

4th HALF YEARLY MONITORING REPORT OF MDM FOR THE STATE OF MIZORAM

Period: 1st October 2014 to 31st March 2015

Districts Covered 1. Saiha 2. Serchhip

Nodal Officer: Prof.R.P.Vadhera

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4th Half Yearly Monitoring Report of Mizoram University on MDM for the State of Mizoram (Period of 1st October 2014 to 31st March 2015)

1. **General Information**

Sl No	Information		Details		
1.	Name of the Monitoring Institute	Mizoram University			
2.	Period of the report	1 st October, 2014 to 31 st	1 st October, 2014 to 31 st March, 2015		
3.	Fund Released for the period				
4.	No. of Districts allotted	2 (Two) Districts			
5.	Name of Districts Covered	1.Saiha 2.Serchhip			
		1.Saiha District:			
		MI team consisting of 5 members visited the District/Sample schools from 9 th to 14 th February, 2015.			
		2.Serchhip District:			
6.	Dates of visit to the Districts / Schools	MI team consisting of 5 members visited the District/Sample schools from 26 th to 31 st January, 2015.			
		Note: The remaining development of (i) Maste data analysis, (iv) visit to	er tables, (ii) da	ta entry tables, (iii)	
	Number of elementary	Category	Saiha	Serchhip	
7.		Primary	20	20	
	schools monitored	Upper Primary	20	20	
		Total	40	40	
8.	Number of schools visited by Nodal Officer of the Monitoring Institute	Education and Humanities, and the former Head Department of			

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		not only lead the Field Teams to Saiha and Serchip Districts, but
		has also personally collected data from all sample schools on
		MDM and certain interventions of SSA. Further, she has been
		actively associated with the Monitoring Work of MDM and
		SSA from 2004.
		Moreover, the Mizoram University, during last 11
		years of its monitoring of MDM, SSA, and 2 years
		RMSA, has always sent its field teams under the
		leadership of Prof R.P.Vadhera(Nodal Officer) or Prof
		Lalhmasai Chuaungo, or Dr. Lalbiakdiki Hnamte
		senior teachers, who are certainly equivalent to the
		Nodal Officer in terms of their field work experience.
9.	Whether the draft report has	
	been shared with the State	
	Nodal Officer, MDM: YES /	
	NO	YES
10.	After submission of the draft	
	report to the State Nodal	
	Officer, MDM whether the	
	MI has received any	YES
	comments from the SPO: YES	
	/ No	
11.	Before sending the reports	
11.	to the GOI whether the MI	
		YES
	has shared the report with	
	State Nodal Officer, MDM	

12. **Details regarding discussion held with state official:** A draft copy of the Monitoring Report was submitted to the State Nodal Officer (MDM), Govt. of Mizoram, 29th June 2015 for perusal and comments, and major field observations were shared in a face to face meeting with the State Nodal Officer (MDM) and other officials on_ 21st July 2015.

13. Selection Criteria for Schools: As Per the TOR, 2010-2012, for details see Item No. 9

14. Items to be attached with the report:

- a) List of Schools with DISE code visited by MI.
- **b)** Name, Designations & address of persons contacted.
- c) Copy of Office order, notification etc. discussed in the report.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY (Mid-Day Meal)

A. SAIHA DISTRICT

- 1. As per verification of records relating to MDM, and information given by teachers and students 35 (87.5%) of the sample schools from the district under reference served hot cooked meal on daily basis.
- 2. The supply of food grains to schools in the State is done on quarterly basis, which was by and large regular.
- 3. Buffer Stock of 1 (one) month's requirement was found in 85% of the sample schools (34) visited by MI.

District 1 (Saiha)

- 4. 92.5% of the sample schools reported that food grain was not delivered to the schools. The schools had to make their own arrangement for picking of the food grains from go down or retailer. At the same time, 7.5% (3) schools reported that food grain was delivered to their schools.
- 5. None of the sample schools had ever received cooking cost for MDM in advance. In fact, at the time of the MI's visit, Cooking Cost was received upto the month of June 2014 only.
- 6. Roster for parents and community members for day-to-day supervision of the MDM had never been prepared by any of the schools.
- 7. Due to irregularity in the receipt of cooking cost, all the schools reported that they had to either purchase the required ingredients on credit by paying higher price which really caused inconvenience for the school.

