committee, headed by Minister of Human Resource Development (HRD), a National level Steering-cum-Monitoring Committee (NSMC) and Programme Approval Board (PAB) monitor the Scheme and suggest policy measures for effective implementation of the Scheme. At the State level, there is a State level Steering-cum-Monitoring Committee headed by Chief Secretary and at the District Level, there is a District Level Committee under the Chairpersonship of senior most Member of Parliament of Lok Sabha to monitor the scheme. Joint Review Missions (JRM) consisting of experts also review the scheme through field visits. The Central Government have issued updated guidelines on Food, Safety and Hygiene on February, 2015 covering aspects related to procurements, storage, cooking, serving and waste disposal of food so as to ensure quality of meals being served in schools. Further the Government have also notified Mid Day Meal Rules 2015 under the National Food Security Act. The rules inter alia provide for testing of meals through Government recognized laboratories.
- (e): The Guidelines are revised from time to time as per suggestion/inputs from various stakeholders. There is no immediate proposal to revise the guideline of Mid Day Meal Scheme.

Annexure referred to in reply to part (a) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 227 for 14.03.2016 raised by SHRIMATI P.K.SREEMATHI TEACHER AND SHRI HARIOM SINGH RATHORE regarding Mid Day Meal Scheme.

**State wise status of sanctioned and constructed kitchen-cum-stores and funds released by
Central Government under MDMS**

S. No	State / UT	No. of Kitchen-cum-stores sanctioned	No. of kitchen-cum-stores constructed upto 30.9.2015	Funds released by Central Govt. upto 29th February 2016 (Rs. in lakh)
1	Andhra Pradesh*	75283	23408	58165.86
2	Arunachal Pradesh	4131	4085	2494.87
3	Assam	56795	39450	46885.32
4	Bihar	66550	50724	45193.09
5	Chhattisgarh	47266	39430	30002.19
6	Goa	0	0	0.00
7	Gujarat	25077	20454	23203.15
8	Haryana	11483	8825	11710.54
9	Himachal Pradesh	14959	14104	9029.70
10	Jammu & Kashmir	11815	7118	8393.63
11	Jharkhand	39001	33231	40845.49
12	Karnataka	40477	35298	53929.42
13	Kerala	2450	2408	2544.55
14	Madhya Pradesh	100751	89666	62477.34
15	Maharashtra	71783	54268	51448.01
16	Manipur	3053	1739	4283.42
17	Meghalaya	9491	8839	14677.08
18	Mizoram	2396	2396	2623.75
19	Nagaland	2223	2223	2518.96
20	Orissa	69152	37022	40579.81
21	Punjab	18969	18969	11659.00
22	Rajasthan	77298	50731	47135.85
23	Sikkim	936	800	684.34
24	Tamil Nadu	28470	15779	45007.60
25	Tripura	5304	5405	7763.93
26	Uttar Pradesh	122572	112740	75000.66
27	Uttarakhand	16989	13287	17293.27
28	West Bengal	81314	66696	85818.44
29	A&N Islands	251	9	1295.69
30	Chandigarh	10	7	23.34
31	D&N Haveli	50	1	65.52
32	Daman & Diu	32	32	39.39
33	Delhi	0	0	0.00
34	Lakshadweep	0	0	0.00
35	Puducherry	92	92	55.20
	Total	1006423	759236	802848.41

**includes Telangana*

Annexure referred to in reply to part (b) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 227 for 14.03.2016 raised by SHRIMATI P.K.SREEMATHI TEACHER AND SHRI HARIOM SINGH RATHORE regarding Mid Day Meal Scheme.

State-wise and Year-wise coverage of children under MDMS during last three years

S. No	State / UT	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16 (up to 2 nd qtr)
1	Andhra Pradesh	4995719	5833334	2917601	2755424
2	Arunachal Pradesh	267093	252980	245291	240060
3	Assam	4645155	4429278	4474903	4463835
4	Bihar	13192268	13402641	13150423	14845776
5	Chhattisgarh	3405030	2989628	2877038	2819400
6	Goa	152364	147246	145351	143386
7	Gujarat	4361699	4409941	4260527	4427969
8	Haryana	2090263	1982510	1945224	1746739
9	Himachal Pradesh	635444	569397	542750	540721
10	Jammu & Kashmir	731535	631572	712990	732176
11	Jharkhand	3157218	2972990	2585142	2818601
12	Karnataka	4946744	5060439	4767100	4739904
13	Kerala	2632537	2569376	2522323	2484563
14	Madhya Pradesh	7819654	7354834	7244591	6627212
15	Maharashtra	10453018	10330214	9762850	9462517
16	Manipur	184444	182662	186596	185914
17	Meghalaya	528259	523064	510550	513846
18	Mizoram	165792	160435	137123	137977
19	Nagaland	260962	260948	216786	258992
20	Orissa	5129182	5179924	4733551	4590115
21	Punjab	1760112	1616808	1653092	1562731
22	Rajasthan	5067599	4610790	4945930	4544895
23	Sikkim	83960	77485	76120	69416
24	Tamil Nadu	4718918	4810734	4810470	4810262
25	Telangana			2012329	2007882
26	Tripura	432497	367405	355156	383126
27	Uttar Pradesh	10711138	10105703	10326042	10259532
28	Uttarakhand	701926	699579	667647	650807
29	West Bengal	12201816	12339129	12098740	11827141
30	A&N Islands	27977	27977	27958	29137
31	Chandigarh	46105	45395	46779	52189
32	D&N Haveli	35644	35232	34320	34684
33	Daman & Diu	14806	13583	14232	14391
34	Delhi	1186555	1142196	1166583	1135215
35	Lakshadweep	9520	7831	7168	6926
36	Puducherry	52510	49163	55474	47771
	Total	106805463	105192423	102236754	101971232

Annexure referred to in reply to part (b) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 227 for 14.03.2016 raised by SHRIMATI P.K.SREEMATHI TEACHER AND SHRI HARIOM SINGH RATHORE regarding Mid Day Meal Scheme.

State-wise and Year-wise engagement of Cook-cum-helpers under MDMS during last three years

S. No	State / UT	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16 (up to 2nd qtr)
1	Andhra Pradesh	165227	166495	97251	92429
2	Arunachal Pradesh	7842	7809	7736	7736
3	Assam	113447	115529	122724	122724
4	Bihar	168340	230691	235181	235432
5	Chhattisgarh	105700	100000	95524	93624
6	Goa	2086	2067	2067	2412
7	Gujarat	82558	89660	90671	90615
8	Haryana	30366	31596	32610	30652
9	Himachal Pradesh	23729	23793	23478	22820
10	Jammu & Kashmir	25642	28191	29555	29787
11	Jharkhand	80601	81891	81203	80960
12	Karnataka	103873	110699	117842	115227
13	Kerala	13032	13737	13700	13664
14	Madhya Pradesh	239387	246347	243309	241759
15	Maharashtra	230184	163389	164479	165146
16	Manipur	4576	6296	6528	6933
17	Meghalaya	16426	16805	16965	17053
18	Mizoram	5044	5266	5166	5220
19	Nagaland	5527	5531	5057	5057
20	Orissa	123381	128645	128020	126831
21	Punjab	38790	40853	41820	42279
22	Rajasthan	117183	124616	124616	119071
23	Sikkim	1842	1888	1891	1891
24	Tamil Nadu	127305	127643	128130	128130
25	Telangana			55151	58651
26	Tripura	10815	10893	10941	10926
27	Uttar Pradesh	390181	400292	401378	399155
28	Uttarakhand	30294	30271	29397	28683
29	West Bengal	230825	232772	237774	237545
30	A&N Islands	760	721	721	721
31	Chandigarh	670	738	740	740
32	D&N Haveli	570	861	861	927
33	Daman & Diu	256	308	304	316
34	Delhi	0	18740	20845	20845
35	Lakshadweep	113	113	113	113
36	Puducherry	1031	1031	1031	1031
	Total	2497603	2566177	2574779	2557105

Annexure referred to in reply to part (b) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 227 for 14.03.2016 raised by SHRIMATI P.K.SREEMATHI TEACHER AND SHRI HARIOM SINGH RATHORE regarding Mid Day Meal Scheme.

