



**1<sup>st</sup> HALF YEARLY MONITORING REPORT OF**  
**Institute for Social and Economic Change,**  
**Bangalore**  
**On**  
**Mid Day Meal Scheme for the State of**  
**KARNATAKA**

**Period : 1st October 2010 to 31st March 2011**

**Districts Covered**

- 1. Bangalore (Rural)**
- 2. Chickmagalur**
- 3. Chitradurga**
- 4. Kodagu (Coorg)**
- 5. Tumkur**

# 1<sup>st</sup> Half Yearly Monitoring Report of Institute for Social and Economic Change, Bangalore on SSA and MDMS for the State of Karnataka for the period of 1<sup>st</sup> October 2010 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2011

## 1. General Information

Sl. No.	Information	Details																												
1.	Name of the monitoring institute	Institute for Social and Economic “Change, Bangalore																												
2.	Period of the report	1 <sup>st</sup> October 2010 to 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2011																												
3.	Fund Released for the period	Rs.7.65 lakhs [total amount for districts]																												
4.	No. of Districts allotted	Five																												
5.	Districts’ name	1) Bangalore Rural 2) Chickmagaluru 3) Chitradurga 4) Kodagu 5) Tumkur																												
6.	Date of visit to the Districts / Schools (Information is to be given district wise i.e. District 1, District 2, District 3 etc)	<b>1) Bangalore Rural</b> <b>2) Chickmagaluru</b> <b>3) Chitradurga</b> <b>4) Kodagu</b> <b>5) Tumkur</b>																												
7.	Total number of elementary schools (primary and upper primary to be counted separately) in the Districts Covered by MI (Information is to be given district wise I.e. District 1, District 2, District 3 etc.)	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>LPS</th> <th>UPS</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Bangalore Rural</td> <td>697</td> <td>438</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Chickmagaluru</td> <td>818</td> <td>694</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Chitradurga</td> <td>826</td> <td>875</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Kodagu</td> <td>145</td> <td>261</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tumkur</td> <td>2232</td> <td>1327</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		LPS	UPS	Bangalore Rural	697	438	Chickmagaluru	818	694	Chitradurga	826	875	Kodagu	145	261	Tumkur	2232	1327										
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	LPS	UPS	Others*																											
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Total	52	140	8																											
9	What percentage of schools covered in all the Districts allotted	40 schools constitute the sample on the basis of the criteria for each district.																												

10.	Type of schools visited	
A	Schools in Rural Area	
a)	Primary School	12
b)	Upper Primary School	20
c)	Upper Primary Schools with Primary Classes	-
B	<b>Schools in Urban Areas</b>	
d)	Primary School	1
e)	Upper Primary School	3
f)	Upper Primary Schools with Primary Classes	-
C	<b>NCLP Schools</b>	--
D	<b>School sanctioned with Kitchen cum Stores</b>	-
E	<b>Schools having Cook cum helpers engaged as per norm</b>	All
11.	Number of schools visited by Nodal Officer of the Monitoring Institute	45
12.	Whether the draft report has been shared with the Director of the nodal department implementing MDMS : YES / NO	Yes
13.	After submission of the draft report to the Director of the nodal department implementing MDMS whether the MI has received any Observations from the Directorate : YES / NO	Yes

## ***2. Executive Summary of all the District Reports***

### **1. Regularity in Supply of Hot Cooked Meal**

		<b>Bangalore Rural</b>	<b>Chickmagaluru</b>	<b>Chitradurga</b>	<b>Kodagu</b>	<b>Tumkur</b>
a)	<b>Regularity in Serving MDM</b>					
	i) Percentage of Schools serving hot cooked meal regularly.	100	100	100	100	100
	<b>Overall Observation:</b> Generally all schools serve hot cooked meal regularly.					
	ii) If hot cooked meal is not served regularly, reasons thereof.	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	<b>Overall Observation:</b> None					
	iii) Is there any prescribed norm for consideration for irregularity in serving MDM	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	<b>Overall Observation:</b> None					
	iv) Quality and quantity of meal in the opinion of teachers, students or SMC members and any problems to children in serving MDM.	<b>Quality:</b> Good - 92% Satisfactory 8% <b>Quantity:</b> Sufficient 100% More/Liberal -	97.5% 2.5% 97.5% 2.5% ----- Good – 15% Fair – - Satisfactory-85%	100% - 100% - ----- Good – 10% Fair – 20% Satisfactory-70%	100% - 100% - ----- Good – 20% Fair – - Satisfactory-80%	90% 10% 95% 5% ----- Good – 47.5% Fair – 15% Satisfactory-37.5%
	<b>Overall Opinion from SDMC/ Parents/ local body members</b>					
	<b>Overall Observation:</b> The responses indicated above confirm that students considered quantity and quality of food served is not only good but also sufficient for most of them in all the schools					
b)	<b>Trends</b>					
	i) Number of children enrolled in schools	4040	5176	5863	6143	6386
	<b>Overall Observation</b>					
	ii) Number of children availed MDM as per MDM register	3943	5040	5230	5882	6122

	<b>Overall Observation:</b> Most of the children belong to low-income/daily wage earning families; the number of children availing MDM is consistently high.				
iii) Number of children availed MDM on the day of visit	3768	4165	5077	4833	5353
	<b>Overall Observation:</b> Variation between number enrolled and the number of children availing MDM is due to children staying away from schools due to local festivals/family celebrations.				
iv) Number of children availed MDM on the previous day of visit	3787	4136	4920	5081	5321
	<b>Overall Observation:</b> The fluctuating trend in the difference between (iii) and (iv) is explained by children being absent due to local festivals				

## 2. Regularity in Supply of Food Grain

		Bangalore Rural	Chickmagaluru	Chitradurga	Kodagu	Tumkur
i)	Is school/implementing agency receiving food grain regularly? If there is delay in delivering food grains, what is the extent of delay and reasons for the same?	<b>Regularity</b> Yes: 95% No : 5%	<b>Regularity</b> Yes: 100% No : 0%	<b>Regularity</b> Yes: 97.5% No : 2.5%	<b>Regularity</b> Yes: 100% No : 0%	<b>Regularity</b> Yes: 92.5% No : 2.5%
	<b>Overall Observation:</b> There are rare cases of delay by a day or two due to unexpected reasons/fulfillment of official procedures.					
ii)	Is the quality of food grain FAQ?	<b>Good Quality</b> Yes: 92.5% No : 7.5%	<b>Good Quality</b> Yes: 100% No : 0%	<b>Good Quality</b> Yes: 100% No : 0%	<b>Good Quality</b> Yes: 100% No : 0%	<b>Good Quality</b> Yes: 95% No : 5%
	<b>Overall Observation:</b> Response from head masters confirming good quality food grains as per the norm. FCI is instructed by the department to maintain Fair Average Quality (FAQ) while supplying food grains to schools.					
iii)	Is buffer stock of one-month's requirement maintained?	<b>One month stock</b> Yes: 57.5% No : 42.5%	<b>One month stock</b> Yes: 95% No : 5%	<b>One month stock</b> Yes: 70% No : 30%	<b>One month stock</b> Yes: 85% No : 15%	<b>One month stock</b> Yes: 62.5% No : 37.5%
	<b>Overall Observation:</b> Chickmagalur & Kodagu districts reveal most satisfactory status in terms of maintaining one month food grain stock. To a large extent, even Chitradurga district reveals fairly satisfactory position followed by Tumkur district. It is the Bangalore rural district, where more than 40.0 % of the sample schools report about not maintaining the buffer stock.					
iv)	Is the food grains delivered at the school?	Yes: 95% No : 5%	Yes: 100% No : 0%	Yes: 100% No : 0%	Yes: 100% No : 0%	Yes: 100% No : 0%
	<b>Overall Observation:</b> Yes. In almost all cases.					

### 3. Payment of Cost of Food Grain to FCI

		Bangalore Rural	Chickmagaluru	Chitradurga	Kodagu	Tumkur
a)	<b>Enabling Conditions</b>					
	i) Is payment of cost of food grain to FCI made monthly? Within the stipulated time?	Payment of cost of food grain to FCI is made on a monthly basis within a stipulated time. This is done by the Finance Department, Government of Karnataka				
	<b>Overall Observation : As per norm</b>					
	ii) Has payment of cost of food grain to FCI made for the previous month	Yes				
	<b>Overall Observation</b>					
	iii) Reasons for irregular payment, if any	NA				

### 4. Regularity in Delivering Cooking Cost at the School Level

		Bangalore Rural	Chickmagaluru	Chitradurga	Kodagu	Tumkur
i)	Number of schools/ implementing agency receiving cooking cost in advance regularly?	<b>Regular</b> Yes: 70% No : 30%	<b>Regular</b> Yes: 90% No : 10%	<b>Regular</b> Yes: 90% No : 10%	<b>Regular</b> Yes: 100% No : 0%	<b>Regular</b> Yes: 60% No : 40%
	<b>Overall Observation:</b> Kodagu, Chickmagalur & Chitradurga districts reveal most satisfactory performance. Tumkur & Bangalore districts reveal delay in the receipt of the advance.					
ii)	If there is delay in delivering cooking cost what is the extent of delay and reasons for it?	Delay ranges from few weeks or a month due to the non-fulfillment of official procedures like any other grants (school grants as stated by head masters)				
	<b>Overall Observation</b> Delay is observed to considerable extent in Tumkur & Bangalore rural districts due to non-compliance of official procedures.					
iii)	In case of delay, how school/implementing agency manages to ensure that there is no disruption in the feeding programme?	Head master manages either from contingency account or from personal account.				
	<b>Overall Observation:</b> School Head teacher manages.					
iv)	Is cooking cost paid by Cash or through banking channel?	Cheque or e-transfer- 100%	Cheque - 30% e-transfer- 70%	Cheque or e-transfer- 100%	Cheque or e-transfer- 100%	Cheque or e-transfer- 100%
	<b>Overall Observation:</b> no cash transaction. All payments made through cheque/e-transfer					

## 5. Social Equity

		Bangalore Rural	Chickmagaluru	Chitradurga	Kodagu	Tumkur
a)	<b>In the Class Room</b>					
	i) Sitting arrangement for the children during serving of MDM	In rows - 77.5% In groups-17.5% Boys and girls separately- 5%	In rows - 95% In groups-5% Boys and girls separately- 0%	In rows - 85% In groups-10% Boys and girls separately- 5%	In rows - 97.5% In groups-2.5% Boys and girls separately- 0%	In rows - 77.5% In groups-15% Boys and girls separately- 7.5%
	<b>Overall Observation:</b> Variation in the pattern of seating is mostly due to functional convenience/availability of space. The “separately” category prevails in select school for higher primary classes (6th & 7 <sup>th</sup> Standards). <b>This however does not amount to any kind of discrimination</b>					
	ii) Did You observe any gender or caste or community discrimination in cooking or serving or seating arrangements?	Discrimination does not prevail in any schools.				
	<b>Overall Observation:</b> No discrimination of any kind noticed					

## 6. Menu

		Bangalore Rural	Chickmagaluru	Chitradurga	Kodagu	Tumkur
i)	Number of schools where menu is displayed on the wall and noticeable	Menu displayed Yes: 62.5% No : 37.5%	Menu displayed Yes: 50% No : 50%	Menu displayed Yes: 70% No : 30%	Menu displayed Yes: 80% No : 20%	Menu displayed Yes: 100% No : 0%
	<b>Overall Observation</b>					
ii)	Who decides the menu	In all schools, head teacher prepares menu. There are instances of consulting teachers/SDMC members.				
	<b>Overall Observation</b>					
iii)	Does daily menu includes rice/wheat, pulses (dal) and vegetable	All schools reveal the daily menu of rice/ dhal/ vegetables.				
	<b>Overall Observation:</b> Although, dhal & vegetables form part of the daily menu as displayed in the menu chart, however, the use of dhal and vegetables were found to be in restricted quantity during the time of visit by MI team to schools. Escalation in prices of dhal & vegetables is offered as the reason for restricted supply of these items.					
iv)	Number of schools where variety of foods is served daily	Yes: 52.5% No : 47.5%	Yes: 72.5% No : 27.5%	Yes: 97.5% No : 2.5%	Yes: 90% No : 10%	Yes: 82.5% No : 17.5%
	<b>Overall Observation:</b> In general, schools in Chitradurga & Kodagu districts reveal variety in the serving of food. Where as in the other districts, the variety was seen to a little extent only. .					
v)	Number of schools where same food is served daily	There are no schools where the same food is served daily. There is some variety maintained in every school.				
	<b>Overall Observation:</b>					

