



R.C. MEENA
Joint Secretary (EE.I)
Ministry of Education
Tel: 011-23389247



भारत सरकार
शिक्षा मंत्रालय
स्कूल शिक्षा और साक्षरता विभाग
शास्त्री भवन
नई दिल्ली - 110 115
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION & LITERACY
SHASTRI BHAVAN
NEW DELHI-110 115

D.O. No. 14-3/2021-EE-6(MDM-3-1)(Part-I)

Dated the December 23rd, 2021

Respected Sir / Madam,

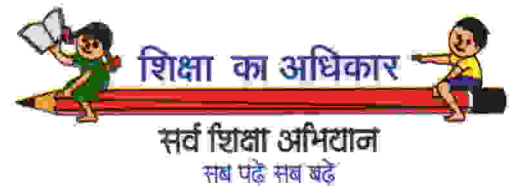
Social Audit is the process in which people collectively monitor and evaluate the planning and implementation of a programme or scheme. It is viewed as an ongoing process of public vigilance. No Government programme can be successful unless and until it is fully supported by the public at large. Hence through Social Audit, community participation can be attracted and channelized for enrichment of PM POSHAN Scheme.

2. The objective of Social Audit is to create awareness among beneficiaries under the scheme and empower public/ beneficiaries to hold Government accountable, to address problems and identify bottle necks at the grass roots level so that bottom up and location specific approach may be adopted for smooth implementation of the programme or scheme and last but not the least it helps in popularizing and strengthening the scheme at the grass roots level.

3. As you are aware that during PAB meeting, it was assured from all States and UTs to conduct social audit of PM POSHAN scheme in all districts during 2021-22. During PAB Meeting it was suggested by the Ministry to conduct social audit of the scheme even if the schools are closed due to Pandemic, the social audit may be done for (FSA) dry ration distribution also and share the report with the Ministry. Further, as per letter No. 1-3/2021-Desk(MDM) dated 06.10.2021 (copy enclosed) it was stated that Social Audit in all districts is mandatory as social audit is collective monitoring of a scheme by people's active involvement covering issues of equity, equality and expenditure management.

4. In this connection, Secretary (SE&L)'s D.O. letter dated 26.08.2021 (copy enclosed) may also be referred wherein it is requested that Social Audits of MDM benefits may be initiated in the month of September by all States and UTs. The same has also been re-iterated vide this Department's D.O. letter No. 14-5/2021-MDM-1-1 (EE.5) dated 8th September, 2021 (copy enclosed).


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5. In view of above, you are requested to furnish the current status of Social audit in the format attached herewith by 30th December 2021 positively.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,



(R. C. MEENA)

To

All Principal Secretaries / Education Secretaries / Nodal Officers of all the States/ UTs.

अनीता करवल, मा.प्र.से
सचिव

Anita Karwal, IAS
Secretary



स्कूल शिक्षा और साक्षरता विभाग
शिक्षा मंत्रालय
भारत सरकार
Department of School Education & Literacy
Ministry of Education
Government of India

Date:26.08.2021

Dear School Education Secretaries,

As you are aware, POSHAN Abhiyaan (National Nutrition Mission) – PM's Overarching Scheme for Holistic Nourishment was launched by the Hon'ble Prime Minister on 8th March, 2018. The programme strives to reduce the level of stunting, under-nutrition, low birth weight in children and anemia in adolescent girls, pregnant women, lactating mothers as well as children. This is an ongoing programme.

2. Ministry of Education is a partner ministry in POSHAN Abhiyaan. We are celebrating "**RashtriyaPoshanMaah**" during the month of September, 2021 to further accelerate various activities under POSHAN Abhiyaan and to create a "Jan Aandolan" in the process by adhering to COVID-19 protocols. It has been decided to carry out a series of activities during this month as mentioned below:

- i. Schools to carry out POSHAN Assembles with students in virtual/physical mode to discuss malnutrition, its impact on society and value of healthy and balanced diet.
- ii. E- quiz focusing on malnutrition, nutrition awareness to be organised by centre through MyGov portal and States/UT through their own platform.
- iii. A special plantation drive in school Nutrition (Kitchen) Garden may be carried out as was already advised during the recently held Programme Approval Board Meetings with the States and UTs.
- iv. SWAYAMPURABHA channels of Ministry of Education will also telecast programmes on POSHAN Abhiyan during POSHAN MAAH.
- v. Parent Teacher Meeting (PTMs) may be held in online/offline mode by all school/class teachers with parents with regard to nutrition and its relationship to physical and mental health and wellbeing.