- 8. No discrimination was observed by the MI, nor was it reported by the teachers and students, on the basis of gender or caste in cooking and serving of MDM.
- 10. The daily menu in all of the sample schools included cooked rice served with dal or potato. At the same time, nutrela, seasonal vegetables, cabbage, brinjals, pumpkin, meat and eggs were also served occasionally.
- 11. None of the schools had displayed weekly menu for MDM
- 12. 87.5% (35) of the sample schools had been provided with the required number of cooks as per Govt. of India norms. Schools with larger enrollments have been provided with more cooks.
- 13. Responses of the teachers and students revealed that in all the sample schools variety of foods as far as possible were served. The menu comprised mainly rice with dal/potatoes; pumpkin, nutrela, seasonal green vegetables and meat and eggs were occasionally served to students in some of the schools.
- 14. After interacting with the children on the day of visit it was found that that all the children were happy and satisfied with the quantity and quality of MDM served to them in schools.
- 15. All the sample schools had cooks specifically appointed for MDM service.
- 16. None of the sample schools had engaged SHG or NGO or contractors for cooking or serving of MDM.
- 17. The remuneration of cooks in all the sample schools was Rs.1500/- per month which was paid quarterly along with the cooking cost.
- 18. More than 70% of the cooks in the sample schools were female and all of them belonged to ST category.

- 21. Kitchen sheds cum store for MDM service was constructed in 97.5% of the schools visited by MI. The condition of kitchen shed in 29 schools was in good condition. At the same time, the kitchen shed in 10 schools were in a very bad shape and needs repair or reconstruction. Kitchen shed was not sanctioned in 1 school i.e. K.M. 10 UPS.
- 22. 72.5% (29) of the schools had potable water for cooking and drinking purpose.
- 23. 77.5% (31) of the sample schools had adequate utensils for cooking and service of MDM.
- 24. For cooking purposes, 87.5% (35) were using only firewood while 12.5% (5) were using both firewood and LPG for cooking of the MDM.
- 25. The process of cooking and storage of fuel is found to be safe in 100% (40) of sample schools.
- 26. It was found that discipline and order is maintained by 100% of the sample schools with children while taking MDM.
- 27. 100% (40) of the schools reported that participation of parents in supervision and management of MDM was poor.
- 28. Participation of members of VECs in the inspection and supervision of MDM was poor in all sample schools.
- 29. 62.5% (25) of the sample schools maintained health cards/registers for their students. Micronutrients such as Iron and folic acid were given to children by 97.5% (39) of the sample schools.
- 30. As per the information received from the teachers of the sample schools 80% (32) of the sample schools were never monitored by State Level Officers. At the same time 20% (8) reported that they were rarely inspected by the State

Level Officers.

- 31. 97.5% (39) of sample schools reported that they were rarely inspected by District Level Officers in relation to MDM while 2.5% (1) reported that the visit was very frequent.
- 32. Block Level Officers, as reported by 60% (24) headmasters of sample schools, had never visited them for inspection and monitoring of MDM. At the same time, 40% (16) said that such visits were rare.
- 33. Frequent inspection of MDM service was done by Circle Level Officer in 35% (14) of the sample schools. Whereas, 65% of the sample schools reported that they were rarely visited by the CRCC.
- 34. As per the inputs received from 70% (28) of the headmasters and teachers of the sample schools, the introduction of MDM has improved the enrollment. In 90% (36) of the schools, there was an improvement in attendance as a result of MDM while as many as 100% (40) reported an improvement in the nutritional status of the children.
- 35. Other incidental benefits of MDM reported by few schools were :
- a) Poor parents feel relieved from spending money for the Tiffin of their children.
- b) Teachers of all sample schools reported that children become more active with the serving of nutritious meals on a regular basis.
- 36. Health Check up for students was not done by 2.5% (1) of the school. At the same time, even the schools that reported to have done so did it only once last year.

B. SERCHHIP DISTRICT

- 1. 100% of the sample schools from the district under reference served hot cooked meal on daily basis.
- 2. The supply of food grains to schools in the state as a whole is done on quarterly not monthly.
- 3. The spot verification of the sample schools showed that 100% of the schools were maintaining buffer stock of one month's requirement for MDM.
- 4. 34 schools (85%) reported that food grain was not delivered at school. They also reported that food grains had to be transported from the retailer shop or the supply godown by hiring of vehicles.

