

Prachi Pandey
Joint Secretary (EE.I)
Ministry of Education
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DO. No: 15-7/2023-Desk(PMP)

Dated the 20th April, 2023

Respected Madam/Sir,

As you aware, Pradhan Mantri Poshan Shakti Nirman (PM POSHAN) Scheme is one of the foremost rights based Centrally Sponsored Schemes implemented in partnership with States and UTs. This Scheme benefits about 12 crore children studying in Balvatika (just before class I) and Classes I-VIII in Government and Government-Aided Schools.

2. Provision of kitchen devices is one of the components under the Scheme. It is pertinent to note that availability of kitchen devices is a significant factor in facilitating effective preparation of hot cooked meals at the school level. It has been observed during the ongoing meetings of Programme Approval Board that there is a considerable delay in procuring the kitchen devices in various States.

3. You may be aware that in the sanction orders for kitchen devices itself, States & UTs are advised that

'State Government may consider procurement of Kitchen Devices in a decentralized manner, preferably at school/block level, so that there is no delay in making available the required devices to the schools. However, if the State Government is of the opinion that for achieving economics of scale and for ensuring uniformity of quality, standards and specifications, they are at liberty to adopt such transparent & effective methods that are in public interest.'

4. In this context, the matter has been examined and accordingly, the States and UTs are advised that if the State Government / UT Administration intends to adopt centralized procurement for achieving economies of scale and for ensuring uniformity of quality, standards and specifications, they may do so through Government-e-Marketplace (GeM) at <https://gem.gov.in/>, which is a transparent & effective public procurement portal.

Yours sincerely,
Prachi Pandey
20.4/2023
(Prachi Pandey)

To,

1. The Additional Chief Secretaries/Principal Secretaries/ Secretaries of Dept. of Education/ Nodal Departments for PM POSHAN
2. The Commissioners / Directors of PM POSHAN of all States & UTs