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vi. Social Audits of MDM benefits may be initiated in the month of September by all States and UTs.

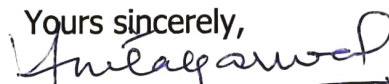
vii. The portion in the NCERT curriculum on nutrition and physical health in all grades may be covered by all schools in the month of September.

5. You are therefore requested to ensure maximum participation from your State/UTs/Organisations in convergence with State Women & Child Development and State SCERTs. You are also requested to ensure that these may be widely disseminated in your State/UTs as well to give it a good impetus.

6. We look forward to widespread participation from your state/UT. Your kind intervention shall be extremely helpful in engaging children of the Country with Poshan Maah, 2021, which is essential for its success.

Let us join hands to celebrate the true spirit of Rashtriya POSHAN Maah along with our school children and empower them with the knowledge regarding nutrition.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

(Smt. Anita Karwal)

To,

Secretary School Education, All States/UTs.

Copy to

1. State Project Director, Samagra Shiksha, All States/UTs.
2. Director, SCERT, All States/UTs.

Annexure-1

MyGov competitions for PoshanAbhiyan:

On the occasion of celebration of Rashtriya Poshan Abhiyan month in September, 2021, the Department of School Education and Literacy has decided to conduct two online competitions for school going children through MyGov platforms. Details of the competitions are as follows:

1. **Quiz Competition:** This quiz is based around facts of food and nutrition. The aim of this quiz is "learning with fun". The quiz is based on indigenous and traditional foods, link of climatic conditions and festivals to food and nutrition, the names of the same food in different parts of India, spices grown and used in different parts of India and their benefits, etc. It attempts to bring out the unity in diversity of the food and nutrition of India. The theme therefore has a major element of Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat in it. This competition will start on My Gov from 1st September, 2021 and will continue till 30th September, 2021. The Quiz can be accessed at the link (MyGov.in) Participants who get all answers right shall automatically receive an online certificate from Director NCERT through this My Gov platform.
2. **Registration Process** for entering the above two competitions, the following mandatory information will be required from the participants on MyGov.
 - a. Name of participant
 - b. Studying in class
 - c. Age
 - d. Name of school
 - e. Address of school
 - f. State/UT in which school is located
 - g. Mobile number of self/parent/guardian



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NEW DELHI-110 115

R. C. MEENA
Joint Secretary (EE.I)
Tel.011-23389247

D.O. No. 14-5/2021-MDM-1-1 (EE.5)

Dated the 8th September, 2021

Respected Sir / Madam,

POSHAN Abhiyaan (National Nutrition Mission) – PM's Overarching Scheme for Holistic Nourishment was launched by the Hon'ble Prime Minister on 8th March, 2018. The programme strives to reduce the level of stunting, under-nutrition, low birth weight in children and anemia in adolescent girls, pregnant women, lactating mothers as well as children. This is an ongoing programme.

2. As you are aware Ministry of Education is a partner ministry in POSHAN Abhiyaan. We are celebrating “**RashtriyaPoshanMaah**” during the month of September, 2021 to further accelerate various activities under POSHAN Abhiyaan and to create a “Jan Aandolan” in the process by adhering to COVID-19 protocols. It has been decided to carry out a series of activities during this month as mentioned below:

- i. Schools to carry out POSHAN Assemblies with students in virtual/physical mode to discuss malnutrition, its impact on society and value of healthy and balanced diet.
- ii. E- quiz focusing on malnutrition, nutrition awareness to be organised by centre through MyGov portal and States/UT through their own platform.
- iii. A special plantation drive in school Nutrition (Kitchen) Garden may be carried out as was already advised during the recently held Programme Approval Board Meetings with the States and UTs.
- iv. SWAYAMPURABHA channels of Ministry of Education will also telecast programmes on POSHAN Abhiyan during POSHAN MAAH.
- v. Parent Teacher Meeting (PTMs) may be held in online/offline mode by all school/class teachers with parents with regard to nutrition and its relationship to physical and mental health and wellbeing.
- vi. Social Audits of MDM benefits may be initiated in the month of September by all States and UTs.
- vii. The portion in the NCERT curriculum on nutrition and physical health in all grades may be covered by all schools in the month of September.