District 2: (Serchhip)

- 5. Cooking cost for MDM was not received in advance by any of the sample schools in Serchhip district. As a result of this, the schools had to purchase the required ingredients on credit and sometimes have to use funds from other resources.
- 6. There was no case of discrimination on the basis of gender or caste in cooking and serving of MDM.
- 7. The daily menu in all (100%) of sample schools include rice preparation with dal, nutreala, green leaves, potatoes, cabbage, brinjals, pumpkin, eggs (occasionally) and tin fish (in some schools).
- 8. Only 10% (4) of the sample schools in the district had displayed the weekly menu for MDM and 2 schools were able to adhere to the menu displayed.
- 9. All sample schools have been provided at least 2 cooks. Schools with large enrollments have been provided with more cooks.

- 10. Responses of the teachers and students revealed that all (100%) of the sample schools served a variety of food.
- 11. All children (100%) from the sample schools expressed their happiness and satisfaction with the quantity and quality of food served in MDM.
- 12. None of the sample schools had ever engaged any SHG or NGO or contractors for the cooking of MDM.
- 13. All sample schools have the required number of cooks as per the norms of GOI. The number of cooks increased with students' enrolment.
- 14. Food for MDM in all of the 40 sample schools is cooked and served by the cooks appointed for this purpose.
- 15. The remuneration of the cooks was Rs.1500/- per month.
- 16. Remuneration to all cooks in the sample schools was paid on a quarterly basis and not monthly.
- 17. In terms of gender composition, almost all cooks, except a negligible percentage were female, and all the cooks in the sample schools belong to ST category as well as religious minority (Christian).
- 18. 100% of the sample schools had constructed and were using their Kitchen sheds for MDM service.
- 19. 100% of 40 sample schools from the district had potable water for cooking and drinking purpose. It was pleasing to know that a large majority of the sample schools (28) had PHE connection for water that is considered to be relatively safe for cooking and drinking.

- 20. 65% of the sample schools were using only firewood and 35% (14) were using both LPG and firewood for cooking of MDM.
- 21. The spot verification by MI revealed that the process of cooking and storage of fuel is safe in 100% (40) of sample schools.
- 22. The students of all the sample schools (100%) were well disciplined and order was maintained by children while taking MDM.
- 23. Participation of parents in the day to day management, monitoring and supervision is good in 17.5% (7) schools, fair in 32.5% (13) and poor in as many as 50% (20) of the sample schools.
- 24. Participation of members of VECs in the day to day management, monitoring and supervision is good in 5% (2), fair in 15% (6) and poor in 80% (32) of sample schools.
- 25. None of the 40 sample schools has ever prepared any roster for parents and community members for day-to-day supervision of the MDM.
- 26. As per the report of the Headmasters of the sample schools and a spot verification, it was found that 70% (28) of sample schools maintained health cards/registers for each child, and the remaining 30% (12) of sample schools did not maintain health record of children in any form.
- 27. Micronutrients such as Iron, folic acid, vitamin-A and de-worming medicines were given to children in 100% of the sample schools visited by MI.
- 28. 100% of the sample schools reported that their MDM programme was never monitored by State Level Officers.
- 29. 50% (20) of headmasters of sample schools reported that District Level Officers have never visited their school for monitoring of MDM, at the same time 50% (20) reported that the visit of district Level Officers was very rare.

- 30. As many as 67.5% (27) of the headmasters of sample schools responded that they have rarely been inspected by Block Level Officer, whereas 32.5% (13) reported that MDM program was never monitored by Block Level Officer.
- 31. It is pleasing to report that all the 100% of sample schools, as reported by their headmasters/teachers, were frequently inspected and monitored by their cluster level officers.
- 32. 12.5% (5) of the headmasters reported positive effect of MDM on students' enrollment, and the remaining 87.5% (35) were not sure about its impact on enrollment.
- 33. 100% (40) of the headmasters reported positive effect of MDM on students' attendance.
- 34. 100% of the headmasters reported positive effect of MDM on students general well being and nutritional status of their students.
- 35. Other incidental benefits of MDM reported by few schools were :
- a) Improves energy level of children and keep them active.
- b) Poor parents feel happy as they do not have to pay for the Tiffin of their children.
- 36. 70% (28) of sample schools reported that they did not organize regular health check-up of their students (two times in a year), whereas 2.5% (1) of sample schools claimed to have done it on monthly basis, 27.5% (11) on annual basis.

MDM MONITORING REPORT (SAIHA DISTRICT)

A. At School Level

1. **REGULARITY IN SERVING MEAL:**

I) Whether the school is serving hot cooked meal daily? If there was interruption, what was the extent and reasons for the same?