State-wise and Year-wise details of funds released under Mid Day Meal Scheme during last three years

(Rs. in lakh)

S. No.	States/UTs	Central Assistance Released	Central Assistance Released	Central Assistance Released upto 9th March, 2016
		2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
1	Andhra Pradesh	44374.15	31556.76	29064.76
2	Arunachal Pradesh	4028.6	3351.71	1927.89
3	Assam	45710.81	47985.16	31231.57
4	Bihar	117682.53	136532.1	120013.29
5	Chhattisgarh	34264.11	31564.09	26991.77
6	Goa	1404.07	1403.61	1297.2
7	Gujarat	49903.26	44783.33	38053.3
8	Haryana	19719.92	16398.99	12382.8
9	Himachal Pradesh	7909.36	7460.91	8141.23
10	Jammu & Kashmir	8454.62	6203.3	5760.4
11	Jharkhand	35017.2	21508.92	23109.53
12	Karnataka	73323.24	56610.57	41939.61
13	Kerala	19201.38	22575.34	17120.97
14	Madhya Pradesh	81863.87	79567.82	60698.68
15	Maharashtra	98376.59	95059.83	103072.93
16	Manipur	1444.64	3281.86	1250.72
17	Meghalaya	6333.2	6247.18	7024.6
18	Mizoram	1999.56	2049.78	1714.49
19	Nagaland	1754.48	4226.96	1073.68
20	Orissa	61429.29	49303.55	39731.89
21	Punjab	21402.83	13500.81	16650.04
22	Rajasthan	44905.67	41757.13	39934.63
23	Sikkim	1226.31	1040.14	556.09
24	Tamil Nadu	49354.83	63991.1	44253.83
25	Telangana		20114.42	17435.58
26	Tripura	5073.29	4827.01	4946.68
27	Uttarakhand	9525.47	8931.74	10419.33
28	Uttar Pradesh	120750.57	105142.49	82191.37
29	West Bengal	111333.22	109189.56	75582.33
30	A&N Islands	1119.15	322.2	188.78
31	Chandigarh	933.17	810.479	556.43
32	D&N Haveli	480.64	409.772	369.38
33	Daman & Diu	270.22	213.31	272.37
34	Delhi	9948.48	7892.3	9449.23
35	Lakshadweep	115.06	108.81	63.04
36	Puducherry	401.52	597.7	520.77
TOTAL		1091035	1046521	874991.19

Annexure referred to in reply to part (c) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 227 for 14.03.2016 raised by SHRIMATI P.K.SREEMATHI TEACHER AND SHRI HARIOM SINGH RATHORE regarding Mid Day Meal Scheme.

State-wise and Year-wise complaints of irregularity/Corruption reported in the MDMS during last three years

Sl. No.	State/UT	Corruption				Irregularities				Total
		2013	2014	2015	2016	2013	2014	2015	2016	
1.	Andhra Pradesh							2		2
2.	Arunachal Pradesh			1						1
3.	Assam		1			1	3	3	1	9
4.	Bihar	3	10	4		2	1	2	2	24
5.	Chhattisgarh								2	2
6.	Delhi		2	1				1		4
7.	Goa					1				1
8.	Haryana	2	3	2		1	2			10
9.	Jharkhand	2	2					4		8
10.	Karnataka							1		1
11.	Kerala						1			1
12.	Madhya Pradesh	2	1	1		1		1		6
13.	Maharashtra			1		3				4
14.	Odisha	1		1						2
15.	Punjab	1		2			1			4
16.	Rajasthan		1	1				1		3
17.	Telangana		1							1
18.	Uttarakhand	2	1	1			1			5
19.	Uttar Pradesh	3	10	11	1	5	4	3	3	40
20.	West Bengal	1	2	3	1	2		1	1	11
	Total	17	34	29	2	16	13	19	9	139

Status of action taken on aforesaid complaints of irregularity/Corruption reported in the MDMS during last three years

Sl. No.	Type of action	2013		2014		2015		2016		Total
		Corrupn	irreg	Corrupn	irreg	Corrupn	irreg	Corrupn	irreg	
1	Departmental action (including warning, transfer, suspension) and action against service providers/complaint substantiated, by State Govt.	4	2		1	1				8
2	Under enquiry/investigation at state level	1	-	3						4
3	General corrective action, including issue of instructions to concerned, by State Govt./GOI.	-	5	1	3					9
4	Baseless, not proved, not related to MDM	6	3	4	1		1			15
5	Reply awaited	6	6	26	8	28	18	2	9	103
6	Total	17	16	34	13	29	19	2	9	139

Statement referred to in reply to parts (a) to (e) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 227 for 14.03.2016 raised by SHRIMATI P.K.SREEMATHI TEACHER AND SHRI HARIOM SINGH RATHORE regarding Mid Day Meal Scheme.

Executive Summary

1. Thrust of the Question

The thrust of the question is regarding financial assistance is provided for the construction of kitchen-cum-store under the Mid Day Meal Scheme. The question also seeks the number of students benefited, people employed and details of budget allocated by the Government to the States under the Scheme along with the cooking cost per day per children reimbursed/incurred during the last three years, State-wise and Year-wise. The question further seeks the number of complaints of irregularities/corruption, reported in the Mid Day Meal Scheme during the last three years along with the action taken thereon in the States, State-wise and Year-wise. The question also seek information on monitoring mechanism to ensure that quality food and revision of the guidelines related to Mid-Day Meal Scheme.

2. Reply to the Question

- (a): Financial assistance is provided for construction of kitchen-cum-stores as per the prescribed funding pattern, which has been revised w.e.f. 1.4.2015 and is 90:10 between Centre and States for North Eastern and 3 Himalayan States, 100% for Union Territories and 60:40 for all other States. The Central Government has released Rs. 8028.48 crore for construction of 10.06 lakh kitchen-cum-store till 29th February 2016. The State-wise details of sanction and construction of kitchen-cum-stores are given at Annexure-I.
- (b): The number of children covered under the scheme, the number of cook-cum-helpers engaged and details of funds released by the Central Government to the States in the last three years are given at Annexure-II, Annexure-III and Annexure-IV respectively. The Cooking Cost per day per child for Mid Day Meal Scheme during the last three year is as under:

(in Rs.)

Year	Primary	Upper Primary
2013-14	3.34	5.00
2014-15	3.59	5.38
2015-16	3.86	5.78

- (c): 139 complaints of irregularities/corruption have been reported in the Mid Day Meal Scheme during the last three years. The State-wise and year-wise status of these complaints and action taken thereon during the last three years are given at Annexure-V.
- (d): In order to ensure effective implementation of the MDMS, an elaborate monitoring mechanism exists at both State and the Central levels. At the national level, an Empowered Committee, headed by Minister of Human Resource Development (HRD), a National level Steering-cum-Monitoring Committee (NSMC) and Programme Approval Board (PAB) monitor the Scheme and suggest policy measures for effective implementation of the Scheme. At the State level, there is a State level Steering-cum-Monitoring Committee headed by Chief Secretary and at the District

Level, there is a District Level Committee under the Chairpersonship of senior most Member of Parliament of Lok Sabha to monitor the scheme. Joint Review Missions (JRM) consisting of experts also review the scheme through field visits. The Central Government have issued updated guidelines on Food, Safety and Hygiene on February, 2015 covering aspects related to procurements, storage, cooking, serving and waste disposal of food so as to ensure quality of meals being served in schools. Further the Government have also notified Mid Day Meal Rules 2015 under the National Food Security Act. The rules inter alia provide for testing of meals through Government recognized laboratories.

- (e): The Guidelines are revised from time to time as per suggestion/inputs from various stakeholders. There is no immediate proposal to revise the guideline of Mid Day Meal Scheme.

3. Guidelines issued from time to time

3.1 Summary of instructions issued to States / UTs

Sl. No.	Date	Subject
1	27 th September, 2007	Extension of MDM Programme to Upper Primary in EBBs
2	21 st April, 2008	Extension of MDM Programme to eligible Madarsas/ Maqtabas
3	24 th November, 2009	Revision of food norms, cooking cost, honorarium to cook-cum-helpers
4	24 th November, 2009	Revision of Transportation Assistance to 11 special category States
5	31 st December, 2009	Revised norms for Cost of Construction of Kitchen-cum-Store
7	10 th February, 2010	Guidelines for decentralized payment of cost of Foodgrain to FCI
8	21 st June, 2010	Revised Guidelines for Management, Monitoring and Evaluation (MME) Component
9	29 th July, 2010	Letter regarding Engagement of Cooks-cum-Helpers under Mid Day Meal Scheme (apportionment)
10	30 th August, 2010	State Level Steering cum Monitoring Committee (SSMC)
11	8 th September, 2010	Guidelines for engagement of Voluntary Organisations / NGOs
12	27 th October, 2011	Guidelines for providing MDM to children of National Child Labour Project (NCLP)
13	1 st July, 2012	Use of double fortified salt for MDMS
14	22 nd July, 2013	Guidelines to ensure, safety and hygiene under the MDM Scheme
16	6 th June 2014	Revision of norms for cooking cost under MDM in Schools from the year 2014-15
17	5 th July, 2014	Revised nomenclature of EGS/ AIE centres, NCLP schools to Special Training Centres (STCs) under Mid Day Meal Scheme
18	16 th July 2014	HRM letter to Hon'ble Members of Parliament regarding District Level Committee under the Chairpersonship of senior most MP (Lok Sabha) of the district, strengthening of monitoring mechanism and use of MPLADS fund for construction of dining space in schools.
19	22 nd August 2014	Convergences between Education Department and State/UT Health Department for monitoring of the health of school going children.