## 7. Community Mobilization

		Bangalore Rural			Chickmagalur			Chitradurga			Kodagu			Tumkur							
i)	Familiarity level of the SMC members with their roles and responsibilities and eligibility and entitlement of children as notified by the State Government (in %)	I	II	III	I	II	III	I	II	III	I	II	III	I	II	III					
		1	2.5	0	7.5	1	2.5	2.5	20	1	2.5	7.5	10	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
		2	10	30	40	2	10	27.5	25	2	17.5	47.5	62.5	2	15	5	32.5	2	10	15	35
		3	57.5	42.5	30	3	65	48.5	35	3	72.5	35	25	3	70	85	60	3	80	80	16
		4	15	10	5	4	20	19	20	4	7.5	10	2.5	4	7.5	7.5	7.5	4	10	5	5
		5	22.5	22.5	22.5	5	2.5	2.5	-	5	-	-	-	5	7.5	2.5	-	5	-	-	-
	<b>Overall Observation (Details)</b> 1 – Poor; 2 – Satisfactory; 3 – Good; 4 – Very Good; 5 - Excellent I - Awareness; II- Role and Responsibility; III - Educational Rights	In general, the SMC members' awareness with regard to the eligibility, roles & responsibilities is 'good' & 'satisfactory'.																			
ii)	Number of schools where there is a roaster of parents for daily monitoring and supervision of MDMS	As per the norm, the MDM is being monitored and supervised by the parents on most of the days. The data collected from sample schools indicate that there is no specific formal roaster of parents for daily monitoring. However, there are "Mother Committees" with an understanding of supervising MDM on all working days depending on their convenience.																			
	<b>Overall Observation</b>																				
iii)	Number of members received training regarding MDMS and its monitoring	The cooks and the SDMC members are given training at the cluster level with regard to various aspects of MDM schemes.																			
	<b>Overall Observation</b>																				
iv)	Frequency of SMCs meetings held and issues related to MDMS discussed	Frequently-12.5% Monthly -87.5%			Frequently-2.5% Monthly -87.5% Quarterly-10%			Frequently-7.5% Monthly -85% Quarterly-7.5%			Frequently-7.5% Monthly -90% Quarterly – 2.5%			Frequently-0% Monthly -100%							
	<b>Overall Observation</b>																				
v)	Frequency monitoring and cooking and serving MDMS by SMC members	There is no specific schedule, but it is being done occasionally by the active members.																			
	<b>Overall Observation:</b>	SDMC members visit school during school hours and monitored. But, there is no definite schedule.																			
vi)	Contribution made by the community for MDMS	Contribution is in the form of donating Plates, tumblers, water filters, racks/shelves and other material for MDM.																			
	<b>Overall Observation :</b>	community support is seen in the form of donations of various materials (including vegetables in some).																			
vii)	Extent of participation by SMC/PTA/MTA/PRI/Urban local bodies				More than 95% of parents, SDMC members and PRI/Urban local body members have confirmed participation.			More than 95% of parents, SDMC members and PRI/Urban local body members have confirmed participation.			More than 95% of parents, SDMC members and PRI/Urban local body members have confirmed participation.			More than 95% of parents, SDMC members and PRI/Urban local body members have confirmed participation.							



**Overall Observation: In general there is active community participation.**

### 8. MIS

		<b>Bangalore Rural</b>	<b>Chickmagaluru</b>	<b>Chitradurga</b>	<b>Kodagu</b>	<b>Tumkur</b>
i)	Number of schools where MDM register is in place and maintained	40	40	40	40	40
<b>Overall Observation :</b> all schools have MDM register						
ii)	Whether any training on maintaining MDM information is imparted to the teacher/head teacher	Orientation during cluster level meetings of Head Masters & teachers.	Orientation during cluster level meetings of Head Masters & teachers.	Orientation during cluster level meetings of Head Masters & teachers.	Orientation during cluster level meetings of Head Masters & teachers.	Orientation during cluster level meetings of Head Masters & teachers.
<b>Overall Observation :</b> Orientation during Cluster level meetings.						
iii)	What is Mechanism of flow of Information from school to district and onwards?	Through regular reporting and On-Line reporting.	Through regular reporting and On-Line reporting.	Through regular reporting and On-Line reporting.	Through regular reporting and On-Line reporting.	Through regular reporting and On-Line reporting.
<b>Overall Observation:</b> Documentation of the reports especially data reported through on-line is generally not done at the school level.						
iv)	What is the prevalent MIS System?	Manual system of reporting.				
<b>Overall Observation:</b> There is only manual system of information reporting						
v)	What is the interval of furnishing information from School to Block and onwards?	The system of monthly reporting prevails at the School, Cluster, Block and District level. The district reports are followed by Quarterly Report to be sent to the State Office.				
<b>Overall Observation:</b> Monthly & quarterly reports submitted regularly						

### 9. Financial Management

		<b>Bangalore Rural</b>	<b>Chickmagaluru</b>	<b>Chitradurga</b>	<b>Kodagu</b>	<b>Tumkur</b>
i)	Nature of financial records and registers maintained at the implementing agency level.	There are specified Registers giving the details about the number of students availing Mid Day Meal at the school, Cluster and Block level. There are registers for the upkeep of stock all the material. The financial transaction of funds received and the expenditure is maintained through registers beginning from the school level.				
<b>Overall Observation:</b> All types of record maintained in schools						
ii)	Mode of transfer of fund to the implementing agency level from the state or district levels	Through Cheque or E-transfer.				

	<b>Overall Observation:</b> Through Cheque or E-transfer.	
iii)	Type of account maintained and System for the withdrawal of fund from the SMC/VEC account	S.B. Joint account in the name of SDMC President & Head Master.
	<b>Overall Observation:</b> a joint account with the SDMC	
iv)	If the proposals for expenditure and expenditure statements are shared with the community. If yes, is there any instance of community expressing objection/reservation about any transaction?	Generally discussion with regard to proposed expenses is made during SDMC meetings.
	<b>Overall Observation:</b> No incidence of objections raised during SDMC	

#### 10. School Health Programme

		Bangalore Rural	Chickmagalur	Chitradurga	Kodagu	Tumkur
i)	Number of schools where school Health Card maintained for each child? administers these medicines and at what frequency where MDM register is in place and maintained	All Schools maintain school heal card. The Primary Health Centre and the Health Workers are actively involved in conducting health check-up. There is also the involvement of local voluntary bodies in the conduct of health check-up in schools.				
	<b>Overall Observation:</b> all schools have a system of health check up..					
ii)	What is the frequency of health check-up?	Annually – 95% Bi-annually-5%	Annually – 100% Bi-annually- 0%	Annually – 100% Bi-annually- 0%	Annually – 97.5% Bi-annually-2.5%	Annually – 100% Bi-annually- 0%
	<b>Overall Observation :</b> generally annual					
iii)	Number of children given Vitamin “A”	All the children attending classes regularly				
	<b>Overall Observation</b>					
iv)	Number of children given IFA Tablets	All the children attending classes regularly.				
	<b>Overall Observation</b>					

v)	Number of children given de-worming tablets	All the children get de-worming tablets once in a year				
<b>Overall Observation</b>						
vi)	Who administers these medicines?	Teacher, mostly the class teacher.				
<b>Overall Observation</b>						
vii)	Number of school where iodized salt is used	All the schools have been supplied “Double Fortified Salt” which contents both Iodine and Iron. It is reported that some of the schools had not got the required quantity during the last quarter of 2010-11. It was during this time some schools had to use the salt available in the local market.				
<b>Overall Observation:</b> There seems to be some issue in the supply of salt under MDM as some of the schools reported non-supply and buying the same at their own cost.						
viii)	Number of schools where children wash their hand before and after eating	Yes - 95% No - 5%	Yes - 100% No - 0%	Yes - 100% No - 0%	Yes - 100% No - 0%	Yes - 100% No - 0%
<b>Overall Observation:</b> in general students wash their hands before and after eating						

### 11. Status of Cook-cum Helpers

		Bangalore Rural	Chickmagalur	Chitradurga	Kodagu	Tumkur
i)	Number of school where cook cum helpers are engaged as per the norm of GOI or State Govt.	All Schools				
<b>Overall Observation:</b> Generally from disadvantaged sections as per the required norms. However, in some schools, due to non-availability as per prescribed composition in the village demography, there are some deviations.						
ii)	Who engages cook cum helpers in these schools	SDMC in consultation with head teacher				
<b>Overall Observation</b>						
iii)	Number of schools served by centralized kitchen	There are no schools in the present sample with centralized kitchen. .				
<b>Overall Observation:</b> The tent schools get the supply of cooked meal from a closed-by primary school. This is also true for Madrasas.						
iv)	Number of schools where SHG is involved	Women cooks & helpers invariably are members of the Self-help groups.				
<b>Overall Observation</b>						
v)	What is remuneration paid to	Cook - Rs. 1100 per month				

	Cook cum helpers, mode of payment and intervals of payment?	Helpers-Rs.1000 per month. Payment through cheque or cash														
<b>Overall Observations:</b> payment is made as per norms																
vi)	Social Composition of cooks cum helpers? (SC/ST/OBC/Minority/others)	Cate gory	Coo ks	Hel pers	Cate gory	Coo ks	Hel pers	Cate gory	Coo ks	Hel pers	Cate gory	Coo ks	Hel pers	Cate gory	Coo ks	Hel pers
		SC	5	9	SC	13	20	SC	18	10	SC	10	21	SC	9	17
		ST	1	3	ST	2	4	ST	6	23	ST	6	9	ST	2	14
		OB C	27	22	OB C	21	27	OB C	16	16	OB C	20	27	OB C	18	17
		Min ority	3	7	Min ority	5	9	Min ority	2	10	Min ority	3	5	Min ority	1	9
		Oth ers	2	5	Oth ers	-	-	Oth ers	1	-	Oth ers	1	2	Oth ers	7	8
<b>Overall Observations</b> The social composition of the inhabitants and willingness to accept the job by the designated caste group has invariably influenced the prevailing composition of cooks and helpers. If the designated caste members fail to come forward to accept the role, SDMC will make an all-out effort to adhere to the norms prescribed by the MDM guidelines.																

## 12. Infrastructure

		Bangalore Rural		Chickmagaluru		Chitradurga		Kodagu		Tumkur	
i)	Number of school where pucca Kitchen cum Stores is available and in use	Separate kitchen	85%	Separate kitchen	90%	Separate kitchen	92.5%	Separate kitchen	95%	Separate kitchen	90%
ii)	Number of schools where pucca kitchen cum store is not available	Store-kitchen	-	Store-kitchen	5%	Store-kitchen	-	Store-kitchen	-	Store-kitchen	10%
		Class room	7.5%	Class room	5%	Class room	7.5%	Class room	5%	Class room	-
		Unspeci-fied place	5%	Unspeci-fied place	-	Unspeci-fied place	-	Unspeci-fied place	-	Unspeci-fied place	-
		From other schools	2.5%	From other schools	-	From other schools	-	From other schools	-	From other schools	-
<b>Overall Observation:</b> The responses from head teachers have revealed that schools without separate kitchen are formulating proposals to seek budget allotment to construct separate kitchen in the school. It is being considered as one of the priority items.											

## 13. Staffing

		Bangalore Rural	Chickmagaluru	Chitradurga	Kodagu	Tumkur
i)	Number of staff engaged at district level for management and monitoring of MDMS	The MDMS is being monitored by a number of staff from different wings of Education Department and Officials from Zilla Panchayat. The prominent officials include Education Officer (ZP), DDPI, Deputy Project Coordinator and Assistant Project Coordinator (SSA).				
<b>Overall Observation</b>						
ii)	Number of staff engaged at block level for management and monitoring of MDMS	The Assistant Director (MDM) of Taluk Panchayat, BRC, BEO, BRP and CRCs.				
iii)	Is there any district level task force constituted	Yes				
<b>Overall Observation</b>						

#### 14. Monitoring

		<b>Bangalore Rural</b>	<b>Chickmagaluru</b>	<b>Chitradurga</b>	<b>Kodagu</b>	<b>Tumkur</b>
i)	How many district level steering cum monitoring committee meeting held in current financial year	One meeting was proposed but could not be held during 2010-11	3	3	1	1
<b>Overall Observations</b>						
ii)	How many state level steering cum monitoring committee meeting held in the current financial year					

#### Positive points

There is regular supply of hot cooked meals in all schools. The quantity of food distributed to students is sufficient. Similarly, the quality of food served is also quite satisfactory.