After interacting with the headmasters, teachers, students, cook and VEC/SMC present on the day of visit to the schools, and verification MDM registers, it was found that only 37.5% (15) schools were serving hot cooked food on daily basis. 52.5% (21) of schools served MDM 3-4 days in a week.10% (4) of the sample school (Council Veng MS, Meisatla MS, Chhuarlung II PS and Chhuarlung II MS) did not serve MDM in 2015 (from January till the visit). As reported by the sample school, the reason for not serving MDM on daily basis was due to delay of MDM funds. To maintain daily service of MDM, some schools had to purchase the food grain from the market, or borrowed from the retailers/shopkeeper. Groceries were almost always purchased on credit due to late receipt of cooking cost.

2. **TRENDS**:

Extent of variation (As per school records vis-à-vis Actual on the day of visit)

No.	Details	
i	Enrollment	3117
ii	No. of children opted for Mid Day Meal	3117
iii	No. of children attending the school on the day of visit	2440
iv	No. of children availing MDM as per MDM Register	3117
V	No. of children actually availing MDM on the day of	2231
	visit	

vi	No. of children availing MDM on the previous day	2327
school	e all enrolled students in Mizoram opt for MDM, therefore, don't maintain MDM attendance register on day to day has been worked on the basis of student attendance registers.	basis. This

REGULARITY IN DELIVERING FOOD GRAINS TO SCHOOL LEVEL:

3

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?

The supply of food grains to schools in the state is done on quarterly not monthly basis, which is by and large regular.

ii) Is buffer stock of one-month's requirement maintained?

At the time of visit of members of MI, 85% (34) sample schools were having buffer stock of rice for one month.

iii) Is the food grains delivered at the school?

92.5% of the sample schools reported that foodgrain was not delivered to the schools. The schools had to make their own arrangement for picking of the foodgrains from godown or retailer. At the same time, 7.5% (3) schools reported that foodgrain was delivered to their schools.

iv) Is the quality of food grain good?

The spot verification of MI revealed that the quality of food grain in stock, at the time of visit was good. However, when the headmasters/teachers were asked about the quality of food grains (rice) received by school, 2.5% (1) of them reported it to be good quality and the remaining 97.5% (39) reported it to

	be of an average quality.
	be of an average quanty.
4	REGULARITY IN DELIVERING COOKING COST TO SCHOOL
	LEVEL:
	LEVEL:
	i) Is school/implementing agency received cooking cost in advance
	regularly? If there is delay in delivering cooking cost what is the extent of
	delay and reasons for it?
	None of the sample schools have ever received the cooking cost in advance.
	Like the food grains the cooking cost is released to the schools on quarterly
	basis not monthly and that too not in advance In fact, at the time of the MI's
	visit, Cooking Cost was received upto the month of June 2014 only.
	ii) In case of delay, how school/implementing agency manages to ensure
	that there is no disruption in the feeding programme?
	In view of the non release of cooking cost in advance, schools have to either
	purchase the required ingredients on credit, sometimes by paying higher cost or
	have to use funds from other resources.
	iii) Is cooking cost paid by Cash or through banking channel?
	The cooking cost, as and when received by the VEC/SMC, is paid to the
	school, by the concerned VEC/SMC, in cash.

5 SOCIAL EQUITY:

i) Did you observe any gender or caste or community discrimination in cooking or serving or seating arrangements?

The MI observers did not observe any gender or caste (not relevant as there is no caste system in Mizo Society) or community discrimination in cooking or serving or seating arrangements related to MDM.

ii) What is the system of serving and seating arrangements for eating?

In majority of the sample schools, food is served by the cooks supervised by the teacher in charge. In some schools where there are larger numbers of students, the teachers used to help in the distribution of food. Students form queues in front of the kitchen and after taking their food move to their respective classrooms in 36 schools (90%), 20% (8) eat in school verandah or school compound and 5% (2) eat in the dining hall. The order and discipline maintained by children taking MDM in all sample schools was appreciable.

6 VARIETY OF MENU:

i) Has the school displayed its weekly menu at a place noticeable to community, and is it able to adhere to the menu displayed?

None of the schools had displayed weekly menu for MDM.

ii) Who decides the menu?

The day-to-day menu in 77.5% (31) of sample schools was decided solely by the teacher in-charge of MDM, and in the remaining 22.5% (9) it was decided by the school headmaster.

iii) Is there variety in the food served or is the same food served daily?