Sl. No.	Date	Subject
20	25 th September, 2014	Reimbursement of expenditure incurred by the States / UTs for the procurement of unsubsidized LPG cylinders.
21	20 th November, 2014	Adoption of practices of Tithi Bhojan
22	02 nd February, 2015	Revised guidelines for restructuring of the composition of Joint Review Mission (JRM)
23	13 th February, 2015	Guidelines on food Safety and Hygiene for school level kitchens under Mid-Day Meal (MDM) Scheme

3.2 Guidelines on Food Safety and Hygiene for School Level Kitchens under Mid-Day Meal (MDM) Scheme.

Guidelines on Food Safety and Hygiene for School Level Kitchens under Mid-Day Meal (MDM) Scheme were issued on 13.2.2015. These broad guidelines are prepared with a goal to help the States/UTs on the safety aspects of procurement, storage, serving & waste disposal of the food items. These guidelines also aims to address the issues of personal hygiene of the students and those involved in cooking and serving of Mid-day Meal. Emphasis has been given on the methods for cooking of green leafy vegetables and other food articles with minimal loss of vitamins and minerals so that the prepared mid-day meal should provide adequate amounts of minerals and vitamins to the children for their proper physical and mental development. The processes of procurement and storage of fresh vegetables and other perishable items have been provided so that the nutrient losses are minimal and the prepared Mid-day meal should provide prescribed calories proteins & other nutrients. Importance of training of cook cum helper on food hygiene and food safety aspects along with personal hygiene, the nature of food, its handling, preparation, service and distribution has been provided. The States can prepare Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) for the purpose. The tasting of the food by a teacher/SMC member shall bring the community closer and develop sense of ownership among the community towards this flagship Programme. Testing of cooked Mid-day Meal at a set interval shall create a monitoring/check on the calorific value and bacteria free Mid-day meal. To help the children by inculcating the good habits of hand washing and eating Mid-day Meal in an orderly manner will add to nation building by making them worthy citizen of India.

4. Coverage of children in primary and upper primary during the last 5 years.

(figure in crore)

Year	Primary	Upper Primary	Total
2010-11	7.33	3.13	10.46
2011-12	7.18	3.36	10.54
2012-13	7.21	3.47	10.68
2013-14	7.10	3.69	10.79
2014-15	6.66	3.56	10.22
2015-16 (Q2)	6.61	3.58	10.19

5. Coverage of institutions under MDMS in last 5 years.

(Figure in lakh)

Year	Primary	Upper Primary	Total
2010-11	8.55	3.63	12.18
2011-12	8.51	3.80	12.31
2012-13	8.41	3.72	12.13
2013-14	7.75	3.84	11.59
2014-15	7.36	4.20	11.56
2015-16 (Q2)	7.31	4.22	11.54

6. BE, releases and utilization of funds during the last 5 years

Mid Day Meal Scheme, funding pattern has been changed and brought down from 75:25 to 60:40 for Non-NER States from 1st April, 2015. The release and expenditure during the last 4 years is as under:

(₹ in crore)

	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
Budget allocation	10380	11937	13215	13215	9236.40
Releases	9901.91	10868	10927.21	10526.97	8749.91*

**releases as on date*

It is evident from the above that Rs. 8749.91 crore (94.7%) against the budget estimate of Rs. 9236.40 crore have been released to the States /UTs during the current year.

It is worthy to mention that 9 States viz. Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Goa, Jharkhand, Kerala, Odisha, Tamil Nadu, Telangana and West Bengal are contributing more than their minimum mandatory share towards cooking cost.

7. Central Assistance for construction of kitchen-cum-stores

The Central Government started providing 100% Central Assistance for construction of kitchen-cum-stores since 2006-07 at a flat rate of Rs.60,000 per unit. Based on the persistent demands of the States/UTs, the norms for kitchen-cum-stores was revised from 1.12.2009 and now the cost of construction of kitchen-cum-store is determined on the basis of plinth area norms and State Schedule of Rates prevalent in the State/UT on sharing basis.

This Department vide letter No.1-1/2009-Desk (MDM) dated 31.12.2009 has prescribed 20 sq. mt. 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. States/UTs have the flexibility to modify the slab of 100 children depending upon the local conditions.

10.06 lakh kitchen-cum-stores were sanctioned during 2006-14. So far a total number of 7.59 lakh (75%) kitchen-cum-stores have been constructed and another 1.28 lakh (13%) are in progress upto September, 2015. The construction work in 1.19 lakh (12%) kitchen-cum-stores is yet to start. The major defaulting States are Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Haryana, A&N Islands, Jharkhand, J&K, Manipur, Chandigarh etc.

8. States / UTs contributing more than their mandatory share towards honorarium to cook-cum-helpers

S. No.	State/UT	Honorarium to cook cum helpers (in Rs.)
1	Chhattisgarh	1200
2	Haryana	2500
3	Karnataka	1700
4	Kerala	4750
5	Mizoram	1500
6	Punjab	1200
7	Tamil Nadu	5000
8	Uttarakhand	1500
9	West Bengal	1500
11	Chandigarh	2622
12	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	3126
13	Daman & Diu	3126
13	Lakshadweep	7500
14	Puducherry	14000

9. Contribution of States/UTs towards cooking cost

9.1 State contribution more than minimum mandatory share towards cooking cost in in Primary

S. No.	State/UT	Cooking Cost
1	Andhra Pradesh	4.86
2	Chhattisgarh	4.42
3	Goa	5.71
4	Kerala	5
5	Mizoram	4.67
6	Orissa	4.31
7	Tamil Nadu	6.78
8	Tripura	3.97
9	A&N Islands	8.69
10	Chandigarh	6.72
11	D&N Haveli	11.61
12	Daman & Diu	10.75
13	Lakshadweep	10.89
14	Puducherry	12.9

9.2 State contribution more than minimum mandatory share towards cooking cost in in Upper Primary

S. No.	State/UT	Cooking Cost
1	Andhra Pradesh	6.78
2	Goa	6.79
3	Mizoram	5.9
4	Orissa	6.43
5	Tamil Nadu	6.88
6	A&N Islands	10.04
7	Chandigarh	7.65
8	D&N Haveli	13.95
9	Daman & Diu	12.85
10	Lakshadweep	13.04
11	Puducherry	15.4

10. State wise complaints under MDMS received since 2012 (till 31.12.2015)

Sl. No.	State/UT	Misappropriation / corruption	Poor Quality	Irregularities	Castism	Total
1	Andhra Pradesh	1	2	2	-	5
2	Arunachal Pradesh	1	-	-	-	1
3	A& N Islands	-	1	-	-	1
4	Assam	1	1	7	-	9
5	Bihar	19	23	7	-	49
6	Chandigarh	-	1	-	-	1
7	Chhattisgarh	-	5	-	-	5
8	Delhi	3	11	1	-	15
9	Gujarat	-	2	-	1	3
10	Goa	-	1	1	-	2
11	Haryana	9	3	3	-	15
12	Himachal Pradesh	-	1	-	-	1
13	Jharkhand	5	6	7	-	18
14	Karnataka	-	5	2	2	9
15	Kerala	-	-	1	-	1
16	Madhya Pradesh	4	8	3	1	16
17	Maharashtra	3	8	3	-	14
18	Odisha	1	10	1	-	12
19	Punjab	3	-	2	-	5
20	Rajasthan	2	2	2	1	7
21	Tamil Nadu	-	1	-	-	1
22	Telangana	-	1	-	1	2
23	Tripura	-	1	-	-	1
24	Uttarakhand	4	-	3	-	7
25	Uttar Pradesh	29	24	14	-	67
26	West Bengal	7	4	5	-	16
	Total	92	121	64	6	283

10.1. Details of complaints and action taken thereon

Abstract of various types of action taken on complaints received since 2012 (as on 15.02.2016)

Sl. No .	Type of action	2012				2013				2014				2015				Total
		PQ	Misap	irre	caste	PQ	Misap	irre	caste	PQ	Misap	irre	caste	PQ	Misap	irre	caste	
1	Reply awaited	1	2	-	-	2	6	6	-	17	26	9	-	25	27	20	3	144
2	Under enquiry/investigation at state level	-	1	-	-	3	0	-	-	4	3	-	-	2	-	-	-	13
3	Departmental action (including warning, transfer, suspension) and action against service providers/complaint substantiated, by State Govt.	7	5	1	-	6	5	2	-	10	-	1	-	13	1	-	-	51
4	General corrective action, including issue of instructions to concerned, by State Govt. /GOI.	4	1	7	-	5	-	5	-	4	1	3	-	3	-	-	-	33
5	Baseless, not proved, not related to MDM	2	4	7	-	2	6	3	2	6	4	-	1	5	-	-	-	42
6	Total	14	13	15		18	17	16	2	41	34	13	1	48	28	20	3	283
7	Overall number of complaints received.	42				53				89				99				283

NOTE FOR SUPPLIMENTARIES

1. Introduction

1.1 With a view to enhancing 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**, in 2,408 blocks in the country as a dry ration scheme. Under this programme, food grains @ 3 kgs per student / per month was provided to all the children of classes I-V in all Government, Local body and Government aided schools in all the States and UTs subject to a minimum of 80% attendance of such children. By the year 1997-98 the NP-NSPE was extended to all blocks of the country. Under the order dated 28th November, 2001 of the Supreme Court this became a cooked Mid Day Meal Scheme under which, every child in every Government and Government assisted primary schools was to be served a prepared Mid Day Meal with a minimum content of 300 calories and 8-12 gram protein per day for a minimum of 200 days. 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. There was no provision for Central assistance for cooking cost. However, 13 States and 6 UTs provided cooked meal to all children from their own budget. 10 States and 1 UT provided cooked meal partially. The Scheme was further extended in 2002 to cover not only children studying in Government and Government aided schools but also the Special Training Centres.