Food grain supply is regular to schools and is delivered at schools.

Despite delay in the receipt of cooking cost advance, the MDM feeding is not disrupted in any of the schools due to efficient management by the Head Teachers. In all the schools cooking cost is paid through cheque/e-transfer

No discriminatory practices reported from schools while serving and feeding children. On the contrary, orderliness and discipline by the students were noticed in the way they conducted themselves in eating, serving and washing activities.

It is heartening to note that in general pupils displayed high levels of basic hygiene and physical cleanliness.

In all the schools, cooks and helpers are appointed as per the norms of the GoI in consultation with the SDMC. Large majority of cooks and helpers belong to socially deprived castes (OBC, SC, ST, Minority). All the schools pay a monthly remuneration either in cash or cheque of Rs.1100/- and 1000/- to cooks and helpers respectively.

The familiarity of SDMC members with their role, responsibility, eligibility and entitlements relating to MDM is quite satisfactory

#### **Area of concerns**

All the districts reveal small differences in number of pupils enrolled, availing MDM, on the day of visit and on the previous day. Although the difference is only on an average of 5 per school, Chitradurga and Tumkur districts reveal a difference of over 10 per school. The variation in difference calls for explanation.

Despite majority of schools displaying rice, dhal and vegetables on the menu, use of dhal and vegetables has been in limited quantity due to hike in the costs of vegetables and price inflation. This might negatively impact the nutritional value of the food being served to children.

Non-supply of salt under MDM may result in the use of non-iodised salt as schools themselves will have to purchase the same.

All schools in general seemed concerned about the cost escalation and the problem in mobilizing community for procurement of vegetables and other subsidiary costs.

#### **Suggestions**

Schools may be asked to fulfil the required procedural guidelines in order to avoid receipt of cooking cost advance in timely manner as well maintenance of buffer stock.

# **Institute for Social and Economic Change, Bangalore**

## **District Level Half Yearly Monitoring Report (MDM)**

### **Bangalore (Rural)**

The monitoring institute has collected data from 40 schools across the districts. The sample of 40 schools includes lower primary schools (13), higher primary schools (23), Madrasa (1) and tent schools (3). The selection of schools to be included into the sample has been made with the help sought from Sarva Shikshana Abhiyan officials at the District and the State level. The present report refers to half-yearly monitoring for the period 1<sup>st</sup> October 2010 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2011.

#### **A. At the School Level**

##### **1. Regularity in Serving Meal**

All the 40 schools in the sample serve hot cooked meal daily. There has been no interruption either stated or recorded. The mid-day meal is served to all the students present on all working days.

##### **2. Trends**

Most of the students enrolled in a given school are eligible to avail mid-day meal facility. However, an individual child is entitled to make an option to avail or not to avail the facility. It is in this context, data has been collected about the number of students availing mid-day meal and the actual number of students taking meal during the days of visit.

a)	Number of children enrolled in schools	4040
b)	Number of children opted for MDM	3943 (97.6 %)
c)	Number of children attending the school on the day of visit	3814 (94.4 %)
d)	Number of children actually availing MDM on the day of visit	3768 (95.6 %)
e)	Number of children availed MDM on the previous day of visit	3787 (96.0 %)



Looking at the utilisation trend of the MDM provided in the schools. It may be noticed that it is not 100.00 per cent. As seen from the above figures, close to 2.0 per cent of children have opted out of MDM in schools. However, from out of those who take MDM regularly the percentage of children availing MDM also reveals variation. It is noticed on the day of visit 95.6 per cent or almost 97.0 per cent of the children had availed MDM. The previous day's record of MDM utilization reveals 96.0 per cent thereby revealing a difference of 1.0 per cent. There are several factors contributing to these kinds of aberrations such as students staying away from schools due to family celebrations, local festivals and other domestic and personal reasons. On such occasions, there are always differential consumption ratios. There was no evidence of surplus cooking or wastage of cooked food on the basis of daily estimation.

### **3. Regularity in Delivering Food Grains to School**

Food grains are supplied to school through the outlets of Food Corporation of India (FCI). There are guidelines to the FCI with regard to supplying food grains to schools. The data collected from schools has indicated that 95 per cent of the schools have been getting the supply of food properly. There are only two schools indicating delay, which is invariably an occasional phenomenon. All the schools generally get one month buffer stock of food grains. It has been found 57.5 per cent of the schools have one month buffer stock, whereas 42.5 per cent have indicated the absence of one month buffer stock. Simultaneously, it has also been found that the supply of food grains has been as per the prescribed allotment. There are 95 per cent of schools confirming proper supply. One of the explanations offered by the head teacher for the delay in getting the specified food grains is due to the official procedures. Most of the schools have confirmed that they are getting good quality food grains (92.5 per cent). According to the guidelines, FCI is expected to supply Fair Average Quality (FAQ) food grains to all the schools. If there is any lapse, the head teacher or the school is entitled to return the food grains for 'poor quality'.

### **4. Regularity in Delivering Cooking Cost to School Level**

The mid-day meal grant is released either through a cheque or e-transfer. This has been confirmed by all the sample schools. There has been certain amount of delay reported by the schools in getting the grants (30 per cent). However, 70 per cent of schools have indicated timely release of grants. In case of delay in release of grants, the non-fulfillment of official procedures has been found to be the most frequent reason. These delays have been invariably

handled by the head teacher so that there will be no interruption in the provision of mid-day meal to children.

## **5. Social Equity**

In all the 40 schools, there is no social discrimination in cooking and serving mid-day meal. Some of the possible factors of discrimination like caste, gender or community have not been influencing MDM at any stage in the process of its implementation. It has been observed that in majority of the schools (77.5 per cent) children are served mid-day meal in a systematic manner by forming a line. There are instances where children are given mid-day meal by organizing them into groups on the basis of functional convenience and availability of separate space for taking food. It is generally observed that students belonging to higher primary classes take to the practice of serving and distributing mid-day meal to boys and girls separately.

## **6. Menu**

The guidelines issued by the MDM scheme have specifications relating to menu. Every school is expected to evolve and maintain menu details on a weekly basis. It is also expected to incorporate variety in the menu.

(i) The guidelines specify that the weekly menu is to be displayed in the school. According to the data collected, majority of the schools (62.5 per cent) have displayed menu schedule. In the remaining cases (37.5 per cent) the display was not noticed. However, the responses from the head teachers confirm that all the schools have a pre-planned menu schedule for all the days of the week. There are also instances where the declared menu may be deviated due to certain local reasons.

(ii) Generally, the head teachers have been found to formulate the menu. It is also true that head teachers consult the president or active members of SDMC to finalise the menu.

## **7 Variety of Menu**

(i) The data confirms that 52.5 per cent of the schools have variety in mid-day meals. The remaining 47.5 per cent schools have indicated absence of variety. This kind of response is partly due to their perception that the weekly menu recurs with similar items like rice, sambar

or rasam and butter milk. The possibility of variety is also determined by the fluctuations of price in prominent food commodities in the market.

(ii) In all the schools rice is the common item served. It is the items prepared with dal and vegetables that takes varied form. Generally, schools provide a distinct food item (rice bath) on Saturdays.

### **8. Quality and Quantity of Meal**

The responses from the students, head teachers and the SDMC members have indicated details relating to the quality and quantity of food. All the students availing (cent per cent) MDM have confirmed that they are getting sufficient quantity of mid-day meal in all the schools. However, the responses differ slightly with regard to the quality of the meal. It has been stated by most of the students (92 per cent) that the quality of the meal is good. There are a few students (8 per cent) indicating that the quality of the mid-day meal served to them is satisfactory. It is necessary to record that no school or a student has indicated poor quality.

### **9. Supplementary (Health Check-up)**

The data collected from schools has indicated that health check-up to children is conducted in all 40 schools (100 per cent). It has also been found that most of the schools have conducted health check-up camps once in an academic year (95 per cent). There are two schools reporting (5 per cent) that they had conducted health check-up camp during the previous academic year and it is yet to be done for the current academic year. However, the supply of vitamin tablets, de-worming medicine and iron folic acid tablets has been confirmed in all the schools. The task of providing all this is handled by teachers, specially the class teachers. The vitamin tablets are supplied on a monthly basis, whereas the de-worming medicine is given to children once in six months.

### **10. Status of Cooks**

The MDM guidelines specify the social composition of cooks and helpers. This has been done to avoid social discrimination and to help children to overcome prejudices and attitude of social distancing. All the schools make efforts to adhere to the norms. However, it has been observed that the social composition of the habitation/ village where school is located may not be able to get a person required to function as a cook or a helper. In such situations, school will have limited options in adhering to the norms. It is due to this reason there may

be certain amount of deviance in appointing cooks and helpers. However, most of the schools make choices on the basis of the availability of persons to perform the roles. The salary of cooks and helpers paid by all the schools is Rs.1100 and Rs.1000 respectively. The following table indicates the distribution and social composition of cooks and helpers in 40 schools:

**Table-1: Social Composition of Cooks and Helpers**

Sl. No.	Category	Cooks	Helpers
1	SC	5	9
2	ST	1	3
3	OBC	27	22
4	Minority	3	7
5	Others	2	5
Total		38	46

The social composition of the inhabitants and willingness to accept the job by the designated caste group has invariably influenced the prevailing composition of cooks and helpers. The social composition of the inhabitants and willingness to accept the job by the designated cast groups has invariably influenced the prevailing composition of cooks and helpers.

## 11. Infrastructure

The infrastructure needed to provide mid-day meal in the school includes facilities to cook food, availability of water, fuel and vessels. The data relating to these items indicates that most of the schools have separate kitchen or a separate space to cook. The details are given in Table-2.

**Table-2: Details about Kitchen**

Sl. No.	Particulars	No. of schools	Percentage
1	Separate kitchen	34	85.0
2	Store-kitchen	-	-
3	Class room	03	7.5
4	Unspecified place	02	5.0
5	From other schools	01	2.5

The place and surroundings for cooking and serving food for children has been stated to be good in case of 77.5 per cent schools, satisfactory in 17.5 per cent schools and poor in 5 per

cent schools. The data has also confirmed that storage of fuel for cooking and food grains along with safety to the process of cooking is ensured in all schools.

**12.** While some schools have separate place for storage, majority of the schools utilize the space available in the kitchen. Of the 40 schools, it is reported that the construction of separate kitchen is under progress in two schools.

**13.** The availability of water has been confirmed in all the 40 schools. The quality and quantity of water has been found to be good for purpose of cooking and drinking.

**14.** The responses from the schools indicate that all the schools have utensils to cook food. However, a few schools have indicated that the existing utensils need either replacement or enhancement.

**15.** It has been found that all the schools have been using Liquid Petroleum Gas (LPG) as fuel for cooking.

## **16. Safety and Hygiene**

(i) All the schools have been making the best possible effort to ensure hygiene in the place where mid-day meal is prepared and served. There are a few cases where things could be improved for the better. This is especially true in case of the space available to serve food for all the children in one stretch.

(ii) In most of the schools (95 per cent), the teachers have been found to be reminding and prompting students to wash their hands before taking food.

(iii) All the schools have been making deliberate efforts to serve food in an organised way. This has been done to ensure proper serving of food to all, to monitor the use of water and to ensure cleanliness and hygiene. The students are allowed to collect food either in a row or they will be served food as they form a line.

(iv) Most of the schools have been able to store drinking water either in a separate container or a water filter. The water needed for cleaning utensils and plates is provided either with the

help of a tanker or storage system. In some cases, there is good quality water available for both the purposes.

(v) The responsibility of maintaining cleanliness and hygiene in the cooking place is entrusted to the cooks and the helpers. Generally, the task of cleaning is ensured after the mid-day meal is served on each day. In all schools, the safety and security of storing cooking gas and food grains has been ensured.

**17. (i)** The participation by parents, local body members and the community have not been quantified. However, their participation has been assessed through discussion, observation at the time of field visits and interviews. It has been found that the participation of SDMC members to supervise mid-day meal varies from school to school.