After spot verification of records related to MDM, discussions with the teacher in-charge MDM, Headmaster and interaction with children of the sample schools, it was found that all the sample schools (100%) serve a variety of food such as nutrela, green leaves, dal, potatoes, cabbage, brinjals, pumpkin and eggs(occasionally).

iv) Does the daily menu include rice/wheat preparation, dal and vegetables?

The daily menu in all the 40 sample schools (100%) included rice preparation with dal, potatoes, cabbage, brinjals, pumpkin and eggs (occasionally).

QUALITY & QUANTITY OF MEAL:

Feedback from children on quality and quantity of meal (If children were not happy please give reasons and suggestions to improve.)

After interacting with the students in all sample schools and asking them about the quality and quantity of food served to them in MDM, the MI observers found that children were happy and satisfied with the quality and quantity of food served. When asked about their suggestion for improvement, some of them suggested that they would like it more if items like non-vegetarian items could be served more frequently.

SUPPLEMENTARY:

i) Is there school Health Card maintained for each child?

62.5% (25) of the sample schools maintained health cards/registers for their students. Whereas, 37.5% (15) schools did not maintain health cards for their students. Micronutrients such as Iron and folic acid were given to children by 97.5% (39) of the sample schools.

ii) What is the frequency of health check-up?

- a) **Monthly Health Check-up**: None of the 40 sample schools reported to have conducted monthly health check-up of children.
- b) **Quarterly Health Check-up**: None of the 40 sample schools reported to have conducted quarterly health check-up of children.
- c) **Half Yearly Health Check-up**: None of the 40 sample schools reported to have conducted half yearly health check-up of children.
- d) **Annual Health Check-up**: 97.5% (39) of sample schools, as reported by their headmasters have conducted the health check-up of children on yearly basis.
- e) **No health Check-up**: It was disappointing to learn that 2.5% (1) of sample schools did not organize any programme for the health check-up of children.
- iii) Whether children are given micronutrients (Iron, folic acid, vitamin-A dosage) and de-worming medicine periodically.
- **a) Iron**: 97.5% (39) of sample schools reported that they have given Iron tablets to their children.
- **b) Folic Acid**: It was given to children by 97.5% (39) of sample schools.
- c) Vitamin A dosage and De-worming medicines: 75% (30) of the schools had given De-worming medicines to their students and none of the schools had given Vitamin A dosage to their students.

iv) Who administers these medicines and at what frequency?

As reported by the headmaster and teachers, the aforesaid micronutrients in the schools that reported to have given such micronutrients and de-worming, were administered by teachers themselves in all schools.

9

STATUS OF COOKS:

i) Who cooks and serves the meal? (Cook cum helper appointed by the Department/VEC/PRI/Self Help Group/NGO/Contractor)

Food for MDM in all of the 40 (100%) samples schools was cooked and served by the cooks appointed for this purpose. None of the sample schools has ever engaged any NGO/SHG/Contractor for this purpose.

ii) Is the number of cooks and helpers engaged in the school as per GOI norms?

The number of cooks engaged in the schools visited by MI was as per the norms of GOI in 35 schools. The number of cooks in 12.5% (5) schools (ECM Saiha MS, ECM Saiha PS, Meisatla MS, MS Niawhtlang and Chhuarlung II MS) was not as per the norms of GOI. Schools having 25 or less than that were given 1 cook while those with more than 25 but less than 100 were given 2 cooks. Schools having more than 100 students but less than 200 were given 3 cooks. The number of cooks was increased accordingly.

iii) What is remuneration paid to cooks cum helpers and mode of payment?

There were no helpers in any of the sample schools as all of them have been promoted as cooks from May 2010. All cooks in sample schools were paid a remuneration of Rs.1500/-pm in cash.

iv) Are the remuneration paid to cooks cum helper regular?

The remuneration paid to the cooks was not regular. All of the cooks in sample schools reported that they do not get their remuneration on monthly basis as it was always released quarterly along with the conversion cost. At the time of MI visit, the last remuneration received by the cooks was up to the month of June 2014.

v) Social Composition of cooks cum helpers ?(SC/ST/OBC/Minority)

All of the cooks in all sample schools were Scheduled Tribe. None of these cooks belonged to SC or OBC.

10 **INFRASTRUCTURE:**

i) Is a pucca kitchen shed-cum-store constructed and in use?