1.2. In **September 2004** the Scheme was revised to provide for Central Assistance for Cooking cost @ Rs. 1 per child per school day. Cooking cost included cost of pulses, vegetables cooking oil, condiments, fuel and wages and remuneration payable to personnel or amount payable to agency (e.g. SHG, VEC / SMDC), responsible for cooking. Transport subsidy was also raised from the earlier maximum of Rs 50 per quintal to Rs. 100 per quintal for special category states and Rs 75 per quintal for other states. Central assistance was provided for the first time for management, monitoring and evaluation of the scheme @ 2% of the cost of foodgrains, transport subsidy and cooking assistance. A provision for serving mid day meal during summer vacation in drought affected areas was also made.

1.3 In July 2006 the Scheme was further revised to enhance the cooking cost to Rs 1.80 per child/school day for States in the North Eastern Region, provided the NER states contribute minimum Rs 0.20 per child/school day, and Rs 1.50 per child / school day for other States and UTs, provided these States and UTs contribute minimum Rs 0.50 per child/school day. The nutritional norm was revised to 450 Calories and 12 gram of protein. In order to facilitate construction of kitchen-cum-store and procurement of kitchen devices in schools provision for Central assistance @ Rs. 60,000 per unit and @ Rs. 5,000 per school in phased manner were made. The existing system of reimbursement of transport subsidy to States / UTs was modified to grant-in-aid system like other components of Central assistance under the Scheme.

1.4 In October 2007, the Scheme was extended to cover children of upper primary classes (i.e. class VI to VIII) studying in 3,479 Educationally Backwards Blocks (EBBs) and the name of the Scheme was changed from 'National Programme of Nutritional Support to Primary Education' to 'National Programme of Mid Day Meal in Schools'. The nutritional norm for upper primary stage was fixed at 700 Calories and 20 grams of protein. The Scheme was extended to all areas across the country from 1.4.2008.

1.5 The Scheme was revised in April 2008 to extend the scheme to Madarsas / Maqtabas supported under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA).

2. Revision of scheme in 2009

2.1 In **November, 2009**, the Scheme was again revised with the following modifications:-

2.1.1 Revision of the food norm

The revision of food norms for Upper Primary children 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. The food norm after this revision from 1.12.2009 is as under:

S. No.	Items	Quantity Per Day	
		Primary	Upper Primary
1.	Food grains	100 gms	150 gms
2.	Pulse	20 gms	30 gms
3.	Vegetables (leafy also)	50 gms	75 gms
4.	Oil & fat	5 gms	7.5 gms
5.	Salt & Condiments	As per need	As per need

2.1.2 Enhancement of cooking cost

Enhancement of cooking cost (excluding the labour and administrative charges) to Rs. 2.50 for primary and Rs. 3.75 for upper primary children for the balance period of financial year 2009-10 from 1.12.2009 and to further enhance it by 7.5% on 1.4.2010 and again on 1.4.2011, 1.7.2012, 1.7.2013, 1.7.2014 and 1.7.2015. The share of the Centre and the minimum share of the State/UTs w.e.f. 1.12.2009 are as under:

Year	Stage	Total Cost per meal	Centre-State sharing			
			Non-NER States(75:25)		NER States (90:10)	
			Centre	State	Centre	State
2009-10 (from 1.12.2009)	Py.	Rs.2.50	Rs.1.88	Rs.0.62	Rs.2.25	Rs.0.25
	U. Py.	Rs.3.75	Rs.2.81	Rs.0.94	Rs.3.38	Rs.0.37
2010-11	Py.	Rs.2.69	Rs.2.02	Rs.0.67	Rs.2.42	Rs.0.27
	U. Pry.	Rs.4.03	Rs.3.02	Rs.1.01	Rs.3.63	Rs.0.40
2011-12	Pry.	Rs.2.89	Rs.2.17	Rs.0.72	Rs.2.60	Rs.0.29
	U. Py.	Rs.4.33	Rs.3.25	Rs.1.08	Rs.3.90	Rs.0.43
2012-13	Py.	Rs.3.11	Rs.2.33	Rs.0.78	Rs.2.80	Rs.0.31
	U Py.	Rs.4.65	Rs.3.49	Rs.1.16	Rs.4.19	Rs.0.46
2013-14	Py	Rs.3.34	Rs.2.51	Rs.0.83	Rs.3.01	Rs.0.33
	U. Py	Rs.5.00	Rs.3.75	Rs.1.25	Rs.4.5	Rs.0.50
2014-15	Pry	Rs.3.59	Rs.2.69	Rs.0.90	Rs.3.23	Rs.0.36
	U. Py	Rs.5.38	Rs.4.04	Rs.1.34	Rs.4.84	Rs.0.54
2015-16*	Pry.	Rs. 3.86	Rs.2.32	Rs.1.54	Rs.3.47	Rs.0.39
	U. Pry.	Rs. 5.78	Rs 3.47	Rs. 2.31	Rs.5.20	Rs.0.58

*The funding pattern of the Scheme has been revised for the year 2015-16 and accordingly the cooking cost will be shared between the Centre and the States in the ratio of 60:40 for non-NER States, 100% for UTs and 90:10 for NER States and 3 Himalayan States viz Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir and Utlarakhand. The Cooking cost for UTs are Rs 3.86 and Rs 5.78 for Pry and U. Pry. children respectively. Cooking cost includes costs of pulses, vegetables, cooking oil and condiments and fuel.

2.1.3 Honorarium to Cook-cum-Helpers

Honorarium of Rs.1000/- per month from 1.12.2009 to cook-cum-helper and engagement of one cook-cum-helper for schools with up to 25 students, two cooks-

sum-helpers for schools with 26 to 100 students and one additional cook-cum-helper for every addition of up to 100 students. At present, 25.74 lakh Cook-cum-helpers have been engaged by States/UTs against the approval of 27.39 lakh. The expenditure towards the honorarium of cook-cum-helper is shared between the Centre and the States in the ratio of 60:40 for non-NER States, 100% for UTs and 90:10 for NER States and 3 Himalayan States viz Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir and Uttrakhand.

2.1.4 Central Assistance for construction of kitchen-cum-stores

The Central Government started providing 100% Central Assistance for construction of kitchen-cum-stores since 2006-07 at a flat rate of Rs.60,000 per unit. Based on the persistent demands of the States/UTs, the norms for kitchen-cum-stores has been revised from 1.12.2009 and now the cost of construction of kitchen-cum-store is determined on the basis of plinth area norms and State Schedule of Rates prevalent in the State/UT on sharing basis.

This Department vide letter No.1-1/2009-Desk (MDM) dated 31.12.2009 has prescribed 20 sq. mt. 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. States/UTs have the flexibility to modify the slab of 100 children depending upon the local conditions.

10.06 lakh kitchen-cum-stores were sanctioned during 2006-14. So far a total number of 7.59 lakh kitchen-cum-stores have been constructed and another 1.28 lakh are in progress upto September, 2015. The construction work in 1.19 lakh kitchen-cum-stores is yet to start. The major defaulting States are Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Assam, Bihar, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Haryana, Kerala, A&N Islands, Madhya Pradesh, Jharkhand etc.

For procurement of kitchen devices, so far, Central assistance of Rs. 647.89 crores has been released to States/UTs for procurement of kitchen devices in 12.96 lakhs schools (excluding replacement) and Central assistance of Rs.343.39 crores for replacement of kitchen devices in 6.87 lakhs schools.

2.1.5 Transportation Assistance

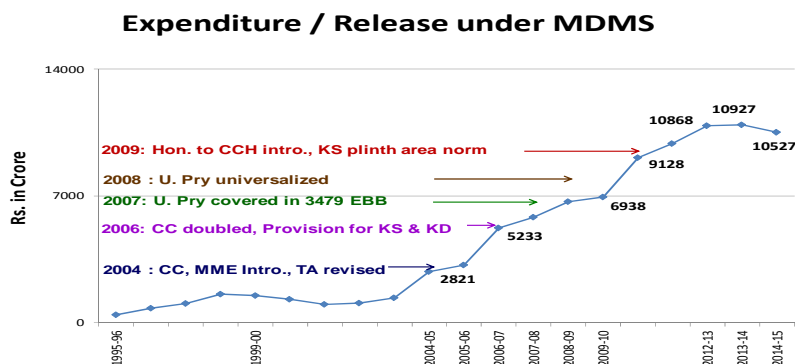
Transportation assistance in the 11 States (viz. Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim, Uttarakhand and Tripura) is at par with the PDS rates prevalent in these States. Transport Assistance in States/UTs other than 11 States, is @ Rs.750 per MT.

2.1.6 Decentralization of payment of cost of foodgrains by States/UTs

Decentralization of payment of cost of foodgrains to the FCI to the district levels w.e.f. 1.4.2010 with the conditions that districts have to make payment within 20 days after receiving the bills from FCI. The Regional offices of FCI have to submit bills by the 10th day of the next month in the prescribed format.

3. Evolution path of MDM Scheme

The chart below shows the expenditure on the scheme, with the evolution of the scheme.



4. Objectives of the Mid Day Meal Scheme

The objectives of the Mid Day Meal Scheme are to address two of the pressing problems for majority of children in India, viz. hunger and education by:

- i) Improving the nutritional status of children in classes I – VIII in Government, Government aided schools, Special Training Centres and Madarsas/Maqtab supported under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan.
- ii) Encouraging poor children, belonging to disadvantaged sections, to attend school more regularly and help them concentrate on classroom activities.
- iii) Providing nutritional support to children of elementary stage in drought-affected areas during summer vacation.