(ii) As per the norm, the MDM is being monitored and supervised by the parents on most of the days. The data collected from sample schools indicates that there is no roaster of parents formally prepared with specified days. However, there are “Mother Committees” with an understanding of supervising MDM on all working days depending on their convenience. The general perception among the parents is that the head teacher, being the secretary of the SDMC has been performing the role of supervision without interruption. There are apprehensions that their presence to supervise mid-day meal may be construed as interference by the head teacher.

(iii) A detailed analysis of the extent of awareness and participation in MDM programme by the parents, SDMC members and Panchayat/ Local Body representatives has been made by examining the responses from the respective groups:

**a) Parents:** The data collected from parents has confirmed that most of the parents (interviewed by the MI team members) have a good understanding of the MDM programme. Similar trend also prevails with regard to arrangements of mid-day meal in terms of both awareness and participation. The responses from parents have indicated that students are getting good quality and quantity of mid-day meal with their response ranging from satisfactory to the level of excellence. Majority of the parents perceive the nutritional level of the food served as “Good” or “Very Good” (see Table-3 for details).

**Table-3: Community Participation in MDM (Response from Parents)**

Sl. No.	Particulars	Poor	Satisfactory	Good	Very Good	Excellent	Total
1	Awareness	1	19	29	9	12	70
2	Mid-day meal arrangements	2	17	32	6	13	70
3	Supervision	2	12	22	22	12	70
4	Quantity available for students	3	11	28	16	12	70
5	Nutrition level of mid-day meal	2	15	22	16	16	71
Total		10	74	133	69	65	351

**b) SDMC Members:** The level of awareness among SDMC members has been good with an equal number of them having a better awareness level. Their participation in arranging and supervising cooking and serving of mid-day meal has also been found to be either “Good” or “Very Good”. There were a few members who had a limited understanding and participation in the programme. Most of the SDMC members have indicated that the mid-day meal served is not only sufficient in quantity but nutritious in quality also (see Table-4 for details).

**Table-4: Community Participation in MDM (Response from SDMC Members)**

Sl. No.	Particulars	Poor	Satisfactory	Good	Very Good	Excellent	Total
1	Awareness	5	17	24	10	13	69
2	Mid-day meal arrangements	3	16	27	10	15	71
3	Supervision	-	14	30	11	16	71
4	Quantity available for students	3	15	16	25	13	72
5	Nutrition level of mid-day meal	2	23	15	14	17	71
Total		13	85	112	70	74	354

**c) Panchayat/ Local Body Members:** The level of awareness has been more or less similar to the earlier groups. While the awareness level among the Panchayat members has been at a higher level if they were also the parents, there were others with limited awareness. The level of participation has been found either “Satisfactory” or “Good” rather than being “Very Good” (see Table-5 for details).

**Table-5: Community Participation in MDM (Response from Panchayat/Ward Members)**

Sl. No.	Particulars	Poor	Satisfactory	Good	Very Good	Excellent	Total
1	Awareness	4	10	13	3	10	40
2	Mid-day meal arrangements	4	14	11	2	9	40
3	Supervision	2	15	11	2	11	41
4	Quantity available for students	2	14	8	5	10	39
5	Nutrition level of mid-day meal	4	10	9	7	9	39
Total		16	63	52	19	49	199

(iv) Overall assessment of awareness about implementation of MDM has been identified by MI and it has been quantified. The details have been indicated in Table-6. It is found that in most of the schools awareness has been found to be “Satisfactory” (87.5 per cent). It is only 12.5 per cent cases, the level of awareness has been found to be “Good”.

**Table-6: Overall Opinion about Mid-day Meal**

Sl. No.	Particulars	Percentage
1	Quite Satisfactory	70.0
2	Satisfactory	17.5
3	Good	12.5

An attempt has also been made to identify the sources of awareness. The most frequent source has been the teachers. It has also been found that the school where the child is studying, radio and news papers also being the form of other important sources. There are others like inhabitants of the locality, friends and relatives contributing towards awareness about mid-day meal scheme.



**Table-7: Source of Awareness about the MDM Scheme**

Sl. No.	Particulars	No. of Respondents*
1	Newspaper/ Magazine	14
2	Villagers/ Friends/ Relatives	3
3	Teacher	36
4	School (where the child is studying)	15
5	Radio	15
6	Television	5
7	Website	-
8	Any other	2

\*: Each respondent is entitled to indicate more than one source.

### **18. Inspection and Supervision**

The MDM scheme has been supervised at the State, District, Block, Cluster and School level. There are many officials involved and assigned with this responsibility. There are both periodical and surprise inspections from most of these officials. On a daily basis, it is the SDMC members or parents who supervise and inspect at the school level. The CRC, Assistant Director of Taluk Panchayat (Akshara Dasoha) and Block Education Officer supervise most of the schools at least once in a month. The district officials like the Deputy Project Coordinator (SSA), Deputy Director of Public Instruction, Education Officer (Zilla Panchayat) and other officials supervise and inspect as and when they visit schools. The officials at the State level also have their planned programme of supervision and inspection.

### **19. Impact**

The mid-day meal scheme has been found to have made impact improving the enrollment of children to schools. Another significant aspect of the MDM is that the attendance of children to the school has increased significantly in all schools. The most striking outcome indicated is that it has been able to eliminate hunger of the children coming from poor households and enable them to participate in classroom learning activity.

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# **Institute for Social and Economic Change, Bangalore**

## **District Level Half Yearly Monitoring Report (MDM)**

### **Chickmagaluru**

The monitoring institute has collected data from 40 schools across the districts. The sample of 40 schools includes lower primary schools (10) and higher primary schools (30). The selection of schools to be included into the sample has been made with the help sought from Sarva Shikshana Abhiyan officials at the District and the State level. The present report refers to half-yearly monitoring for the period 1<sup>st</sup> October 2010 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2011.

#### **A. At the School Level**

##### **1. Regularity in Serving Meal**

All the 40 schools in the sample serve hot cooked meal daily. There has been no interruption either stated or recorded. The mid-day meal is served to all the students present on all working days.

##### **2. Trends**

Most of the students enrolled in a given school are eligible to avail mid-day meal facility. The data relating to mid-day meal scheme has been collected. The following data indicates details about students enrolled, opting for mid-day meal etc,

a)	Number of children enrolled in schools	5176
b)	Number of children opted for MDM	5040 (97.4 %)
c)	Number of children attending the school on the day of visit	4346 (84.0 %)
d)	Number of children actually availing MDM on the day of visit	4165 (82.6 %)
e)	Number of children availed MDM on the previous day of visit	4136 (82.1 %)

Looking at the utilisation trend of the MDM provided in the schools, it may be noticed that it is not 100 per cent. As seen from the above figures, 3 per cent of children have opted out of MDM in schools. However, from out of those who take MDM regularly the percentage of

children availing MDM also reveals variation. It is noticed on the day of visit 82.6 % or almost 83 per cent of the children had availed MDM. The previous day's record of MDM utilization reveals 82.1 per cent thereby revealing a difference of one per cent. However, the percentage of students availing mid-day meal is around 80 per cent. There are several factors contributing to these kinds of aberrations such as students staying away from schools due to family celebrations, local festivals and other domestic and personal reasons. On such occasions, there are always differential consumption ratios. There was no evidence of surplus cooking or wastage of cooked food on the basis of daily estimation.

### **3. Regularity in Delivering Food Grains to School**

The data collected from schools has indicated that all the schools have been getting the supply of food properly. All the schools generally get one month buffer stock of food grains. It has been found 95 per cent of the schools have one month buffer stock. Simultaneously, it has also been found that the supply of food grains has been as per the prescribed allotment. All the schools have confirmed proper supply with good quality food grains (100 per cent).

### **4. Regularity in Delivering Cooking Cost to School Level**

The mid-day meal grant is released either through a cheque or e-transfer. This has been confirmed by all the sample schools. There has been certain amount of delay reported by the schools in getting the grants (10 per cent). However, 90 per cent of schools have indicated timely release of grants. In case of delay in release of grants, the non-fulfillment of official procedures has been found to be the most frequent reason. These delays have been invariably handled by the head teacher so that there will be no interruption in the provision of mid-day meal to children.

### **5. Social Equity**

In all the 40 schools, there is no social discrimination in cooking and serving mid-day meal. Some of the possible factors of discrimination like caste, gender or community have not been influencing MDM at any stage in the process of its implementation. It has been observed that in most of the schools (95 per cent) children are served mid-day meal in a systematic manner by forming a line. In the remaining schools (5 per cent), children are given mid-day meal by organizing them into groups on the basis of functional convenience and availability of separate space for taking food. It is generally observed that students belonging to higher

primary classes take to the practice of serving and distributing mid-day meal to boys and girls separately.

## **6. Menu**

All the schools have been given guidelines relating to mid-day meal menu. The pattern of conformity to the guidelines varies from one district to another. In Chickmagaluru, the following points deserved to be noticed:

(i) The guidelines specify that the weekly menu is to be displayed in the school. According to the data collected, there are 50 per cent of schools displaying menu schedule. It has been found that 50 per cent of schools had not displayed menu. However, the responses from the head teachers confirm that all the schools have a pre-planned menu schedule for all the days of the week. There are also instances where the declared menu may be deviated due to certain local reasons.

(ii) Generally, the head teachers have been found to formulate the menu. There are instances of consulting teacher and SDMC to finalise the menu.

## **7 Variety of Menu**

(i) The data confirms that majority (72.5 per cent) of the schools have variety in mid-day meals. The remaining 27.5 per cent schools have indicated absence of variety. This kind of response is partly due to their perception that the weekly menu recurs with similar items like rice, sambar or rasam and butter milk. The possibility of variety is also determined by the fluctuations of price in prominent food commodities in the market.

(ii) In all the schools rice is the common item served. It is the items prepared with dal and vegetables that takes varied form. Generally, schools provide a distinct food item (rice bath) on Saturdays.

## **8. Quality and Quantity of Meal**

The responses from the students, head teachers and the SDMC members have indicated details relating to the quality and quantity of food. All the students availing MDM have confirmed that they are getting sufficient quantity of mid-day meal in most of the schools (97.5 per cent). The response with regard to the quality of the meal is similar. It has been

stated by most of the students (97.5 per cent) that the quality of the meal is good. There are a few students (2.5 per cent) indicating that the quality of the mid-day meal served to them is satisfactory. It is necessary to record that no school or a student has indicated poor quality.

### **9. Supplementary (Health Check-up)**

The data collected from schools has indicated that health check-up to children is conducted in all 40 schools (100 per cent). All the schools have conducted health check-up camps once in an academic year (100 per cent). The supply of vitamin tablets, de-worming medicine and iron folic acid tablets has been given to all the students attending class. The task of providing all this is handled by teachers, specially the class teachers. The vitamin tablets are supplied on a monthly basis, whereas the de-worming medicine is given to children once in six months.

### **10. Status of Cooks**

All the schools make efforts to adhere to the norms in appointing cooks and helpers. However, most of the schools make choices on the basis of the availability of persons to perform the roles. The salary of cooks and helpers paid by all the schools is Rs.1100 and Rs.1000 respectively. The following table indicates the distribution and social composition of cooks and helpers in 40 schools:

**Table-1: Social Composition of Cooks and Helpers**

Sl. No.	Category	Cooks	Helpers
1	SC	13	20
2	ST	02	04
3	OBC	21	27
4	Minority	05	09
5	Others	-	-
Total		41	60

The distribution of the number of cooks and helpers indicates that most of the deprived social groups have good representation.

## 11. Infrastructure

The infrastructure needed to provide mid-day meal in the school includes facilities to cook food, availability of water, fuel and vessels. The data relating to these items indicates that most of the schools have separate kitchen or a separate space to cook. The details are given in Table-2. There are a few schools having kitchen with storing facility (5 per cent).

**Table-2: Details about Kitchen**

Sl. No.	Particulars	No. of schools	Percentage
1	Separate kitchen	36	90.0
2	Store-kitchen	02	5.0
3	Class room	02	5.0
4	Unspecified place	-	-
5	From other schools	-	-

The place and surroundings for cooking and serving food for children has been stated to be good in most of the schools (97.5 per cent) and satisfactory in one school. The data has also confirmed that storage of fuel for cooking and food grains along with safety to the process of cooking is ensured in all schools.

**12.** While some schools have separate place for storage, majority of the schools utilize the space available in the kitchen. Of the 40 schools, only one school needs to have a separate kitchen.

**13.** The availability of water has been confirmed in all the 40 schools. The quality and quantity of water has been found to be good for purpose of cooking and drinking.