Kitchen sheds – cum – store for MDM service was constructed in 97.5% of the schools visited by MI. The condition of kitchen shed in 29 schools was in good condition (Pucca and Semi-Pucca). At the same time, the kitchen shed in 10 schools were in a very bad shape and needs repair or reconstruction. Kitchen shed was not sanctioned in 1 school i.e. K.M. 10 UPS.

ii) Scheme under which Kitchen sheds constructed MDM/SSA/Others.

Kitchen shed in the sample schools have been constructed under the SSA scheme.

iii) Kitchen shed constructed but not in use (Reason for not using)

The MI team, on their visit to Saiha district did not find any kitchen shed constructed, but not in use.

iv) Kitchen shed under construction

There was no kitchen shed under construction in the sample schools visited by MI and 97.5% (39) sample schools which had been sanctioned Kitchen Shed had constructed their kitchen shed and were using the same for MDM service. Kitchen Shed was not sanction in 1 school.

v) Kitchen shed Sanctioned, but construction not started

There was no case of kitchen shed sanctioned but construction not started in the sample schools visited in Saiha district.

vi) Kitchen shed not sanctioned

There was 1 (one) case of kitchen shed not sanctioned in Saiha district.

vii) In case the pucca kitchen shed is not available, where is the food being cooked and where the food grains/other ingredients are being stored.

72.5% (29) sample schools had their pucca/partially pucca kitchen shed and were using it for cooking and storage of food grains and other materials relating to MDM including cooking and service utensils. At the same time, the kitchen shed in 10 schools were in a very bad shape and needs repair or reconstruction. Kitchen shed was not sanctioned in 1 school i.e. K.M. 10 UPS.

viii) Whether potable water is available for cooking and drinking purpose?

72.5% (29) of the schools had potable water for cooking and drinking purpose and had PHE connection for water that is considered to be relatively safe for cooking and drinking. The remaining 27.5% (11) of sample schools were solely dependent on rain water harvesting.

ix) Whether utensils are available for cooking food? If available is it adequate?

The MI observers after having discussion with the cooks and visit to the kitchen shed in each sample school found that 77.5% (31) of the sample schools have adequate utensils for cooking and service of MDM. The rest of the schools 22.5% (9) had to use whatever utensils were available in turns when they had to prepare more than two items.

x) What is the kind of fuel used? (Gas based/firewood etc.)

For cooking purposes, 87.5% (35) were using only firewood while 12.5% (5) were using both firewood and LPG for cooking of the MDM.

11

SAFETY & HYGIENE:

i) General Impression of MI about hygiene:

- a) Good: The hygiene and overall environment was found to be good in 7.5%(3) of sample schools.
- **b) Fair**: In terms of environment and hygiene 80% (32) of sample schools were fair.
- c) Poor: 12.5% (5) of the sample schools were poor in terms of hygiene.

ii) Are children encouraged to wash hands before and after eating

All the 100% (40) of the sample schools claimed that they encourage children to wash hands before after eating of MDM.

iii) Do the children take meals in an orderly manner?

Children in all sample schools were found to be well disciplined and order was maintained by them in taking MDM. The MI found that cooks and teachers played an important role in maintenance of such kind of discipline.

iv) Conservation of water

All the sample schools in the district visited by MI reported that due to scarcity of water by and large, the students were aware of the need to conserve water even before they were being taught by the teachers.

v) Is the cooking process and storage of fuel safe, not posing any fire hazard?

The cooking process and storage of fuel is by and large safe in 100% of sample schools.

12 COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION:

i) Extent of participation by Parents in daily supervision, monitoring, participation:

As per the information received from the schools, participation of parents in the day to day management, monitoring and supervision is poor in 100% of sample schools.

ii) Extent of participation by VECs/Panchayats/Urban bodies in daily supervision and monitoring of MDM.

Like parents the participation of members of VEC in the day to day management, monitoring and supervision is poor in 100% of the sample schools.

iii) Is any roster being maintained of the community members for supervision of the MDM?

None of the 40 sample schools has ever prepared any roster for parents and community members for day-to-day supervision of the MDM.