5. Rationale of the scheme

- i) **Preventing classroom hunger:** Many children belonging to disadvantage section of society reach school with an empty stomach. Even children, who have a meal before they leave for school, get hungry by the afternoon and are not able to concentrate. Mid day meal can help children from families, which cannot afford a lunch box or are staying a long distance away from schools to overcome “classroom hunger”.
- ii) **Promoting school participation:** Mid day meals have big effects on school participation, not just in terms of getting more children enrolled in the registers but also in terms of regular pupil attendance on a daily basis.
- iii) **Facilitating healthy growth of children:** Mid day meal can also act as a regular source of “supplementary nutrition” for children and facilitate their healthy growth.
- iv) **Intrinsic educational value:** A well-organized mid day meal can be used as an opportunity to impart various good habits to children (such as washing one’s hands before and after eating) and to educate them about the importance of clean water, good hygiene and other related matters.
- v) **Fostering social equality:** Mid day meal can help spread egalitarian values, as children from various social backgrounds learn to sit together and share a common meal. In particular, mid day meal can help to break the barriers of caste and class among school. Appointing cooks from SC/ST communities is another way of teaching children to overcome caste prejudices.
- vi) **Enhancing gender equity:** The gender gap in school participation tends to narrow, as the Mid Day Meal Scheme helps erode the barriers that prevent girls from going to school. Mid Day Meal Scheme also provides a useful source of employment for women and helps liberate working women from the burden of cooking at home during the day. In these and other ways, women and girl children have a special stake in Mid Day Meal Scheme.
- vii) **Psychological Benefits:** Physiological deprivation leads to low self-esteem, consequent insecurity, anxiety and stress. The Mid Day Meal Scheme can help address these and facilitate cognitive, emotional and social development.

6. Nutritional content

6.1 To achieve the objectives of the Scheme, the guidelines prescribe the following nutritional content in the mid day meal:

Components	Primary	Upper Primary
Calories	450 Cal	700 Cal
Protein	12 gms.	20 gms.
Micro-nutrients	Adequate quantities of micro-nutrients like Iron, Folic Acid , Vitamin-A etc.	

6.2 The stage wise and component-wise break up of above nutrition value of food items constituting Mid Day Meal (MDM), both for primary and upper primary, are as under:-

S. No.	Items	Primary Stage			Upper Primary Stage		
		Food norms (in gms)	Energy content (in calories)	Protein Content (in gms)	Food norms (in gms)	Energy content (in calories)	Protein Content (in gms)
1.	Foodgrains (Rice / Wheat)	100	340	8	150	510	14
2.	Pulses	20	70	5	30	105	6.6
3.	Vegetables (Leafy & Others)	50	25	--	75	37	--
4.	Oil & Fat	5	45	--	7.5	68	--
5.	Salt & Condiments	As per need	--	--	As per need	--	--
			480	13		720	20.6

7. Components of the Scheme

7.1 Entirely borne by the Central Government

Under the Mid Day Meal Scheme the Central Government bears the entire cost in respect of the following components.

i) **Foodgrains**

Under the Scheme foodgrains (wheat and rice) @100 gram per child per school day for primary & @150 gram per child per school day for upper primary is provided for which the cost is paid by the Government of India in the shape of grant-in-aid to States/UTs. The States and UTs lift the foodgrains from FCI go-downs at regional / district levels and make the payment directly to FCI.

ii) **Transportation Cost**

The Government of India bears 100% cost of transportation of foodgrains from the nearest FCI go-down to the schools for which grants-in-aid is given to the States/UTs. With effect from 1.12.2009 the transportation cost in the 11 States (viz. Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim, Uttarakhand and Tripura) has been brought at par with the Public Distribution System (PDS) rates prevalent in these States. In case of all other States/UTs, Central Assistance to meet the cost of transportation of foodgrains is given @ Rs. 75 per Quintal or the actual cost incurred whichever is less.

iii) **Monitoring, Management and Evaluation (MME)**

Management, Monitoring & Evaluation (MME) component is calculated @ 2% of the total assistance for (a) food grains, (b) transportation cost, (c) cooking cost and (d) honorarium to cook-cum-helpers. Of the 2%, 1.8% is given to the States/UTs as Central Assistance and 0.2% is utilized at the National level for management, monitoring and evaluation purposes.

iv) **Procurement of kitchen devices**

One time Central Assistance @ Rs.5000 is provided to States/UTs for provisioning and replacement of kitchen devices per school for five years. The central assistance @ Rs. 5000/- per school is also provided for replacement of the same after every five years.

7.2 On sharing basis between Centre and States / UTs

Under the Mid Day Meal Scheme the cost of the following components is shared between the Centre and the NER States on 90:10 basis and with other States /UTs on 75:25 basis:

i) **Cooking cost**

The cooking cost was revised from 1.12.2009 (excluding the labour and administrative charges) to Rs. 2.50 for primary and Rs. 3.75 for upper primary. Since 01.04.2010 cooking cost is being upward revised annually by 7.5%. The present cooking cost as per revised funding pattern is as under:

Stage	Total cooking cost per meal	Centre-State sharing			
		Non-NER States(60:40)		NER States and 03 Himalayan States (90:10)	
		Centre	State	Centre	State
Pry.	Rs.3.86	Rs.2.32	Rs.1.54	Rs.3.47	Rs.0.39
U. Pry.	Rs.5.78	Rs.3.47	Rs.2.31	Rs.5.20	Rs.0.58

ii) **Kitchen-cum-Store**

The Central Government started providing 100% Central Assistance for construction of kitchen-cum-stores since 2006-07 at a flat rate of Rs.60,000 per unit. Based on the persistent demands of the States/UTs, the norms for kitchen-cum-stores has been revised from 1.12.2009 and now the cost of construction of kitchen-cum-store is determined on the basis of plinth area norms and State Schedule of Rates prevalent in the State/UT on sharing basis.

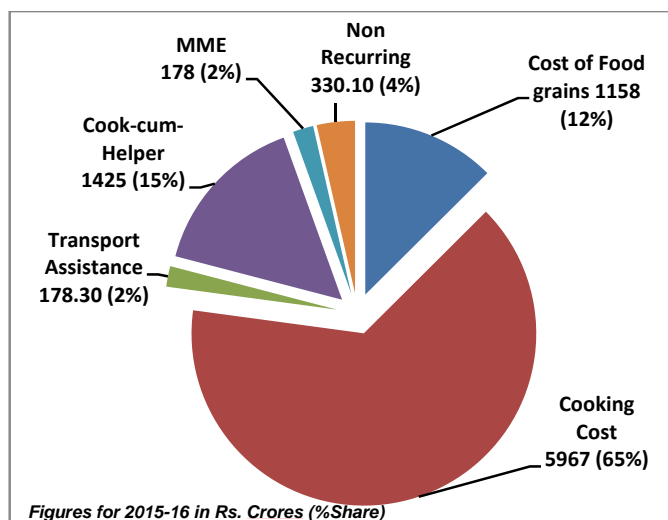
iii) **Honorarium to Cooks-cum-Helpers**

An honorarium of Rs.1000 per month per cook-cum-helper for 10 months was introduced from 1.12.2009. The norms for engagement of cook-cum-helper is; one cook-cum-helper for schools up to 25 students, two cooks-sum-helpers for schools with 26 to 100 students and one additional cook-cum-helper for every addition of up to 100 students.

iv) **Reimbursement of expenditure incurred by the States / UTs for procurement of unsubsidized LPG cylinders**

7.3 Budget allocation for the year 2015-16

The budget allocation for the year 2015-16 is Rs. 9236.40 crore and component-wise details are as under:



8. Implementation of the Mid Day Meal Scheme

The overall responsibility for providing cooked and nutritious mid day meal to the eligible children lies with the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations. States/ UTs have to ensure that all logistic and administrative arrangement are made to ensure regular serving of wholesome, nutritious and cooked meal in every eligible school. This includes development of adequate infrastructure viz. construction of kitchen-cum-store, and kitchen devices, through funding made under the Scheme and mobilization of additional resources through convergence with other developmental programmes of other departments or State / UT budgetary support. Drinking water and toilet facilities are to be created in convergence with SSA, Drinking Water Mission and Total Sanitation Programme.

The guidelines of the scheme provide that in States which have devolved the function of 'Primary Education' to Panchayats and Urban Local Bodies through legislation and/or executive order, the responsibility of implementation and day to day supervision of the programme shall be assigned to the Gram Panchayat/Municipality. Standing Committees may be constituted by the Gram Panchayats and Municipalities to oversee the implementation of the programmes. Alternatively, already existing Standing Committees, which have been assigned the task of supervising education related issues may be entrusted the task of monitoring, review and taking other necessary steps for the smooth implementation of the scheme. The Gram Panchayat/Municipality may, in turn, assign responsibility of the day-to-day management of the programme at school level to the Village Education Committee/ School Management & Development Committee or Parent-Teacher Association as the case may be.

School Management should also be encouraged to draw the support of the community including mother groups. Gram Panchayat and Village Education Committee may be approached for organizing community members to regularly, on a rotation basis, help the school management in ensuring efficient cooking, serving and cleaning operations. It has been clarified that teachers are not to be involved in cooking or its supervision in any manner, as it would affect the teaching-learning process adversely. However, the involvement of teachers and community members in ensuring that children eat together in a spirit of camaraderie and develop sensitivity to their peers with different abilities by offering them precedence and instilling values of equality and cooperation could be very effective in attaining the objectives of the programme.