**14.** The responses from the schools indicate that all the schools have utensils to cook food.

**15.** It has been found that most of the schools (92.5 per cent) have been using Liquid Petroleum Gas (LPG) as fuel for cooking. The remaining 7.5 per cent schools have been using fire hood to cook food.

## **16. Safety and Hygiene**

(i) All the schools have been making the best possible effort to ensure hygiene in the place where mid-day meal is prepared and served. The level of safety and security of the place has been found to be good in most of the schools (97.5 per cent) and satisfactory in the remaining schools (2.5 per cent).

(ii) In all the schools (100 per cent), the teachers have been found to be reminding and prompting students to wash their hands before taking food.

(iii) All the schools have been making deliberate efforts to serve food in an organised way. This has been done to ensure proper serving of food to all, to monitor the use of water and to ensure cleanliness and hygiene. The students are allowed to collect food either in a row or they will be served food as they form a line.

(iv) Most of the schools have been able to store drinking water either in a separate container or a water filter. The water needed for cleaning utensils and plates is provided either with the help of a tanker or storage system. In some cases, there is good quality water available for both the purposes.

(v) The responsibility of maintaining cleanliness and hygiene in the cooking place is entrusted to the cooks and the helpers. Generally, the task of cleaning is ensured after the mid-day meal is served on each day. In all schools, the safety and security of storing cooking gas and food grains has been ensured.

**17. (i)** The participation by parents, local body members and the community have not been quantified. However, their participation has been assessed through discussion, observation at the time of field visits and interviews. It has been found that the participation of SDMC members to supervise mid-day meal varies from school to school.

(ii) As per the norm, the MDM is being monitored and supervised by the parents on most of the days. The data collected from sample schools indicates that there is no roaster of parents formally prepared with specified days. However, there are “Mother Committees” with an understanding of supervising MDM on all working days depending on their convenience. The

general perception among the parents is that the head teacher, being the secretary of the SDMC has been performing the role of supervision without interruption.

(iii) A detailed analysis of the extent of awareness and participation in MDM programme by the parents, SDMC members and Panchayat/ Local Body representatives has been made by examining the responses from the respective groups:

**a) Parents:** The data collected from parents has confirmed that most of the parents (interviewed by the MI team members) have a good understanding of the MDM programme. Similar trend also prevails with regard to arrangements of mid-day meal in terms of both awareness and participation. The responses from parents have indicated that students are getting good quality and quantity of mid-day meal with their response ranging from satisfactory to the level of excellence. Majority of the parents perceive the nutritional level of the food served as “Good” or “Very Good”.

**Table-3: Community Participation in MDM (Response from Parents)**

Sl. No.	Particulars	Poor	Satisfactory	Good	Very Good	Excellent	Total
1	Awareness	5	28	32	10	-	75
2	Mid-day meal arrangements	6	25	30	14	1	76
3	Supervision	4	27	31	10	-	72
4	Quantity available for students	5	24	32	12	1	74
5	Nutrition level of mid-day meal	6	24	35	10	-	75
Total		26	128	160	56	2	372

**b) SDMC Members:** The level of awareness among SDMC members has been good with an equal number of them having a satisfactory and very good awareness level. Their participation in arranging and supervising cooking and serving of mid-day meal has also been found to be similar. There were a few members who had a limited understanding and participation in the programme. Most of the SDMC members have indicated that the mid-



day meal served is not only sufficient in quantity but also nutritious in quality also (see Table-4 for details).

**Table-4: Community Participation in MDM (Response from SDMC Members)**

Sl. No.	Particulars	Poor	Satisfactory	Good	Very Good	Excellent	Total
1	Awareness	4	19	31	13	5	72
2	Mid-day meal arrangements	5	22	25	13	7	72
3	Supervision	3	21	28	12	9	73
4	Quantity available for students	4	20	25	18	6	73
5	Nutrition level of mid-day meal	5	18	26	16	8	73
Total		21	100	135	72	35	363

**c) Panchayat/ Local Body Members:** The level of awareness has been more or less similar to the earlier groups. While the awareness level among the Panchayat members has been at a higher level if they were also the parents, there were others with limited awareness. The level of participation has been found either “Satisfactory” or “Good” rather than being “Very Good” (see Table-5 for details).

**Table-5: Community Participation in MDM (Response from Panchayat/Ward Members)**

Sl. No.	Particulars	Poor	Satisfactory	Good	Very Good	Excellent	Total
1	Awareness	2	16	13	6	1	38
2	Mid-day meal arrangements	4	13	15	7	-	39
3	Supervision	2	13	21	3	-	39
4	Quantity available for students	-	16	20	3	-	39
5	Nutrition level of mid-day meal	-	14	20	2	2	38
Total		8	72	89	21	3	193

(iv) Overall assessment of awareness about implementation of MDM has been identified by MI and it has been quantified. The details have been indicated in Table-6. It is found that in

most of the schools awareness has been found to be “Quite Satisfactory” (85 per cent). It is only in 15 per cent schools, the level of awareness has been found to be “Good”.

**Table-6: Overall Opinion about Mid-day Meal**

Sl. No.	Particulars	Percentage
1	Quite Satisfactory	85.0
2	Satisfactory	-
3	Good	15.0

An attempt has also been made to identify the sources of awareness. The most frequent source has been the teachers. It has also been found that the school where the child is studying, radio and news papers also being the form of other important sources. There are others like inhabitants of the locality, friends and relatives contributing towards awareness about mid-day meal scheme.

**Table-7: Source of Awareness about the MDM Scheme**

Sl. No.	Particulars	No. of Respondents*
1	Newspaper/ Magazine	11
2	Villagers/ Friends/ Relatives	36
3	Teacher	39
4	School (where the child is studying)	37
5	Radio	07
6	Television	08
7	Website	-
8	Any other	-

\*: Each respondent is entitled to indicate more than one source.

## **18. Inspection and Supervision**

The MDM scheme has been supervised at the State, District, Block, Cluster and School level. There are many officials involved and assigned with this responsibility. There are both periodical and surprise inspections from most of these officials. On a daily basis, it is the SDMC members or parents who supervise and inspect at the school level. The CRC,

Assistant Director of Taluk Panchayat (Akshara Dasoha) and Block Education Officer supervise most of the schools at least once in a month. The district officials like the Deputy Project Coordinator (SSA), Deputy Director of Public Instruction, Education Officer (Zilla Panchayat) and other officials supervise and inspect as and when they visit schools. The officials at the State level also have their planned programme of supervision and inspection.

### **19. Impact**

The mid-day meal scheme has been found to have made impact improving the enrollment of children to schools. Another significant aspect of the MDM is that the attendance of children to the school has increased significantly in all schools. The most striking outcome indicated is that it has been able to eliminate hunger of the children coming from poor households and enable them to participate in classroom learning activity.

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## **Institute for Social and Economic Change, Bangalore**

### **District Level Half Yearly Monitoring Report (MDM)**

#### **Chitradurga**

The monitoring institute has collected data from 40 schools across the districts. The sample of 40 schools includes lower primary schools (14), higher primary schools (24) and KGBVs (2). The selection of schools to be included into the sample has been made with the help sought from Sarva Shikshana Abhiyan officials at the District and the State level. The present report refers to half-yearly monitoring for the period 1<sup>st</sup> October 2010 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2011.

#### **A. At the School Level**

##### **1. Regularity in Serving Meal**

All the 40 schools in the sample serve hot cooked meal daily. There has been no interruption either stated or recorded. The mid-day meal is served to all the students present on all working days.

## 2. Trends

Most of the students enrolled in a given school are eligible to avail mid-day meal facility. The data relating to mid-day meal scheme has been collected. The following data indicates details about students enrolled, opting for mid-day meal etc,

a)	Number of children enrolled in schools	5863
b)	Number of children opted for MDM	5230 (89.2%)
c)	Number of children attending the school on the day of visit	5230 (89.2%)
d)	Number of children actually availing MDM on the day of visit	5077 (97.1%)
e)	Number of children availed MDM on the previous day of visit	4920 (94.1%)

Looking at the utilisation trend of the MDM provided in the schools, it may be noticed that it is not 100 per cent. As seen from the above figures, 11 per cent of children have opted out of MDM in schools. However, from out of those who take MDM regularly the percentage of children availing MDM also reveals variation. It is noticed on the day of visit 97.1 per cent of the children had availed MDM. The previous day's record of MDM utilization reveals 94.1 per cent thereby revealing a difference of three per cent. There are several factors contributing to these kinds of aberrations such as students staying away from schools due to family celebrations, local festivals and other domestic and personal reasons. On such occasions, there are always differential consumption ratios. There was no evidence of surplus cooking or wastage of cooked food on the basis of daily estimation.

## 3. Regularity in Delivering Food Grains to School

The data collected from schools has indicated that 97.5 per cent of the schools have been getting the supply of food properly. All the schools generally get one month buffer stock of food grains. It has been found that majority of the schools (70 per cent) have one month buffer stock. Simultaneously, it has also been found that the supply of food grains has been as per the prescribed allotment. All the schools have confirmed proper supply with good quality food grains (100 per cent).

## 4. Regularity in Delivering Cooking Cost to School Level

The mid-day meal grant is released either through a cheque or e-transfer. This has been confirmed by all the sample schools. There has been certain amount of delay reported by the

schools in getting the grants (10 per cent). However, 90 per cent of schools have indicated timely release of grants. This pattern is similar to Chickmagaluru district. In case of delay in release of grants, the non-fulfillment of official procedures has been found to be the most frequent reason. These delays have been invariably handled by the head teacher so that there will be no interruption in the provision of mid-day meal to children.

## **5. Social Equity**

There is no social discrimination in cooking and serving mid-day meal. Some of the possible factors of discrimination like caste, gender or community have not been influencing MDM at any stage in the process of its implementation. It has been observed that in majority of the schools (85 per cent) children are served mid-day meal in a systematic manner by forming a line. In 10 per cent schools, children served food in groups and the remaining 5 per cent of the school serving of food is done separately for boys and girls. It is generally observed that students belonging to higher primary classes take to the practice of serving and distributing mid-day meal to boys and girls separately.

## **6. Menu**

All the schools have been given guidelines relating to mid-day meal menu. The pattern of conformity to the guidelines varies from one district to another. In Chitradurga, the following points deserved to be noticed:

(i) The guidelines specify that the weekly menu is to be displayed in the school. According to the data collected, there are 70 per cent of schools displaying menu schedule. It has been found that the remaining 30 per cent of schools had not displayed. However, the responses from the head teachers confirm that all the schools have a pre-planned menu schedule for all the days of the week. There are also instances where the declared menu may be deviated due to certain local reasons.

(ii) Generally, the head teachers have been found to formulate the menu. There are instances of consulting teacher and SDMC to finalise the menu.

## **7 Variety of Menu**

(i) The data confirms that most (97.5 per cent) of the schools have varieties in mid-day meal. The remaining 2.5 per cent schools have indicated absence of variety. This kind of response

is partly due to their perception that the weekly menu recurs with similar items like rice, sambar or rasam and butter milk. The possibility of variety is also determined by the fluctuations of price in prominent food commodities in the market.

(ii) In all the schools rice is the common item served. It is the items prepared with dal and vegetables that takes varied form. Generally, schools provide a distinct food item (rice bath) on Saturdays.

### **8. Quality and Quantity of Meal**

All the students availing MDM have confirmed that they are getting sufficient quantity of mid-day meal in all the schools (100 per cent). The response with regard to the quality of the meal is similar. It is necessary to record that no school or a student has indicated poor quality. Thus, it could be stated that the students consider the quantity and quality of food served is not only good but also sufficient in all the schools.

### **9. Supplementary (Health Check-up)**

The data collected from schools has indicated that health check-up to children is conducted in all 40 schools (100 per cent). All the schools have conducted health check-up camps once in an academic year (100 per cent). The supply of vitamin tablets, de-worming medicine and iron folic acid tablets has been given to all the students attending class. The task of providing all this is handled by teachers, specially the class teachers. The vitamin tablets are supplied on a monthly basis, whereas the de-worming medicine is given to children once in six months. The trend prevailing in this district is similar to Chickmagalur.