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3. To review the progress of the identified activities and to learn and share the innovative steps adopted in disseminating knowledge on the information regarding healthy and nutritious food, balanced diet, importance of hand wash, use of millets, importance of green leafy vegetables etc., a meeting through VC with all the States and UTs under the **Chairpersonship Secretary (SE&L), Ministry of Education, Govt. of India** is scheduled on **21st September 2021 at 12.00 Noon**. The meeting link and timing shall be shared separately.

4. You are requested to issue appropriate instructions to the concerned Directors/Commissioners of your department to earnestly carry out the envisaged activities regularly and update the details at "**Jan Andolan Dashboard**" (<http://poshanabhiyaan.gov.in>). The user ids and passwords have been emailed to you vide email dated 06.09.2021. You are also requested to instruct the concerned Directors/Commissioners, to attend the said meeting with updated status. Your kind intervention shall be extremely helpful in engaging the children of the country with Poshan Maah, 2021, which is essential for its success.

Let us join hands to celebrate the true spirit of Rashtriya POSHAN Maah along with our school children and empower them with the knowledge regarding nutrition through Jan Aandolan for effective implementation of POSHAN Abhiyaan.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,



(R C MEENA)

To,

1. The Additional Chief Secretaries /Principal Secretaries / Secretaries of Education or the Nodal department for implementation of Mid- Day Meal Scheme in all States and UTs.
2. Director/Commissioners of MDM,

F. No, 1-3/2021-Desk (MDM)
Government of India
Ministry of Education
Department of School Education & Literacy

Shastri Bhavan, New Delhi
Dated, the 6th October, 2021

To,

The Additional Chief Secretaries / Principal Secretaries / Secretaries of Education or the Nodal Department for implementation of "Pradhan Mantri Poshan Shakti Nirman (PM POSHAN) " Scheme in all States and UTs.

Subject: Implementation of Centrally Sponsored Scheme "**Pradhan Mantri Poshan Shakti Nirman (PM POSHAN)**".

Madam / Sir,

I am directed to convey the approval of the Central Government for implementation of Centrally Sponsored Scheme "**Pradhan Mantri Poshan Shakti Nirman (PM POSHAN)**" for providing one hot cooked meal in Government and Government-aided schools from 2021-22 to 2025-26, earlier known as 'National Programme for Mid-Day Meal in Schools'.

2. The Cabinet has approved the following:

- i. **Food Grains:** Supply of food grains @ 100 grams per child per school day for primary and 150 grams for upper primary at NFSA rate i.e. ₹ 1 per kg for coarse grains, ₹ 2 per kg for wheat and ₹ 3 per kg for rice.
- ii. **Cooking Cost:** It includes cost of ingredients, e.g. pulses, vegetables, cooking oil, other condiments and fuel. The per child per day cooking cost is ₹ 4.97 for primary and ₹ 7.45 for upper primary w.e.f. 1st April, 2020. The per child details of items are as under:

S. N.	Items	Primary	Upper Primary
1.	Pulses	20 gms	30 gms
2.	Vegetables	50 gms	75 gms
3.	Oil & fat	5 gms	7.5 gms
4.	Salt & condiments	As per need	As per need
5.	Fuel	As per need	As per need

DoSEL will form a committee of experts to review the components of cooking cost, formula and methodology of its revision, actual consumption, coverage etc.

- iii. **Honorarium to Cook-cum-Helpers:** @ ₹ 1000 per month for 10 months in a year.
- iv. **Transportation Assistance:** As per PDS rate for transportation of food grains from FCI godown to school door steps. Maximum ₹ 1500

per MT for transportation of food grains from FCI godown to school door steps for States other than NER and 2 Himalayan States and 2 UTs.