Support of the community members could also be solicited to ensure that children wash their hands properly before eating, use clean plates and glasses, avoid littering and wastage of food, and clean their plates, rinse their hands and mouth after eating. Mid Day Meal Scheme also offers wide opportunity of self-employment to poor women who could constitute self-help groups. Such group can take the responsibility of cooking and serving mid day meal with the overall assistance of the local level implementing agency.

In order to facilitate uninterrupted implementation of the Scheme the Government of India provides funds and foodgrains to States and UTs in advance. Generally Government of India releases funds to States / UTs in two instalments. Both instalments are released in advance provided the States / UTs furnish the requisite information in time. In order to ensure that the programme do not suffer disruption in the beginning of the year, the Government of India releases 25% of the allocated fund in advance without asking for any information from the States / UTs. Foodgrains allocation is also issued in advance and States/UTs have the flexibility to lift the quarterly allocation in one go. The FCI is held responsible for ensuring continuous availability of adequate food grains in its Depots and in Principal Distribution Centres in the case of North East Region. States / UTs are permitted to lift the foodgrains one month in advance. Every school / cooking agency is to maintain a buffer stock of foodgrains of one month requirement.

9. Task of cooking

The Guidelines provide that, as far as possible, the responsibility of cooking/supply of cooked midday meal should be assigned to local women's/mothers' Self-Help Group or local Youth Club affiliated to the Nehru Yuvak Kendras or a voluntary organization or by personnel engaged directly by the VEC/SMDC/PTA/Gram Panchayat/Municipality. Involvement of Self Help Groups under the scheme is increasing gradually. In urban areas, where there is shortage of space for construction of the kitchen shed, use of centralized kitchen for a cluster of schools may be explored. Cooking may be undertaken in a centralized kitchen and cooked hot meal may then be transported under hygienic conditions through a reliable transport system to various schools. There may be one or more such nodal kitchen(s) in an urban area, depending on the number of children and capacity of the service providers.

10. Quality of Mid Day Meal

Quality of MDM largely depends on the quality of food grains. FCI is held responsible for issue of food grains of best available quality, which will in any case be at least of Fair Average Quality (FAQ). FCI appoints a Nodal Officer for each State to take care of various problems in supply of food grains under the MDM Programme. The District Collector / CEO of Zila Panchayat ensures that food grains of at least FAQ are lifted after joint inspection by a team consisting of FCI and the nominee of the Collector and/or Chief Executive Officer, District Panchayat, and confirmation by them that the grain conforms to at least FAQ norms. Quality, safety and hygiene specifications have been prescribed in the Guidelines. It is also provided that 2-3 adults members, of them at least one being teacher, must taste the food before it is served to the children. Although the guidelines provide for inspection of 25% schools every quarter by the supervisory officer but due to shortage of officers/staff and resources, intense and frequent inspection of the programme is not happening in the expected manner. The guidelines also provide for active community participation for the supervision and monitoring of the programme. For a programme of this magnitude, the key to success lies in the active and meaningful involvement of the community.

11. Coverage under Mid Day Meal Scheme

At present the Mid Day Meal Scheme covers children studying in classes I-VIII in all Government schools, Government aided schools, Special Training Centres and Madrasa and Maqtabas supported under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan.

PAB approved numbers for the States / UTs are only for the purpose of estimating Central Assistance under MDM Scheme. MDM Guidelines envisage that every student attending the school is eligible to be covered under the scheme. 10.38 crore children in 11.74 lakh schools benefited under MDMS during 2014-15. PAB has approved 10.81 crore children in 11.76 lakh schools to be covered during 2014-15 across the country.

12. Role of Teachers

The Mid Day Meal Guidelines envisage that teachers should not be assigned responsibilities that will impede or interfere with teaching learning. Teachers should, however, be involved in ensuring that (a) good quality, wholesome food is served to children, and (b) the actual serving and eating is undertaken in a spirit of togetherness, under hygienic conditions, and in an orderly manner so that the entire process is completed in 30-40 minutes. It should however, be ensured that the food prepared is tasted by 2-3 adults including at least one teacher before it is served to children. Thus, the teacher is to supervise that the mid day meal is served in an orderly manner within specified time (recess period) and to taste the meal on rotational basis before it is served. Except the above supervisory responsibility, he / she has no other role in the preparation of the mid day meal. The teaching learning activities are not affected because the meals are served during the recess period.

13. Monitoring Mechanisms

The Department of School Education and Literacy, Ministry of Human Resource Development has prescribed a comprehensive and elaborate mechanism for monitoring and supervision of the Mid Day Meal Scheme. The monitoring mechanism includes the following:

- i) **Arrangements for local level monitoring:** Representatives of Gram Panchayats/ Gram Sabhas, members of VECs, PTAs, SMCs as well as Mothers' Committees are required to monitor the (i) regularity and wholesomeness of the mid day meal served to children, (ii) cleanliness in cooking and serving of the mid day meal, (iii) timeliness in procurement of good quality ingredients, fuel, etc, (iv) implementation of varied menu, (v) social and gender equity on a daily basis.
- ii) **Display of Information:** In order to ensure transparency and accountability, all schools and centres where the programme is being implemented are required to display the following information at a visible place in the campus for the notice of the general public:
 - a) Quantity of food grains received, date of receipt.
 - b) Quantity of food grains utilized
 - c) Other ingredients purchased, utilized
 - d) Number of children given mid day meal.
 - e) Daily Menu
 - f) Roster of Community Members for supervision and monitoring.
- iii) **Block level Committee:** A broad based Steering-cum-Monitoring Committee also monitors the implementation of the Mid Day Meal Scheme at the block levels.
- iv) **Inspections by State Government Officers:** Officers of the State Government/ UTs belonging to the Departments of Revenue, Rural Development, Education and other related sectors, such as Women and Child Development, Food, Health etc. are also required to inspect schools and centres where the programme is being implemented. It has been recommended that 25% of elementary schools/ Special Training Centres are visited every quarter.
- v) **District Level Committee:** Besides a Steering-cum-Monitoring Committee for monitoring the MDM scheme at district level, the States/UTs have been directed to constitute a District Level Committee under the chairmanship of senior most MP of the Lok Sabha of the district with the following composition :
 - a) All Members of Parliament, Members of the State Legislature and members of the Zilla Parishad
 - b) The District Magistrate/Collector/Deputy Commissioner/Chief Executive Officer of the Zilla Parishad/Urban local body will be the Member-Secy.
 - c) District Officer in-charge of MDM
 - d) District Officers in-charge of Drinking Water Mission / Total Sanitation Programme / ICDS Programme/Panchayati Raj / Labour / Handicapped Welfare/Social Welfare / Minority Welfare etc.
 - e) Two NGO's working on elementary education for MDM in the area,

This committee monitors the implementation of SSA, RMSA, Saakshar Bharat programme as well as MDM programmes in the district. The committee shall meet in each quarter to review the Schemes.
- vi) **Periodic Returns:** The State Government/ UT is also required to submit periodic returns to the Department of School Education and Literacy, GOI to provide

information on (i) coverage of children and institutions, (ii) number of school days (iii) Progress in utilization of central assistance (iv) availability of necessary infrastructure in schools, (v) any untoward incident etc.,

- vii) **Monitoring by Institutions of Social Science Research:** Thirty Eight Institutions of Social Science Research, identified for monitoring the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, are also entrusted with the task of monitoring the Mid Day Meal Scheme.
- viii) **Grievance Redressal:** States and Union Territories are required to develop a dedicated mechanism for public grievance redressal, which should be widely publicized and made easily accessible.
- ix) **State level:** States and UT Administrations are also required to set up a Steering-cum-Monitoring Committee at the State level to oversee the implementation of the Scheme. States / UTs have deployed independent institutions for the evaluation of the Scheme.
- x) **National level:** At Centre level Government of India monitors the Scheme through an Empowered Committee, National Level Steering-cum-Monitoring Committee (NSMC), Programme Approval Board (PAB) under the Chairpersonship of Secretary(SE&L). Regional and State level review meetings are also held to monitor and iron out State / UT specific issues relating to implementation of the programme. The General Council and Executive Council of the National Mission for Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan also review Mid Day Meal Scheme.
- xi) The Review Missions consisting of representatives of Ministry of HRD, representative of State Government, UNICEF and office of Supreme Court Commissioner visit 8 to 10 schools in 2 districts each in 8 low performing States every year to assess the actual implementation of the Scheme at the ground level as per the defined Terms of Reference (ToR). The report prepared by the Mission is shared with these States for taking corrective action on the deficiencies reported in the implementation of the scheme and sending action taken note on the report. The Mission visited Uttarakhand during 12-20th May, 2014 and submitted report to the State Government and to this Ministry also. The findings of the Mission have been shared with the State with request to take the remedial measures and submit the action taken note. The Joint Review Mission also visited four States viz. Assam, Maharashtra, Telangana and West Bengal during 23-31st March, 2015 and reports have been shared with the States. The 8th JRM has visited Chhattisgarh, Haryana, Jammu & Kashmir, Karnataka and Kerala from 30th November, 2015 to 5th December, 2015.