13 INSPECTION & SUPERVISION:

- i) Has the Mid day meal programme been inspected by any state/district/block level officers/officials? What is the frequency of such inspections?
 - a) Inspection and Supervision of MDM by State Level Officer:

As per the information received from the teachers of the sample schools 80% (32) of the sample schools were never monitored by State Level Officers. At the same time 20% (8) reported that they were rarely inspected by the State

Level Officers.

b) Inspection and Supervision of MDM by District Level Officers:

97.5% (39) of sample schools reported that they were rarely inspected by District Level Officers in relation to MDM while 2.5% (1) reported that the visit was very frequent.

c) Inspection and Supervision of MDM by Block Level Officers: Block Level Officers, as reported by 60% (24) headmasters of sample schools, had never visited them for inspection and monitoring of MDM. At the same time, 40% (16) said that such visits were rare.

d) Inspection and Supervision of MDM by Cluster Level Officers:

Frequent inspection of MDM service was done by Circle Level Officer in 35% (14) of the sample schools. Whereas, 65% of the sample schools reported that they were rarely visited by the CRCC.

14 **IMPACT OF MDM**:

i) Has the mid day meal improved the enrollment of children in school?

As per the inputs received from 70% (28) of the headmasters and teachers of the sample schools, the introduction of MDM has improved the enrollment.

ii) Has the mid day meal improved the attendance of children in school?

While responding to the question relating to the impact of MDM on improvement of attendance of children in schools, In 90% (36) of the schools, there was an improvement in attendance as a result of MDM. At the same time, 10% (4) schools were not sure about the impact of MDM on students attendance.

iii) Has the mid day meal improved general well being (nutritional status) of children in school?

100% (40) of the headmasters reported that the MDM did improve the

general well being and nutritional status of children of their schools.

iv) Is there any other incidental benefit due to serving of cooked meal in schools?

Other incidental benefits of MDM reported by few schools were :

- a) Teachers of all sample schools reported that children become more active with the serving of nutritious meals on a regular basis.
- b) Poor parents feel happy as they do not have to pay for the Tiffin of their children.

List of Schools with DISE code visited by MI (Saiha District)

Sl. No.	Name of the school including block name	Primary/Upper Primary School	Date of visit of the school	DISE Code
1.	ECM M/S	Upper Primary	9 th Feb 2015	15080103204
2.	College Vaih P/S II	Primary	9 th Feb 2015	15080103602
3.	Lorrain English P/S	Primary	9 th Feb 2015	15080103603
4.	Lorrain English M/S	Upper Primary	9 th Feb 2015	15080103605
5.	Govt. Comp. P/S Saiha	Primary	9 th Feb 2015	15080102901
6.	Govt. Comp. M/S Saiha	Upper Primary	9 th Feb 2015	15080102910
7.	Auxilium M/S	Upper Primary	9 th Feb 2015	15080102902
8.	Old Saiha P/S	Primary	11 th Feb 2015	15080100102
9.	Old Saiha UPS	Upper Primary	11 th Feb 2015	15080100105
10.	Diary M/S Tuipang	Upper Primary	13 th Feb 2015	15080200201
11.	Theiri P/S I	Primary	12 th Feb 2015	15080200602
12.	Theiva P/S	Primary	12 th Feb 2015	15080101802
13.	M/S Maubawk	Upper Primary	12 th Feb 2015	15080101601
14.	Niawhtlang P/S II	Primary	10 th Feb 2015	15080105001
15.	P/S I Lungbun	Primary	10 th Feb 2015	15080102202
16.	Chhuarlung M/S	Upper Primary	10 th Feb 2015	15080102101
17.	Chhuarlung P/S I	Primary	10 th Feb 2015	15080102102
18.	KM 10 P/S	Primary	12 th Feb 2015	15080104001
19.	KM 10 UPS	Upper Primary	12 th Feb 2015	15080104003
20.	ECM P/S	Primary	9 th Feb 2015	15080103201
21.	Beaulah M/S	Upper Primary	11 th Feb 2015	15080100702
22.	New Saiha P/S II	Primary	11 th Feb 2015	15080100703
23.	Council Veng M/S	Upper Primary	11 th Feb 2015	15080100901
24.	Council Veng P/S	Primary	11 th Feb 2015	15080100902