- v. **Management, Monitoring and Evaluation (MME):** @ 3% of aggregate of cost of foodgrains, cooking cost, Honorarium to Cook-cum-Helpers and Transportation Assistance.
- vi. Provision of Meals during summer vacations in drought/ disaster affected areas.
- vii. **Kitchen-cum-store:** As per plinth area norm and State Schedule of Rates. 20 sq meter for schools having enrolment of 100 students. Additional 4 sq meter for every addition of up to 100 students.
- viii. **Kitchen devices:** Linked with enrolment.

Enrolment (No. of Children) per school	Unit Cost (In ₹)
Up to 50	10,000
51-150	15,000
151-250	20,000
251 & above	25,000

- ix. **Repair of kitchen-cum-stores:** ₹ 10,000/- per unit, for the kitchen-cum-stores, which were constructed 10 years ago.
- x. **Fortification of food items:** Fortification of food items in a systematic manner through Food Corporation of India (FCI).
- xi. **Innovation / Flexibility component with no separate budgetary support:** Five per cent of the aggregate of the cost of foodgrains, cooking cost, transport assistance, honorarium to cook-cum-helpers, and MME with no separate additional budgetary support for this component. The requirement of funds under this component will be met from available funds and implemented as per Department of Expenditure's OM No. 55(5)/PF-II/2011 dated 06.09.2016.
- xii. Provision of mid-day meal to preparatory classes or Balvatika (that is before class I) in primary schools as covered in Samagra Shiksha as envisaged under National Education Policy.

3. Further, Cabinet also approved several initiatives, without any additional financial implications, in order to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the scheme:

- i. Flexibility to create any new intervention and increase/decrease any norm in the scheme within the approved outlay and subject to the approval of Empowered Committee headed by Hon'ble Shiksha Mantri.
- ii. The flexibility of changing the component-wise allocation within the approved outlay is given to Programme Approval Board (PAB), which can decide the allocation on an annual basis.
- iii. Steps will be taken to ensure payment of honorarium to Cook-cum-Helpers in the lines of DBT directly into their bank accounts from State level.

- iv. Emphasis will be laid on transfer of cooking cost directly to the school's bank account in the lines of DBT through State Government directly from State level.
- v. Field inspections by students of eminent Universities / Institutions and also trainee teachers of District Institute of Education Training and Regional Institutes of Education, for enhanced monitoring of implementation of scheme at field level.
- vi. 3rd party independent monitoring by using Food & Nutrition Departments of Central Universities, Agriculture Universities and eminent institutes like National Institute of Nutrition etc.
- vii. The following interventions will be packaged and positioned as special nutritional interventions:
 - a. **Tithi Bhojan:** The concept of Tithi Bhojan will be encouraged extensively. Tithi Bhojan is a community participation programme in which people provide special food to children on special occasions/festivals.
 - b. **School Nutrition Gardens:** Efforts will be made to promote development of School Nutrition Gardens in schools to give children first hand experience with nature and gardening.
 - c. **Social Audit:** Social Audit in all districts is made mandatory. Social Audit is collective monitoring of a scheme by people's active involvement covering issues of equity, equality and expenditure management.
- viii. Nutrition and Health parameters of children will be mapped at District and Block levels in convergence with Ministry of Health & Family Welfare alongwith extensive monitoring through IT intervention and other methods.
- ix. **Vocal for local :**
 - a. Usage of locally grown food items like millets, vegetables, condiments etc. will be systematically undertaken by states/UTs under the Scheme. This not only promotes nutrition through local traditional food items, but it also contributes to local economic growth.
 - b. Farmers' Producers Organizations, Federation of Women's Self-Help Groups etc. in implementation of Mid-Day Meal Scheme.
 - c. States/UTs to be encouraged to empower District Collector / District Magistrate to decide menu suitable to the local conditions within the prescribed nutrition and food norms and to procure locally grown food items from Farmers Producers Organizations, Federation of Women's Self-Help Groups etc. so as to promote local employment generation and economic development while simultaneously improving the nutrition standards.
- x. **Convergence :**
 - a. The existing system of health check-ups, immunization and health cards for 100% school going children will be strengthened in convergence with Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