Many studies have shown that MDMS has helped in preventing classroom hunger; promoting school participation and fostering social equality and enhancing gender equity thereby facilitating overall healthy growth of children. The Office of the Supreme Court Commissioners undertakes extensive review of various welfare schemes through field visits. They have observed that the MDM is widely acknowledged as one of the more successful entitlement schemes of Government of India and has resulted in an increase in enrollment and retention of children in elementary classes.

14. Grievance Redressal Mechanism under Mid Day Meal Scheme

States and Union Territories are required to develop a dedicated mechanism for public grievance redressal, which should be widely publicized and made easily accessible. In June, 2010, guiding principles for setting up Grievance Redressal Mechanisms (GRMs) for registering complaints through toll free number/dedicated telephone number or through letters were issued to all States/UTs. States/UTs have established GRMs and they are

redressing grievances on these guiding principles. The details of the grievance redressal cells for all the states are available on the MHRD web site: www.mdm.nic.in.

15. Exclusive website for MDM Scheme

All information on the scheme including the funds released, food grains sanctioned, Kitchen cum stores sanctioned, cook-cum-helpers engaged as well as the reports of the MIs; JRMS and social audit are made available on the website of MHRD www.mdm.nic.in.

16. Evaluation studies conducted by Independent agencies

Independent evaluation studies on the Mid-Day Meal Scheme conducted by different agencies in various parts of the country have affirmed the positive educational, nutritional and social impact of the scheme. Some of the findings of these studies are listed below:

- (a) “Cooked Mid-Day meal programme in West Bengal - A study of Birbhum district” by Professor Amartya Sen’s Pratichi Research Team (2005) shows that Mid Day Meal has made positive intervention in universalisation of primary education by increasing enrollment and attendance. The increase has been more marked with respect to girls and children belonging to SC/ST categories. The study also points out that Mid Day Meal scheme has contributed to reduction in teacher absenteeism and narrowing of social distances.
- (b) “Situation Analysis of Mid-Day Meal Programme in Rajasthan” by University of Rajasthan and UNICEF (2005) states that the introduction of menu based mid day meal has positively impacted enrollment and attendance of children. It has contributed to social equity, as children sit together and share a common meal irrespective of caste and class. It has further contributed to gender equity in that it has provided employment to women.
- (c) “Report on Akshara Dasoha scheme of Karnataka” by Dr. Rama Naik University of Dharwad (2005) has reported sharp rise in enrollment, particularly in rural areas. The programme has had an impact on teacher absenteeism: 64% schools stated that teacher absenteeism has been reduced.
- (d) National Council of Educational Research & Training’s Report (2005) on Learning Achievement of Students at the End of Class-V has shown that children covered under mid day meal have higher achievement level than those who were not covered under it.
- (e) “An Empirical Study of the Mid Day Meal Programme in Khudra district of Orissa” by Anima Rani Si and Naresh Kumar Sharma, Economic and Political Weekly, June (2008) has reported that MDM had positive impact on enrolment, attendance and performance of the students. Socialization was better and new employment opportunities were generated for underprivileged sections.
- (f) “Social audit on Mid Day Meal Scheme in Andhra Pradesh” by Dipa Sinha published in Economic & Political Weekly, November(2008) has reported that the scheme had positive effects on increasing enrolment, averting class room hunger and reducing the social discrimination. Regularity in serving the cooked mid day meal in the schools has also been observed. MDM had generated livelihood opportunities for poor women in rural areas.
- (g) “Mid Day Meal Scheme in Madhya Pradesh – A study - 2007” by National Institute of Public Cooperation & Child Development, Indore has reported that MDM has shown marked improvement in enrollment pattern of children in primary school. Mid Day Meal Scheme undoubtedly resulted in increased school attendance and retention of children in school for a longer period. The Scheme has played a crucial role in reducing drop out, especially among girls. Parents viewed that the mid day meal had reduced the burden of providing one time meal to their children and considered it as a great support to their families. Teachers opined that mid day meal aided in active

learning of children, which indirectly improved their academic performance. The Scheme has played a significant role in bringing social equity.

(h) Planning Commission.

- The Cooked Mid Day Meal Program has been successful in addressing classroom hunger in sample schools.
- Cooked Mid Day Meal is reported to have created a platform for children of all social and economic backgrounds to take meals together, thereby facilitating achieving the objective of social equity.
- It has also been observed that the programme has resulted in the diversion of the attention of teachers and students on activities related to it, rather than towards teaching and learning activities, which results in loss of studies.
- In general, visible shortage of basic infrastructural facilities and manpower (that are crucial for the success of the Cooked Mid Day Meal programme) were noted.
- Most of the states, it was observed, did not follow the guidelines of Government of India to deliver foodgrains at the school point by PDS dealer, thereby resulting in the leakage of foodgrain. There have been instances where due to long supply chain, foodgrain supplied got adulterated and pilfered.
- While Cooked Mid-Day Meal Scheme seems to have contributed to an increase in the attendance in schools across the country, it does not seem to have any significant impact on fresh enrolments in sample schools.

(i) Office of Supreme Court Commissioner

The Office of Supreme Court Commissioners for MDMS reviewed social security schemes in 9 States and have observed that the mid day meal scheme is the most widely accepted scheme in the country and has positive impact on enhancement of educational indicators. They observed,

“The survey confirmed the belief that the mid day meal scheme is one of the better run schemes in most parts of the country and is also very popular among parents and children.”

(j) Findings of the report of the Society for Social Audit, Accountability and Transparency in Andhra Pradesh in March, 2013.

The findings related to food grains, cook-cum-helpers, cooking cost and meals served and availability of infrastructure are as under:

A. Food grain (Rice) related issues:

- a) School gets inadequate quantity of rice- 3-4 Kgs less than required
- b) Poor quality rice is served in the meals- Mostly broken rice with stones & worms
- c) Many children complained of stomach ache because of this rice.
- d) There is a mismatch between the closing balance and opening balance in rice stock.
- e) Manipulations done in the stock registers-More Rice spent is shown as compared to the no. of Meals consumed. In the stock register it is entered less than the availability of rice as opening balance.
- f) Left over rice bags are missing from the school stockroom.
- g) At the school level HMs are responsible for rice lifting and distribution

B. Honorarium to Cook Cum Helpers

- a) Singareni Mandal - In 20 schools there are 41 CCHs working as per records. Rs. 41,000 paid as honorarium as per record. Out of which only 35 CCHs are

actually working in the school and 6 CCHs in Khammam and 4 in Chittoor are benami.

- b) Sub-contracting of CCH was found in Chittoor Mandal. So CCH working in the school received only half the amount from the person who contracted.
- c) Delay in payment to CCH.
- d) In Chittoor CCHs complained that they have not received cooking cost amount for 9-10th std. since January 2013 (which is 100% state fund). Therefore they are adjusting from the PS & UPS budget allotment of MDM.

C. Cooking cost & consumption of meals.

- a) Excess meals were recorded more than food consumed.
- b) In Tirupati rural, Chittoor district-ISKCON is serving Meals
 - o Poor quality rice since 4-5 months.
 - o Number of children availing MDM is less than the enrolment. But the payment to NGO is being done on the basis of enrolment.
 - o Food quantity sent to the schools in cans is 50% lesser than the requirement
 - o NGO is not taking every day attendance from the HMs before cooking.
- c) CCHs are finding it difficult to provide eggs twice a week. So they are providing eggs once a week and banana in place of eggs alternatively.

D. Facilities at the school

- a) In many schools there is no drinking water facility.
- b) In 14 schools in Singareni Mandal and 2 in Chittoor mandala non- functional toilet rooms. Toilet rooms are very unhygienic.

E. Suggestions/Recommendations by SSAAT

- a) Constituting a Social Audit team- A mandal team comprises of one Resource person/Gram Panchayat, two SMC members (parents) /school and 2 trained youths/ Gram Panchayat.
- b) Involving SMCs- Community involvement in the form of Social Auditor School Management Committee member (SASMC member-especially parents) will be an unique initiative- SASMC member-trained youth is division of labour-with each partner putting in one's best strength area-towards a mutual goal
- c) Training- Training of SMCs and local youths should be a continuous process.
- d) Public Hearing- Social audit adopts investigative approach at the outer level, the actual beauty of the SA lies in the beneficiaries/community participating in the Public Hearing. Community must be provided a platform to be heard by the Officials. Based on the fact finding report, evidences and statements given by the beneficiaries, action can be initiated on the spot by the presiding Officer.
- e) Availability of all records to auditors and Social Audit process should be independent/

(k) PAISA district surveys on Mid Day Meal Scheme, June, 2012

The Planning, Allocation & Expenditure Institutions Studies in Accountability (PAISA) conducted survey in 2 districts of Uttar Pradesh (Jaunpur and Hardoi) and Bihar (Purnia and Nalanda) each and submitted report to the Central Government. The report has been shared with the State Government for taking corrective measures. The major findings of the report are as under:

- 60% of the enrolled children receive MDM per day.
- Significant gap in Bihar between number of working days on which meals should be served and the number of days on which meals were actually served.

- The stock of foodgrains available in school was far lower than mandated by MDM norms. The gap was larger in Bihar than in Uttar Pradesh.
- Schools in Uttar Pradesh utilized far fewer foodgrains than specified by the norms.
- Schools received the bulk of their annual receipts by December.
- MDM is not served regularly in schools. Schools in Bihar reported more than a 40 days gap between the number of working days and the number of days on which the MDM was served.
- Annual foodgrains stocks in schools were far lower than needed to serve MDM in accordance with the norms.