### **10. Status of Cooks**

All the schools make efforts to adhere to the norms in appointing cooks and helpers. However, most of the schools make choices on the basis of the availability of persons to perform the roles. The salary of cooks and helpers paid by all the schools is Rs.1100 and Rs.1000 respectively. The following table indicates the distribution and social composition of cooks and helpers in 40 schools:

**Table-1: Social Composition of Cooks and Helpers**

Sl. No.	Category	Cooks	Helpers
1	SC	18	10
2	ST	06	23
3	OBC	16	16
4	Minority	02	10
5	Others	01	-
Total		43	59

The distribution of the number of cooks and helpers indicates that most of the deprived social groups have good representation.

### 11. Infrastructure

The infrastructure needed to provide mid-day meal in the school includes facilities to cook food, availability of water, fuel and vessels. The data relating to these items indicates that most of the schools have separate kitchen or a separate space to cook. The details are given in Table-2.

**Table-2: Details about Kitchen**

Sl. No.	Particulars	No. of schools	Percentage
1	Separate kitchen	37	92.5
2	Store-kitchen	-	-
3	Class room	03	7.5
4	Unspecified place	-	-
5	From other schools	-	-

The place and surroundings for cooking and serving food for children has been stated to be good in most of the schools (95 per cent). The data has also confirmed that storage of fuel for cooking and food grains along with safety to the process of cooking is ensured in all schools.

**12.** Most of the schools (92 per cent) utilize the space available in the kitchen. Of the 40 schools, only a few schools (7.5 per cent) need to have a separate kitchen.

**13.** The availability of water has been confirmed in most of the schools (95 per cent). The quality and quantity of water has been found to be good for purpose of cooking and drinking.

**14.** The responses from the schools indicate that all the schools have utensils to cook food.

**15.** It has been found that most of the schools (95 per cent) have been using Liquid Petroleum Gas (LPG) as fuel for cooking. The remaining 5 per cent schools have been using fire hood to cook food.

## **16. Safety and Hygiene**

(i) All the schools have been making the best possible effort to ensure hygiene in the place where mid-day meal is prepared and served. The level of safety and security of the place has been found to be good in most of the schools (95 per cent) and satisfactory in the remaining schools (5 per cent).

(ii) In all the schools (100 per cent), the teachers have been found to be reminding and prompting students to wash their hands before taking food.

(iii) All the schools have been making deliberate efforts to serve food in an organised way. This has been done to ensure proper serving of food to all, to monitor the use of water and to ensure cleanliness and hygiene. The students are allowed to collect food either in a row or they will be served food as they form a line.

(iv) Most of the schools have been able to store drinking water either in a separate container or a water filter. The water needed for cleaning utensils and plates is provided either with the help of a tanker or storage system. In some cases, there is good quality water available for both the purposes.

(v) The responsibility of maintaining cleanliness and hygiene in the cooking place is entrusted to the cooks and the helpers. Generally, the task of cleaning is ensured after the



mid-day meal is served on each day. In all schools, the safety and security of storing cooking gas and food grains has been ensured.

**17. (i)** The participation by parents, local body members and the community have not been quantified. However, their participation has been assessed through discussion, observation at the time of field visits and interviews. It has been found that the participation of SDMC members to supervise mid-day meal varies from school to school.

(ii) As per the norm, the MDM is being monitored and supervised by the parents on most of the days. The data collected from sample schools indicates that there is no roaster of parents formally prepared with specified days. However, there are “Mother Committees” with an understanding of supervising MDM on all working days depending on their convenience. The general perception among the parents is that the head teacher, being the secretary of the SDMC has been performing the role of supervision without interruption.

(iii) A detailed analysis of the extent of awareness and participation in MDM programme by the parents, SDMC members and Panchayat/ Local Body representatives has been made by examining the responses from the respective groups:

**a) Parents:** The data collected from parents has confirmed that most of the parents (interviewed by the MI team members) have a good understanding of the MDM programme. Similar trend also prevails with regard to arrangements of mid-day meal in terms of both awareness and participation. The responses from parents have indicated that students are getting good quality and quantity of mid-day meal with their response ranging from satisfactory to the level of excellence. Majority of the parents perceive the nutritional level of the food served as “Good” or “Very Good” (see Table-3 for details).

**Table-3: Community Participation in MDM (Response from Parents)**

Sl. No.	Particulars	Poor	Satisfactory	Good	Very Good	Excellent	Total
1	Awareness	-	22	46	08	02	78
2	Mid-day meal arrangements	03	13	45	12	02	75

3	Supervision	02	23	35	11	02	73
4	Quantity available for students	-	13	46	20	02	81
5	Nutrition level of mid-day meal	-	26	40	30	02	98
Total		05	97	212	81	10	405

**b) SDMC Members:** The level of awareness among SDMC members has been good with an equal number of them having a satisfactory and very good awareness level. Their participation in arranging and supervising cooking and serving of mid-day meal has also been found to be similar. There were a few members who had a limited understanding and participation in the programme. Majority of the SDMC members have indicated that the mid-day meal served is good. There are equal numbers of SDMC members indicating either satisfactory or very good in relation to the quantity and quality of mid-day meal (see Table-4 for details).

**Table-4: Community Participation in MDM (Response from SDMC Members)**

Sl. No.	Particulars	Poor	Satisfactory	Good	Very Good	Excellent	Total
1	Awareness	01	17	36	09	02	65
2	Mid-day meal arrangements	01	12	42	09	02	66
3	Supervision	01	16	37	10	02	66
4	Quantity available for students	01	09	39	14	01	64
5	Nutrition level of mid-day meal	01	16	8	08	02	35
Total		05	70	162	50	09	296

**c) Panchayat/ Local Body Members:** The level of awareness has been more or less similar to the earlier groups. While the awareness level among the Panchayat members has been at a higher level if they were also the parents, there were others with limited awareness. The level of participation has been found either “Satisfactory” or “Good” rather than being “Very Good” (see Table-5 for details).

**Table-5: Community Participation in MDM (Response from Panchayat/Ward Members)**

Sl. No.	Particulars	Poor	Satisfactory	Good	Very Good	Excellent	Total
1	Awareness	02	15	20	01	-	38
2	Mid-day meal arrangements	01	12	22	03	-	38
3	Supervision	03	08	21	05	01	38
4	Quantity available for students	02	10	17	08	01	38
5	Nutrition level of mid-day meal	02	07	24	03	01	37
Total		10	52	104	20	03	189

(iv) Overall assessment of opinion about implementation of MDM has been identified by MI and it has been quantified. The details have been indicated in Table-6. It is found that in majority of the schools the opinion has been found to be “Quite Satisfactory” (70 per cent). In 20 per cent schools, there is “Satisfactory opinion”. The remaining 10 per cent schools have established “Good” opinion.

**Table-6: Overall Opinion about Mid-day Meal**

Sl. No.	Particulars	Percentage
1	Quite Satisfactory	70.0
2	Satisfactory	20.0
3	Good	10.0

An attempt has also been made to identify the sources of awareness. The most frequent source has been the teachers. It has also been found that the school where the child is studying, radio and news papers also being the form of other important sources. There are others like inhabitants of the locality, friends and relatives contributing towards awareness about mid-day meal scheme.

**Table-7: Source of Awareness about the MDM Scheme**

Sl. No.	Particulars	No. of Respondents*
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1	Newspaper/ Magazine	14
2	Villagers/ Friends/ Relatives	30
3	Teacher	33
4	School (where the child is studying)	26
5	Radio	29
6	Television	15
7	Website	-
8	Any other	01

\*: Each respondent is entitled to indicate more than one source.

### **18. Inspection and Supervision**

The MDM scheme has been supervised at the State, District, Block, Cluster and School level. There are many officials involved and assigned with this responsibility. There are both periodical and surprise inspections from most of these officials. On a daily basis, it is the SDMC members or parents who supervise and inspect at the school level. The CRC, Assistant Director of Taluk Panchayat (Akshara Dasoha) and Block Education Officer supervise most of the schools at least once in a month. The district officials like the Deputy Project Coordinator (SSA), Deputy Director of Public Instruction, Education Officer (Zilla Panchayat) and other officials supervise and inspect as and when they visit schools. The officials at the State level also have their planned programme of supervision and inspection.

### **19. Impact**

The mid-day meal scheme has been found to have made impact improving the enrollment of children to schools. Another significant aspect of the MDM is that the attendance of children to the school has increased significantly in all schools. The most striking outcome indicated is that it has been able to eliminate hunger of the children coming from poor households and enable them to participate in classroom learning activity.

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**Institute for Social and Economic Change, Bangalore**

**District Level Half Yearly Monitoring Report (MDM)**

## Kodagu

The monitoring institute has collected data from 40 schools across the districts. The sample of 40 schools includes lower primary schools (07), higher primary schools (32) and one tent school. The selection of schools to be included into the sample has been made with the help sought from Sarva Shikshana Abhiyan officials at the District and the State level. The present report refers to half-yearly monitoring for the period 1<sup>st</sup> October 2010 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2011.

### **A. At the School Level**

#### **1. Regularity in Serving Meal**

All the 40 schools in the sample serve hot cooked meal daily. There has been no interruption either stated or recorded. The mid-day meal is served to all the students present on all working days.

#### **2. Trends**

Most of the students enrolled in a given school are eligible to avail mid-day meal facility. The data relating to mid-day meal scheme has been collected. The following data indicates details about students enrolled, opting for mid-day meal etc,

a)	Number of children enrolled in schools	6143
b)	Number of children opted for MDM	5882 (95.8%)
c)	Number of children attending the school on the day of visit	5217 (84.9%)
d)	Number of children actually availing MDM on the day of visit	4833 (82.2 %)
e)	Number of children availed MDM on the previous day of visit	5081 (86.4%)

Looking at the utilisation trend of the MDM provided in the schools, it may be noticed that it is not 100 per cent. As seen from the above figures, only 4 per cent of children have opted out of MDM in schools. However, from out of those who take MDM regularly the percentage of children availing MDM also reveals variation. It is noticed on the day of visit 82.2 per cent of the children had availed MDM. The previous day's record of MDM utilization reveals 86.4 per cent thereby revealing a difference of 4 per cent. There are

several factors contributing to these kinds of aberrations such as students staying away from schools due to family celebrations, local festivals and other domestic and personal reasons. On such occasions, there are always differential consumption ratios. There was no evidence of surplus cooking or wastage of cooked food on the basis of daily estimation.

### **3. Regularity in Delivering Food Grains to School**

The supply of food grains has been regular and proper in all the schools. They get one month buffer stock of food grains. It has been found that majority of the schools (85 per cent) have one month buffer stock. Simultaneously, it has also been found that the supply of food grains has been as per the prescribed allotment. All the schools have confirmed proper supply with good quality food grains (100 per cent).

### **4. Regularity in Delivering Cooking Cost to School Level**

The mid-day meal grant is released either through a cheque or e-transfer. This has been confirmed by all the sample schools. The cooking cost advance has been received by all the schools regularly. The district of Kodagu has also indicated this feature.

### **5. Social Equity**

There is no social discrimination in cooking and serving mid-day meal. It has been observed that most of the schools (97.5 per cent) children are served mid-day meal in a systematic manner by forming a line. In 2.5 per cent schools, children served food in groups. It is generally observed that students belonging to higher primary classes take to the practice of serving and distributing mid-day meal to boys and girls separately.

### **6. Menu**

All the schools have been given guidelines relating to mid-day meal menu. The pattern of conformity to the guidelines varies from one district to another. In Kodagu, the following points deserved to be noticed:

(i) The guidelines specify that the weekly menu is to be displayed in the school. It is found that there are 80 per cent of schools had displayed menu schedule. The remaining 20 per cent of schools had not displayed. However, the responses from the head teachers confirm that all the schools have a pre-planned menu schedule for all the days of the week.

There are also instances where the declared menu may be deviated due to certain local reasons.

(ii) Generally, the head teachers have been found to formulate the menu. There are instances of consulting teacher and SDMC to finalise the menu.

## **7 Variety of Menu**

(i) The data confirms that most (90 per cent) of the schools have varieties in mid-day meal. The remaining 10 per cent schools have indicated absence of variety. This kind of response is partly due to their perception that the weekly menu recurs with similar items like rice, sambar or rasam and butter milk. The possibility of variety is also determined by the fluctuations of price in prominent food commodities in the market.

(ii) In all the schools rice is the common item served. It is the items prepared with dal and vegetables that takes varied form. Generally, schools provide a distinct food item (rice bath) on Saturdays.