- b. Convergence with Ministry of WCD will be undertaken with reference to BalVatika and co-located schools.
 - c. The States and UTs may procure pulses as per their local taste for the Scheme from the Central buffer stock created by the Government of India.
- xi. **Community mobilization:**
- a. To encourage States and UTs to promote community participation in the lines of Tithi Bhojan of Gujarat.
 - b. Strengthening of the existing system of tasting of meals by parents / teachers / community members before serving to children.
- xii. **Monitoring :**
- a. Continuation of existing fund release mechanism of the Scheme in which funds are released in two instalments (effectively 3 instalments i.e. ad-hoc grants, balance of first instalment and second instalment).
 - b. To ensure proper management structures at different levels i.e. States, districts and blocks within the existing available funds.
 - c. An institutionalized mechanism for systematic monitoring and implementation of Scheme will be developed including dietary intake, nutrition status, health parameters and Body Mass Index of children. Institutions with domain expertise in nutrition like Food & Nutrition Departments of Central / State Universities, National Institute of Nutrition etc. will be engaged.
 - d. A robust IT enabled MIS system using latest digital technologies will be developed to closely monitor the programme. The system may also include seamless tracking of health and nutritional status of children from pre-school to primary school.
 - e. All States and UTs will be encouraged to strengthen IT based grievance redressal system / suggestion system, which empowers parents / students to upload evidences of their experiences with the scheme.
 - f. Independent third-party evaluation along with regular social audit will also be carried out by states/UTs every year and reports will be sent to the centre before allocation of resources for the next year.
 - g. Strengthening of the existing monitoring system to be done to ensure daily information is received from all schools.
- xiii. **Capacity Building:**
- a. To ensure training of all cook-cum-helpers states/UTs to involve Institutes of Hotel Management & Food Craft Institutes of Ministry of Tourism, Food Safety and Standards Authority of India, local mother's groups, etc.
- xiv. **Motivating Cooks:**
- a. Wherever feasible, cook-cum-Helpers may be named as 'Bhojan Mata'.
 - b. To encourage States to organize cooking competitions in order to motivate cook-cum-helpers towards use of locally available food material and to promote variety menu.

- xv. **Special Focus:**
- a. To make adequate provision for supplementary nutrition in aspirational districts / tribal districts / districts with identified high cases of malnutrition etc.
 - b. In such districts, monitoring of attendance and quality of MDM to be undertaken directly under the supervision of District Collector.
- xvi. **Awareness Generation:**
- a. To prepare annual calendar of activities for Mid-Day Meal Scheme for dissemination of information to popularize the benefits of the Scheme and to make people aware of their rights under the Scheme.
- xvii. **Disaster Management:**
- a. To ensure every school has a disaster management plan.
 - b. Provision of hot cooked meal or Food Security Allowance to children when schools are closed due to a disaster impacting the state/UT, part of state/UT, some states/UTs or whole country as maybe declared by the state/central government under its powers as Disaster Management Authority.

4. The assistance for components of cooking cost, honorarium to Cook-cum-Helpers, Construction of Kitchen-cum-stores, repair of 10 year old kitchen-cum-stores, procurement / replacement of kitchen devices and Innovation / Flexibility will be shared between the Centre and States/UTs as per the approved funding pattern of 90:10 for North Eastern Region (NER) States, 2 Himalayan States and UT of Jammu & Kashmir, 100% for Union Territories without Legislature and 60:40 for other States as well as Union Territories with Legislature (Delhi and Puducherry).

5. Necessary detailed guidelines in respect of the above decisions are under preparation and shall be shared shortly.

6. You are requested to disseminate the above decisions to all concerned.

Yours faithfully,



(R.C. MEENA)

Joint Secretary to the Government of India

Copy to:

Commissioners / Directors, Pradhan Mantri Poshan Shakti Nirman (PM POSHAN) Scheme of all States/UTs.