17. Achievements during the period 2007-08 to 2015-16

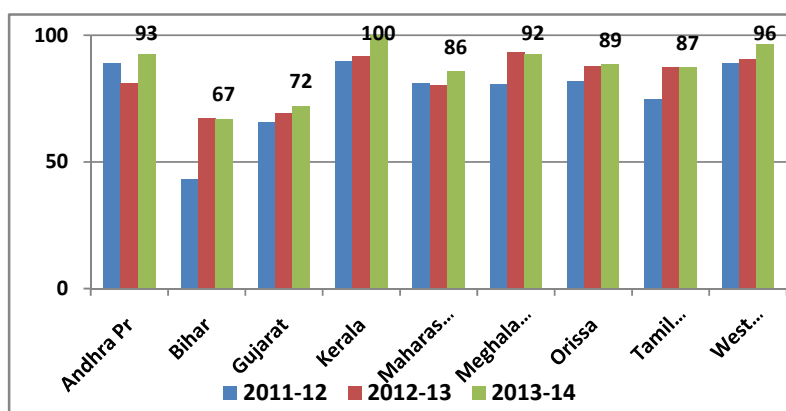
	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
Average number of Children covered (in Cr.)	9.54	11.19	11.04	10.46	10.54	10.68.	10.79	10.38	10.56 #
Foodgrains allocated (in lakh MTs)	24.79	29.30	29.45	29.40	29.20	29.26	29.77	29.33	27.74
Budget allocation (in Cr.)	7324	8000	8000	9440	10380	11937	13215	13215	9236.40
Total Release (in Cr.)	5835	6540	6938	9128	9902	10868	10927	10527	8749.91\$
Total Exp. (in Cr.)	3483.60	4999.55	5621.67	7786.56	9235.82	10196.98	10873.75	8209.16	--
% Exp. against release	60	76	81	85	93	94	99.50	78	94.7

Expected coverage during 2015-16

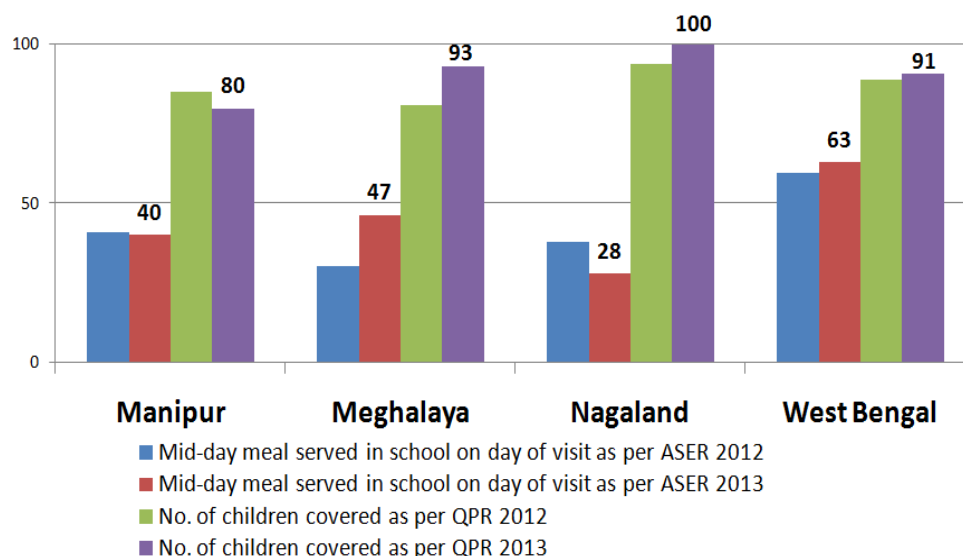
\$ Releases as on date

18. Performance of the Scheme over the years in major States

The States that have shown an improvement in coverage are as under:



The ASER data also broadly confirms the improvement in these States. However, in the following States while the QPR reports show good coverage, the ASER data shows that the % of schools in which MDM was being served on the day of the visit is quite low.



19. No. of children covered by NGOs

The State-wise number of children covered by NGOs is as under:

S. No.	State	Districts	No. of NGO working	No. of Children covered
1	Andhra Pradesh	9	3	391975
2	Assam	2	1	51894
3	Bihar	12	7	799223
4	Chhattisgarh	5	6	124022
5	Gujarat	6	3	464813
6	Harayana	4	1	340188
7	Jharkhand	2	1	56487
8	Karnataka	19	95	964482
9	Madhya Pradesh	14	44	355568
10	Maharashtra	4	2	247592
11	Odisha	6	3	179772
12	Punjab	6	2	126655
13	Rajasthan	4	4	211855
14	Uttar Pradesh	33	384	1109397
15	West Bengal	5	111	71047
16	Delhi	9	41	1559497
	Total	140	695	7054467

Source: AWP&B, 2014-15

20. Improvements in the Scheme

- a) In the last few years the Mid Day Meal programme witnessed several improvements in the scheme, as indicated below:
 - i) The cooking cost has been revised by 7.5% w.e.f. 1.7.2014
 1. The total outlay for the 12th Five year Plan is Rs. 90155.00 crore. The outlay for the 11th Plan was Rs. 48,000 crore and Rs. 38,690 crore expended.
 2. An amount of Rs.9236.40 crore has been allocated under Budget Estimate 2015-16 of this Department for implementation of MDM Scheme.
 3. Allocation of food grains to States/UTs under MDM Scheme for whole year of 2015-16 has been made.

b) New initiatives

The web enabled MIS portal for MDM has been launched and States / UTs have fed annual data for about 11.35 lakh schools and monthly data 10.25 lakh schools on an average during 2014-15. The portal has scope to integrate with IVRS to monitor the Mid Day Meal Scheme on real time basis through community participation.

- ii) Social Audit was conducted on pilot basis in two districts viz. Chittoor and Khammam of Andhra Pradesh during 2012-13. The findings have been very useful for enhancing the effectiveness of the Scheme. It has been decided to extend social audit study in other 9 States during the current year.
- iii) Preparation of hygienic and wholesome meal depends on the knowledge and skills of Cook-cum-Helpers. The Ministry of Tourism is imparting training to the Cook-cum-Helpers under MDM through the Institutes of Hotel Management (IHMs) and the Food Craft Institutes (FCIs).
- iv) The Mid Day Meal Scheme requires convergence with other schemes for effective implementation. The convergence with Department of Drinking Water & Sanitation, Rural Development, Health & Family Welfare, MPLAD Scheme, etc. is very helpful in effective implementation of the scheme and requires regular coordination with these Ministries/Departments. The Hon'ble Minister of HRD has written to the Members of Parliament for reviewing the Scheme on quarterly basis in their district and also contributes funds from MPLAD scheme for construction of dining halls in the schools.

c) Issue of revised guidelines to ensure quality, safety and hygiene under MDMS

The Central Government issued detailed guidelines to ensure quality, safety and hygiene under Mid Day Meal Scheme vide letter dated 22nd July, 2013. The States / UTs have been requested to take immediate action on following points:

- a) Setting up of an effective Management Structure for MDM at various levels.
- b) Mandatory tasting of the meal by at least one teacher before it is served to the children
- c) Safe storage and supply of ingredients to schools
- d) Capacity building of stakeholders
- e) Procurement of pulses and ingredients of branded and Ag-mark quality and supply to schools on the lines of Maharashtra.
- f) Awareness about entitlements under Mid Day Meal Scheme.
- g) Convening of District Level Committee meeting under the Chairmanship of senior most Member of Parliament of Lok Sabha from the district.
- h) Convening of regular review meeting at District level under the chairpersonship of DC/ Deputy Commissioner/Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Zila Parishad.
- i) Social Audit of the Scheme on the pattern of Andhra Pradesh.
- j) Testing of food samples by CSIR/NABL accredited lab.
- k) Prompt action on the reports of the Monitoring Institutes, Joint Review Mission etc.
- l) Contingency Medical Plans.
- m) Guidelines on safety, hygiene in school based kitchens issued on 13th February, 2015.

21. Best Practices in MDMS

Name of State	Details
Karnataka	All schools have gas based cooking.
Bihar, Jharkhand	Bal Sansad (Child Cabinet) is actively involved in the orderly distribution of mid-day meal.
Uttarakhand	Mothers are appointed as Bhojan Mata and Sahayika in primary schools.
Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, West Bengal, Punjab and NER States	Growing kitchen gardens in the school premises and serving the vegetables in the MDM.
Tripura	Construction of dining halls for eating MDM in the schools.
West Bengal	Fish Pond in school premises.
Jharkhand	School children's mothers association called Saraswati Vahini. Two mothers of these associations are nominated as Sanyojika, who are involved actively in cooking and effective delivery of the food to the children.
Gujarat	Initiated the concept of public participation through "Tithi Bhojan" . The villagers sponsor the sweets and food for children on various occasions and provide utensils for MDM Scheme.
Andhra Pradesh	Introduced the Green Channel Scheme under which the Finance Department issues Budget Release Order (BRO) to the administrative department which in gives periodical distribution statement for the entire year to the implementing agencies so that the scheme is implemented without any hindrance throughout the year.
Odisha	Emergency Medical Plan and organization of MDM Mela,
Chhattisgarh	100% Self-Help Group in rural areas
