

**MINISTER OF  
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**



मंत्री  
मानव संसाधन विकास  
भारत सरकार

*M. M. Pallam Raju*

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05 AUG 2013

Dear Sir/Madam,

In accordance with the discussions in the Consultative Committee of Parliament of the Ministry of Human Resource Development held on the 14<sup>th</sup> March, 2013, the guidelines of the Ministry for holding the District level Vigilance and Monitoring Committee meeting under the chairmanship of the senior most MP in the district have been reiterated and conveyed to the State Governments. The Education Secretaries of the States have been requested to ensure that these meetings are called immediately for an in-depth review of the Mid Day Meal Scheme. A copy of the guidelines dated 25<sup>th</sup> April, 2013 is enclosed. As per the para 1 of the guidelines, the senior most Member of Parliament present in the meeting will chair the Committee. The Committee will meet at least once a quarter.

I request you to kindly take up with the District Administration in your constituency and ensure that the District level Vigilance and Monitoring Committee is held immediately. The following issues are critical to the success of the Mid Day Meal Scheme and need to be reviewed;

- i) The availability of an effective Management Structure at various levels in the district for effective monitoring of the Scheme.
- ii) Tasting of the meal by at least one teacher / member of the SMC before it is served to the children.
- iii) Safe storage and supply of ingredients in the schools. The school in Saran, Bihar, where the unfortunate incident took place was functioning in a Community building and the cooking was being done in the open. Hence, along with the school building, the kitchen-cum-store also needs to be constructed to ensure safety of food-grains as well as the hygiene in the kitchen. This needs to be expedited. MHRD has provided model designs for the same to the States.
- iv) Need for capacity building of cook-cum-helpers for preparation of hot cooked meal in hygienic surroundings.
- v) Timely release of funds and its availability at school levels.
- vi) Procurement of pulses and ingredients of branded and Agmark quality and supply to schools through the State Civil Supplies Corporation.

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- vii) There is a need for creating greater awareness about Mid Day Meal Scheme in the district so that the parents as well as children know their precise entitlements.
- viii) Convening of regular review meetings at District level by the District Magistrate.
- ix) Social Audit of the Scheme on the pattern of Andhra Pradesh.
- x) Testing of food samples by a National Accreditation Board of Laboratories accredited reputed laboratory.
- xi) Review of reports of the Monitoring Institutes, Joint Review Mission etc. for the district and submission of Action Taken Notes thereon.
- xii) Preparation of an emergency Medical Plan to deal with any untoward incident.

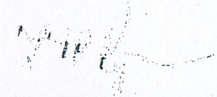
Accordingly, I request you to kindly get the meeting of the District Level Vigilance and Monitoring Committee meeting convened through the Member Secretary who is either the District Collector/District Magistrate/Deputy Commissioner or the Chief Executive Officer of Zila Parishad/Urban Local Body of your district to review the above issues.

The Mid Day Meal Scheme today provides hot cooked Mid Day Meal to 10.44 crore children in 12.12 lakh schools. Many studies have shown that MDMS has helped in preventing classroom hunger; promoting school participation and fostering social equality and enhancing gender equity. A sum of ₹ 13,215 crore has been provided for the Scheme in the current year. Regular monitoring at your level will ensure that the benefits of the Scheme reach all the children in our country.

Please do let me know if we can facilitate your work in any manner.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,



(M.M. PALLAM RAJU)

All Members of Parliament (Rajya Sabha)



No. F. 1-2/2013-EE.13

Government of India

Ministry of Human Resource Development  
Department of School Education & Literacy

New Delhi dated the April 25, 2013

**Office Memorandum**

Subject: Constitution of District Level Committee for Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) programme, Mid Day Meal (MDM) scheme and Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) programme - monitoring of these programmes/schemes - regarding

The undersigned is directed to refer to this Ministry's office memorandum No. F.2-3/2005-EE.3 dated 29.08.2007 on the subject "Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA)- Revision in Framework for implementation of SSA" and to state that it has been decided to constitute a District Level Committee for monitoring of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) programme, Mid Day Meal (MDM) scheme and Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) programme. The composition of the Committee is as under:-

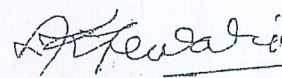
- All Members of Parliament, Members of the State Legislature and members of the Zila Parishad (wherever duly constituted), elected from that district/and/or urban bodies (duly constituted) as applicable.
  - The District Magistrate/Collector/Deputy Commissioner/Chief Executive Officer of the Zila Parishad/Urban local body, will be the Member-Secy.
  - District Education Officers in-charge of SSA, MDM & RMSA.
  - District Officers in-charge of Drinking Water Mission/Total Sanitation Programme/ICDS programme/Panchayati Raj/Labour/Handicapped Welfare/Social Welfare/Minority Welfare etc.
  - Two NGO's working on elementary education in the area, to be nominated by the District Magistrate/Collector/Dy. Commissioner/CEO Zila Parishad.
- The senior-most Member of Parliament present in the meeting will chair the Committee on the day it meets.

Terms of Reference of the District Level Committee:

- The Committee will be apprised of the progress of the SSA, RMSA and MDM implementation in the district, both in terms of key targets and achievements thereof, and also on outcome indicators, inter-alia, enrolment, dropout, learning achievement levels of students etc.



- Suggestions of the members may be taken into consideration, within the parameters of the scheme guidelines and framework of implementation and the approved annual work plans & budget of the district, for improving SSA, RMSA and MDM implementation at the local level.
- The Committee may also examine the synergy and convergence of other related Government Departments in improving school infrastructure and other support services for benefit of children in the 6-14 and 14-16 years age group.
- The Committee will meet at least once a quarter.
- Minutes of the Committee will be put up on an appropriate district level website as determined by the District Magistrate/Deputy Commissioner/CEO, Zila Parishad, so that it is in the public domain.



(A.K. Tewari)

Under Secretary to the Govt. India

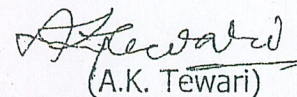
Tel No. 23384582

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The State Project Directors, SSA, MDM and RMSA of all States/UTs. with the request to also circulate to all MPs

CC:

1. All Divisional Heads of EE.I, School Education and EE.II Bureau.
2. Education Secretaries of all States/UTs.
3. FA(HRD)
4. IF Division.
5. Sr. PPS to Secretary (SE&L)
6. PS to AS(SE)
6. PS to AS(EE.I)
7. Project Managers, TSG, Ed.CIL of SSA, MDM and RMSA for circulation among all the Consultants of SSA, MDM and RMSA.
8. Guard file
9. Website of MHE D.



(A.K. Tewari)

Under Secretary to the Govt. India