## **8. Quality and Quantity of Meal**

All the students availing MDM have confirmed that they are getting sufficient quantity of mid-day meal in all the schools (100 per cent). The response with regard to the quality of the meal is similar. It is necessary to record that no school or a student has indicated poor quality. Thus, it could be stated that the students consider the quantity and quality of food served is not only good but also sufficient in all the schools. This trend in Kodagu is similar to the trend prevailing in Chitradurga district.

## **9. Supplementary (Health Check-up)**

The data collected from schools has indicated that health check-up to children is conducted in all 40 schools (100 per cent). Most of the schools have conducted health check-up camps once in an academic year (97.5 per cent). The supply of vitamin tablets, de-worming medicine and iron folic acid tablets has been given to all the students attending class. The task of providing all this is handled by teachers, specially the class teachers. The vitamin tablets are supplied on a monthly basis, whereas the de-worming medicine is given to children once in six months.

## 10. Status of Cooks

All the schools make efforts to adhere to the norms in appointing cooks and helpers. However, most of the schools make choices on the basis of the availability of persons to perform the roles. The salary of cooks and helpers paid by all the schools is Rs.1100 and Rs.1000 respectively. The following table indicates the distribution and social composition of cooks and helpers in 40 schools:

**Table-1: Social Composition of Cooks and Helpers**

Sl. No.	Category	Cooks	Helpers
1	SC	10	21
2	ST	06	09
3	OBC	20	27
4	Minority	03	05
5	Others	01	02
Total		40	64

The distribution of the number of cooks and helpers indicates that most of the deprived social groups have good representation.

## 11. Infrastructure

The infrastructure needed to provide mid-day meal in the school includes facilities to cook food, availability of water, fuel and vessels. The data relating to these items indicates that most of the schools have separate kitchen or a separate space to cook. The details are given in Table-2. The responses from head teachers have revealed that the schools without kitchen are formulating proposal for budget allotment to construct kitchen.

**Table-2: Details about Kitchen**



Sl. No.	Particulars	No. of schools	Percentage
1	Separate kitchen	38	95.0
2	Store-kitchen	-	-
3	Class room	02	5.0
4	Unspecified place	-	-
5	From other schools	-	-

The place and surroundings for cooking and serving food for children has been stated to be good in all the schools (100.0 per cent). The data has also confirmed that storage of fuel for cooking and food grains along with safety to the process of cooking is ensured in all schools.

**12.** Most of the schools (95 per cent) utilize the space available in the kitchen. Of the 40 schools, only a few schools (5 per cent) need to have a separate kitchen.

**13.** The availability of water has been confirmed in most of the schools (95 per cent). The quality and quantity of water has been found to be good for purpose of cooking and drinking.

**14.** The responses from the schools indicate that all the schools have utensils to cook food.

**15.** All the schools (100 per cent) have been using Liquid Petroleum Gas (LPG) as fuel for cooking.

## **16. Safety and Hygiene**

(i) All the schools have been making the best possible effort to ensure hygiene in the place where mid-day meal is prepared and served. The level of safety and security of the place has been found to be good in all the schools (100 per cent).

(ii) In all the schools (100 per cent), the teachers have been found to be reminding and prompting students to wash their hands before taking food.

(iii) All the schools have been making deliberate efforts to serve food in an organised way. This has been done to ensure proper serving of food to all, to monitor the use of water and to

ensure cleanliness and hygiene. The students are allowed to collect food either in a row or they will be served food as they form a line.

(iv) Most of the schools have been able to store drinking water either in a separate container or a water filter. The water needed for cleaning utensils and plates is provided either with the help of a tanker or storage system. In some cases, there is good quality water available for both the purposes.

(v) The responsibility of maintaining cleanliness and hygiene in the cooking place is entrusted to the cooks and the helpers. Generally, the task of cleaning is ensured after the mid-day meal is served on each day. In all schools, the safety and security of storing cooking gas and food grains has been ensured.

**17. (i)** The participation by parents, local body members and the community have not been quantified. However, their participation has been assessed through discussion, observation at the time of field visits and interviews. It has been found that the participation of SDMC members to supervise mid-day meal varies from school to school.

(ii) As per the norm, the MDM is being monitored and supervised by the parents on most of the days. The data collected from sample schools indicates that there is no roaster of parents formally prepared with specified days. However, there are “Mother Committees” with an understanding of supervising MDM on all working days depending on their convenience. The general perception among the parents is that the head teacher, being the secretary of the SDMC has been performing the role of supervision without interruption.

(iii) A detailed analysis of the extent of awareness and participation in MDM programme by the parents, SDMC members and Panchayat/ Local Body representatives has been made by examining the responses from the respective groups:

**a) Parents:** The data collected from parents has confirmed that most of the parents (interviewed by the MI team members) have a good understanding of the MDM programme. Similar trend also prevails with regard to arrangements of mid-day meal in terms of both awareness and participation. The responses from parents have indicated that students are getting good quality and quantity of mid-day meal with

their response ranging from satisfactory to the level of excellence. Majority of the parents perceive the nutritional level of the food served as “Good” or “Very Good” (see Table-3 for details). There are many respondents with higher levels of awareness and participation. There are no respondents with poor level of either awareness or participation.

**Table-3: Community Participation in MDM (Response from Parents)**

Sl. No.	Particulars	Poor	Satisfactory	Good	Very Good	Excellent	Total
1	Awareness	-	19	39	05	04	67
2	Mid-day meal arrangements	-	23	31	08	05	67
3	Supervision	-	23	33	07	04	67
4	Quantity available for students	-	15	38	09	04	66
5	Nutrition level of mid-day meal	-	20	32	11	04	67
Total		-	100	173	40	21	334

**b) SDMC Members:** The level of awareness among SDMC members has been good with an equal number of them having a satisfactory and very good awareness level. Their participation in arranging and supervising cooking and serving of mid-day meal has also been found to be similar. There were a few members who had a limited understanding and participation in the programme. Majority of the SDMC members have indicated that the mid-day meal served is good. There are almost equal number of SDMC members indicating either “Very good” in relation to the quantity and quality of mid-day meal (see Table-4 for details). There are no SDMC members with poor level of awareness and participation.

**Table-4: Community Participation in MDM (Response from SDMC Members)**

Sl. No.	Particulars	Poor	Satisfactory	Good	Very Good	Excellent	Total
1	Awareness	-	07	29	26	05	67
2	Mid-day meal arrangements	-	04	35	22	05	66
3	Supervision	-	07	29	26	05	67
4	Quantity available for students	-	09	31	21	05	66
5	Nutrition level of mid-day meal	-	07	35	21	06	69
Total		-	34	159	116	26	335

**c) Panchayat/ Local Body Members:** The level of awareness has been more or less similar to the earlier groups. While the awareness level among the Panchayat members has been at a higher level if they were also the parents, there were others with limited awareness. The level of participation has been found either “Good” or “Very Good” (see Table-5 for details). There are equal number of responses distributed between “Satisfactory” and “Excellent”. The response in the category of “Poor” has not been prevalent.

**Table-5: Community Participation in MDM (Response from Panchayat/Ward Members)**

Sl. No.	Particulars	Poor	Satisfactory	Good	Very Good	Excellent	Total
1	Awareness	-	05	22	07	05	39
2	Mid-day meal arrangements	-	03	25	10	03	41
3	Supervision	-	05	23	07	04	39
4	Quantity available for students	-	04	22	10	04	40
5	Nutrition level of mid-day meal	-	04	21	10	04	39
Total		-	21	113	44	20	198

(iv) Overall assessment of opinion about implementation of MDM has been identified by MI and it has been quantified. The details have been indicated in Table-6. It is found that in most of the schools, the opinion has been found to be “Quite Satisfactory” (90 per cent). The remaining schools have established “Good” opinion.

**Table-6: Overall Opinion about Mid-day Meal**

Sl. No.	Particulars	Percentage
1	Quite Satisfactory	90.0
2	Satisfactory	-
3	Good	10.0

An attempt has also been made to identify the sources of awareness. The most frequent source has been the villagers/friends and relatives. The teacher and the school have been found to be the second priority sources (see Table 7). There are others like inhabitants of the locality, friends and relatives contributing towards awareness about mid-day meal scheme.

**Table-7: Source of Awareness about the MDM Scheme**

Sl. No.	Particulars	No. of Respondents*
1	Newspaper/ Magazine	06
2	Villagers/ Friends/ Relatives	48
3	Teacher	37
4	School (where the child is studying)	36
5	Radio	08
6	Television	06
7	Website	-
8	Any other	-

\*: Each respondent is entitled to indicate more than one source.

## **18. Inspection and Supervision**

The MDM scheme has been supervised at the State, District, Block, Cluster and School level. There are many officials involved and assigned with this responsibility. There are both periodical and surprise inspections from most of these officials. On a daily basis, it is the SDMC members or parents who supervise and inspect at the school level. The CRC, Assistant Director of Taluk Panchayat (Akshara Dasoha) and Block Education Officer supervise most of the schools at least once in a month. The district officials like the Deputy Project Coordinator (SSA), Deputy Director of Public Instruction, Education Officer (Zilla Panchayat) and other officials supervise and inspect as and when they visit schools. The officials at the State level also have their planned programme of supervision and inspection.

## **19. Impact**

The mid-day meal scheme has been found to have made impact improving the enrollment of children to schools. Another significant aspect of the MDM is that the attendance of children

to the school has increased significantly in all schools. The most striking outcome indicated is that it has been able to eliminate hunger of the children coming from poor households and enable them to participate in classroom learning activity.

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## **Institute for Social and Economic Change, Bangalore**

### **District Level Half Yearly Monitoring Report (MDM)**

#### **Tumkur**

The monitoring institute has collected data from 40 schools across Tumkur District. The sample of 40 schools includes lower primary schools (10), higher primary schools (29), and one KGBV. The selection of schools to be included into the sample has been made with the help sought from Sarva Shikshana Abhiyan officials at the District and the State level. The present report refers to half-yearly monitoring for the period 1<sup>st</sup> October 2010 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2011.

#### **A. At the School Level**

##### **1. Regularity in Serving Meal**

All the 40 schools in the sample serve hot cooked meal daily. There has been no interruption either stated or recorded. The mid-day meal is served to all the students present on all working days.

##### **2. Trends**

Most of the students enrolled in a given school are eligible to avail mid-day meal facility. However, an individual child is entitled to make an option to avail or not to avail the facility. It is in this context, data has been collected about the number of students availing mid-day meal and the actual number of students taking meal during the days of visit.

a)	Number of children enrolled in schools	6386
b)	Number of children opted for MDM	6122 (95.9%)

c)	Number of children attending the school on the day of visit	5489 (86.0%)
d)	Number of children actually availing MDM on the day of visit	5353 (87.4%)
e)	Number of children availed MDM on the previous day of visit	5321 (86.9%)

Looking at the utilisation trend of the MDM provided in the schools. It may be noticed that it is not 100.00 per cent. As seen from the above figures, close to 4 per cent of children have opted out of MDM in schools. However, from out of those who take MDM regularly the percentage of children availing MDM also reveals variation. It is noticed on the day of visit. 87.4 per cent of the children had availed MDM. The previous day's record of MDM utilization reveals 86.9 per cent thereby revealing a difference of 0.5 per cent. This difference is least significant. There are several factors contributing to these kinds of aberrations such as students staying away from schools due to family celebrations, local festivals and other domestic and personal reasons. On such occasions, there are always differential consumption ratios. There was no evidence of surplus cooking or wastage of cooked food on the basis of daily estimation.

### **3. Regularity in Delivering Food Grains to School**

Food grains are supplied to school through the outlets of Food Corporation of India (FCI). There are guidelines to the FCI with regard to supplying food grains to schools. The data collected from schools has indicated that 92.5 per cent of the schools have been getting the supply of food properly. There are only two schools indicating delay, which is invariably an occasional phenomenon. All the schools generally get one month buffer stock of food grains. It has been found 62.5 per cent of the schools have one month buffer stock, whereas 37.5 per cent have indicated the absence of one month buffer stock. Simultaneously, it has also been found that the supply of food grains has been as per the prescribed allotment. There are 97.5 per cent of schools confirming proper supply. One of the explanations offered by the head teacher for the delay in getting the specified food grains is due to the official procedures. Most of the schools have confirmed that they are getting good quality food grains (95 per cent). According to the guidelines, FCI is expected to supply Fair Average Quality (FAQ) food grains to all the schools. If there is any lapse, the head teacher or the school is entitled to return the food grains for 'poor quality'.

### **4. Regularity in Delivering Cooking Cost to School Level**

The mid-day meal grant is released either through a cheque or e-transfer. This has been confirmed by all the sample schools. There has been certain amount of delay reported by the schools in getting the grants (40 per cent). However, 60 per cent of schools have indicated timely release of grants. In case of delay in release of grants, the non-fulfillment of official procedures has been found to be the most frequent reason. These delays have been invariably handled by the head teacher so that there will be no interruption in the provision of mid-day meal to children.

## **5. Social Equity**

In all the 40 schools, there is no social discrimination in cooking and serving mid-day meal. Some of the possible factors of discrimination like caste, gender or community have not been influencing MDM at any stage in the process of its implementation. It has been observed that in majority of the schools (77.5 per cent) children are served mid-day meal in a systematic manner by forming a line. There are instances where children are given mid-day meal by organizing them into groups (15 per cent of schools) on the basis of functional convenience and availability of separate space for taking food. It is generally observed that students belonging to higher primary classes take to the practice of serving and distributing mid-day meal to boys and girls separately (7.5 per cent).

## **6. Menu**

The guidelines issued by the MDM scheme have specifications relating to menu. Every school is expected to evolve and maintain menu details on a weekly basis. It is also expected to incorporate variety in the menu.

(i) The guidelines specify that the weekly menu is to be displayed in the school. All the schools have displayed menu of the mid-day meal. The responses from the head teachers confirm that all the schools have a pre-planned menu schedule for all the days of the week. There are also instances where the declared menu may be deviated due to certain local reasons.

(ii) Generally, the head teachers have been found to formulate the menu. It is also true that head teachers consult the president or active members of SDMC to finalise the menu.

## **7 Variety of Menu**



(i) The data confirms that majority of the (82.5 per cent) schools have variety in mid-day meals. The remaining 17.5 per cent schools have indicated absence of variety. This kind of response is partly due to their perception that the weekly menu recurs with similar items like rice, sambar or rasam and butter milk. The possibility of variety is also determined by the fluctuations of price in prominent food commodities in the market.

(ii) In all the schools rice is the common item served. It is the items prepared with dal and vegetables that takes varied form. Generally, schools provide a distinct food item (rice bath) on Saturdays.

### **8. Quality and Quantity of Meal**

The responses from the students, head teachers and the SDMC members have indicated details relating to the quality and quantity of food. Most of the students availing (95 per cent) MDM have confirmed that they are getting sufficient quantity of mid-day meal in all the schools. However, the responses differ slightly with regard to the quality of the meal. It has been stated by most of the students (90 per cent) that the quality of the meal is good. There are a few students (10 per cent) indicating that the quality of the mid-day meal served to them is satisfactory. It is necessary to record that no school or a student has indicated poor quality.

### **9. Supplementary (Health Check-up)**

The data collected from schools has indicated that health check-up to children is conducted in all 40 schools (100 per cent). All the schools have conducted health check-up camps once in an academic year (100 per cent). The data collected has indicated that the supply of vitamin tablets, de-worming medicine and iron folic acid tablets has been confirmed in all the schools. The task of providing all this is handled by teachers, specially the class teachers. The vitamin tablets are supplied on a monthly basis, whereas the de-worming medicine is given to children once in six months.

### **10. Status of Cooks**

The MDM guidelines specify the social composition of cooks and helpers. This has been done to avoid social discrimination and to help children to overcome prejudices and attitude of social distancing. All the schools make efforts to adhere to the norms. However, it has been observed that the social composition of the habitation/ village where school is located may not be able to get a person required to function as a cook or a helper. In such situations,

school will have limited options in adhering to the norms. It is due to this reason there may be certain amount of deviance in appointing cooks and helpers. However, most of the schools make choices on the basis of the availability of persons to perform the roles. The salary of cooks and helpers paid by all the schools is Rs.1100 and Rs.1000 respectively. The following table indicates the distribution and social composition of cooks and helpers in 40 schools:

**Table-1: Social Composition of Cooks and Helpers**

Sl. No.	Category	Cooks	Helpers
1	SC	9	17
2	ST	2	14
3	OBC	18	17
4	Minority	1	9
5	Others	7	8
Total		37	65

The social composition of the inhabitants and willingness to accept the job by the designated caste group has invariably influenced the prevailing composition of cooks and helpers. The social composition of the inhabitants and willingness to accept the job by the designated cast groups has invariably influenced the prevailing composition of cooks and helpers.

## 11. Infrastructure

The infrastructure needed to provide mid-day meal in the school includes facilities to cook food, availability of water, fuel and vessels. The data relating to these items indicates that most of the schools have separate kitchen or a separate space to cook. The details are given in Table-2. It is also interesting to note that there are a few schools with store-cum-kitchen (10.0 per cent).

**Table-2: Details about Kitchen**

Sl. No.	Particulars	No. of schools	Percentage
1	Separate kitchen	36	90.0
2	Store-kitchen	4	10.0
3	Class room	-	-
4	Unspecified place	-	-
5	From other schools	-	-

The place and surroundings for cooking and serving food for children has been stated to be good in most of the cases (90 per cent schools) and satisfactory in 10.0 per cent schools. The data has also confirmed that storage of fuel for cooking and food grains along with safety to the process of cooking is ensured in all schools.

**12.** Most of the schools have separate kitchen and in some cases store-cum-kitchen.

**13.** The availability of water has been confirmed in most of the schools (97.5%). The quality and quantity of water has been found to be good for purpose of cooking and drinking.

**14.** The responses from the schools indicate that all the schools have utensils to cook food. However, a few schools have indicated that the existing utensils need either replacement or enhancement.

**15.** It has been found that most of the schools (97.5 per cent) have been using Liquid Petroleum Gas (LPG) as fuel for cooking. The remaining schools are using fire wood (2.5 per cent).

## **16. Safety and Hygiene**

(i) All the schools have been making the best possible effort to ensure hygiene in the place where mid-day meal is prepared and served. There are a few cases where things could be improved for the better. This is especially true in case of the space available to serve food for all the children in one stretch.

(ii) In most of the schools (97.5 per cent), the teachers have been found to be reminding and prompting students to wash their hands before taking food.

(iii) All the schools have been making deliberate efforts to serve food in an organised way. This has been done to ensure proper serving of food to all, to monitor the use of water and to ensure cleanliness and hygiene. The students are allowed to collect food either in a row or they will be served food as they form a line.

(iv) Most of the schools have been able to store drinking water either in a separate container or a water filter. The water needed for cleaning utensils and plates is provided either with the help of a tanker or storage system. In some cases, there is good quality water available for both the purposes.

(v) The responsibility of maintaining cleanliness and hygiene in the cooking place is entrusted to the cooks and the helpers. Generally, the task of cleaning is ensured after the mid-day meal is served on each day. In all schools, the safety and security of storing cooking gas and food grains has been ensured.

**17. (i)** The participation by parents, local body members and the community have not been quantified. However, their participation has been assessed through discussion, observation at the time of field visits and interviews. It has been found that the participation of SDMC members to supervise mid-day meal varies from school to school.

(ii) As per the norm, the MDM is being monitored and supervised by the parents on most of the days. The data collected from sample schools indicates that there is no roaster of parents formally prepared with specified days. However, there are “Mother Committees” with an understanding of supervising MDM on all working days depending on their convenience. The general perception among the parents is that the head teacher, being the secretary of the SDMC has been performing the role of supervision without interruption. There are apprehensions that their presence to supervise mid-day meal may be construed as interference by the head teacher.

(iii) A detailed analysis of the extent of awareness and participation in MDM programme by the parents, SDMC members and Panchayat/ Local Body representatives has been made by examining the responses from the respective groups:

**a) Parents:** The data collected from parents has confirmed that most of the parents (interviewed by the MI team members) have a good understanding of the MDM programme. Similar trend also prevails with regard to arrangements of mid-day meal in terms of both awareness and participation. The responses from parents have indicated that students are getting good quality and quantity of mid-day meal with their response ranging from

satisfactory to the level of excellence. Majority of the parents perceive the nutritional level of the food served as “Good” or “Very Good” (see Table-3 for details). The remaining responses have very good level of awareness and participation.

**Table-3: Community Participation in MDM (Response from Parents)**

Sl. No.	Particulars	Poor	Satisfactory	Good	Very Good	Excellent	Total
1	Awareness	1	22	50	3	-	76
2	Mid-day meal arrangements	-	22	50	4	-	76
3	Supervision	-	25	46	4	-	75
4	Quantity available for students	-	12	60	4	-	76
5	Nutrition level of mid-day meal	-	15	58	2	-	75
Total		1	96	264	17		378

**b) SDMC Members:** The level of awareness among SDMC members has been good with an equal number of them having a better awareness level. Their participation in arranging and supervising cooking and serving of mid-day meal has also been found to be “Good” among the majority (63.2 per cent) of SDMC members. There were almost equal number of them having satisfactory level (22.8 per cent) and a few members having “very good” level (13.3 per cent) of awareness and participation in MDM programme (see Table-4 for details).

**Table-4: Community Participation in MDM (Response from SDMC Members)**

Sl. No.	Particulars	Poor	Satisfactory	Good	Very Good	Excellent	Total
1	Awareness	1	19	47	9	-	76
2	Mid-day meal arrangements	-	25	42	9	-	76
3	Supervision	1	17	49	9	-	76
4	Quantity available for students	-	13	50	11	-	74
5	Nutrition level of mid-day meal	-	12	50	12	-	74
Total		2	86	238	50	-	376

**c) Panchayat/ Local Body Members:** The level of awareness has been more or less similar to the earlier groups. While the awareness level among the Panchayat members has been at a higher level if they were also the parents, there were others with limited awareness. The level of participation has been found either “Satisfactory” or “Good” (see Table-5 for details).

**Table-5: Community Participation in MDM (Response from Panchayat/Ward Members)**

Sl. No.	Particulars	Poor	Satisfactory	Good	Very Good	Excellent	Total
1	Awareness	3	8	24	1	-	36
2	Mid-day meal arrangements	1	14	20	1	-	36
3	Supervision	2	9	23	1	-	35
4	Quantity available for students	1	10	25	1	-	37
5	Nutrition level of mid-day meal	2	7	25	1	-	35
Total		9	48	117	5		179

(iv) An overall assessment of awareness about implementation of MDM has been identified by MI and it has been quantified. The details have been indicated in Table-6. It is found that in most of the schools awareness has been found to be “Quite Satisfactory” (37.5 per cent). In 15.0 per cent cases, the level of awareness has been found to be “Satisfactory”. There are many indicating “Good” overall opinion (47.5 per cent).

**Table-6: Overall Opinion about Mid-day Meal**

Sl. No.	Particulars	Percentage
1	Quite Satisfactory	37.5
2	Satisfactory	15.0
3	Good	47.5

An attempt has also been made to identify the sources of awareness. The most frequent sources have been the teachers, the school and friends/ relatives/ villagers. There are others like news paper, television and radio have also been identified as sources of information about mid-day meal scheme.

**Table-7: Source of Awareness about the MDM Scheme**

Sl. No.	Particulars	No. of Respondents*
1	Newspaper/ Magazine	22
2	Villagers/ Friends/ Relatives	35
3	Teacher	39
4	School (where the child is studying)	39
5	Radio	10
6	Television	25
7	Website	-
8	Any other	10

\*: Each respondent is entitled to indicate more than one source.

### **18. Inspection and Supervision**

The MDM scheme has been supervised at the State, District, Block, Cluster and School level. There are many officials involved and assigned with this responsibility. There are both periodical and surprise inspections from most of these officials. On a daily basis, it is the SDMC members or parents who supervise and inspect at the school level. The CRC, Assistant Director of Taluk Panchayat (Akshara Dasoha) and Block Education Officer supervise most of the schools at least once in a month. The district officials like the Deputy Project Coordinator (SSA), Deputy Director of Public Instruction, Education Officer (Zilla Panchayat) and other officials supervise and inspect as and when they visit schools. The officials at the State level also have their planned programme of supervision and inspection.

### **19. Impact**

The mid-day meal scheme has been found to have made impact improving the enrollment of children to schools. Another significant aspect of the MDM is that the attendance of children to the school has increased significantly in all schools. The most striking outcome indicated is that it has been able to eliminate hunger of the children coming from poor households and enable them to participate in classroom learning activity.

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