25.	Meisatla M/S	Upper Primary	11 th Feb 2015	15080100301
26.	Meisatla P/S	Primary	11 th Feb 2015	15080100302
27.	Tuipang V P/S	Primary	13 th Feb 2015	15080203801
28.	Tuipang V UPS	Upper Primary	13 th Feb 2015	15080203804
29.	Diary P/S	Primary	13 th Feb 2015	15080200203
30.	Diary I P/S	Primary	13 th Feb 2015	15080204701
31.	Tuipang M/S	Upper Primary	13 th Feb 2015	15080204902
32.	Theiri M/S	Upper Primary	12 th Feb 2015	15080200601
33.	Theiva M/S	Upper Primary	12 th Feb 2015	15080101801
34.	Maubawk P/S II	Primary	12 th Feb 2015	15080101603
35.	Niawhtlang M/S	Upper Primary	10 th Feb 2015	15080102301
36.	Niawhtlang P/S III	Primary	10 th Feb 2015	15080105002
37.	Niawhtlang UPS	Upper Primary	10 th Feb 2015	15080102306
38.	Lungbun M/S	Upper Primary	10 th Feb 2015	15080102201
39.	Chhuarlung II P/S	Primary	10 th Feb 2015	15080102402
40.	Chhuarlung II M/S	Upper Primary	10 th Feb 2015	15080102401

MDM MONITORING REPORT (SERCHHIP DISTRICT)

A. At School Level

1. REGULARITY IN SERVING MEAL:

i) Whether the school is serving hot cooked meal daily? If there was interruption, what was the extent and reasons for the same?

In Serchhip district, the headmasters, teachers, children, cook and, VEC/SMC members of all the sample schools (100%) reported that hot cooked food was served on all full working school days. In order to maintain regular service of MDM, arrangement had to be made by some schools by purchasing food grain from the market or borrowing from the retailers/shopkeeper.

2 TRENDS:

Extent of variation (As per school records vis-à-vis Actual on the day of visit)

No.	Details	
i	Enrollment	1973
ii	No. of children opted for Mid Day Meal	1973
iii	No. of children attending the school on the day of visit	1852
iv	No. of children availing MDM as per MDM Register	1973
v	No. of children actually availing MDM on the day of visit	1852
vi	No. of children availed MDM on the previous day	1962

^{**} Since all enrolled students in Mizoram opt for MDM, therefore, many sample school don't maintain MDM attendance register on day to day basis. This figure has been worked on the basis of student attendance registers.

3 REGULARITY IN DELIVERING FOOD GRAIN TO SCHOOL LEVEL:

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?

The supply of food grains to schools in the state is done on quarterly not monthly basis, which is by and large regular. When asked about the regularity of food grains, 39 of sample schools (97.5%) reported that the supply of food was regular whereas 1 sample school (2.5%) reported as not regular.

ii) Is buffer stock of one-month's requirement maintained?

At the time of visit of MI to the sample schools, it was found that 100% of the schools were keeping buffer stock of one month's requirement in the school.

iii) Is the food grains delivered at the school?

All the 34 sample schools (85%) reported that food grains were never delivered at their door step and they have to arrange for transportation of their food grain from the retailer shop or godown to the school. At the same time, foodgrain was delivered in 6 (15%) schools.

iv) Is the quality of food grain good?

The quality of rice which was available in each of 40 sample schools (100%) was found to be by and large good. However, when the headmasters/teachers were asked about the quality of food grains (rice) received by school, 32.5% (13) of them reported it to be good quality and the remaining 67.5% (27) reported it to be of an average quality.

REGULARITY IN DELIVERING COOKING COST TO SCHOOL LEVEL:

i) Is school/implementing agency receiving cooking cost in advance regularly? If there is delay in delivering cooking cost what is the extent of delay and reasons for it?

None of the sample schools had ever received the cooking cost in advance. Like the food grains the cooking cost is released to the schools on quarterly basis not monthly and that too not in advance. At the time of visit of MI to the district in the middle of February 2015, cooking cost was received upto june 2014 only.

ii) In case of delay, how school/implementing agency manages to ensure that there is no disruption in the feeding programme?

As a result of delay of receiving cooking cost, schools had to either purchase the required ingredients on credit or had to use funds from other resources. This problem, the MI felt was largely responsible in bringing down the quality of MDM.

iii) Is cooking cost paid by Cash or through banking channel?

The cooking cost is released to VEC/SMC through Bank which is paid to the school, by the concerned VEC/SMC, in cash.

5 **SOCIAL EQUITY:**

i) Did you observe any gender or caste or community discrimination in cooking or serving or seating arrangements?

The MI observers did not observe any discrimination on the basis of gender, caste or community in cooking, serving or seating arrangements in eating of MDM.

ii) What is the system of serving and seating arrangements for eating?

In all sample schools food is served by the cooks supervised by the teacher in charge. Students make queues in front of the service window in kitchen. In 29 schools (72.5%), students eat their meal inside their respective classrooms or in the school verandah and school compound. There were 11 schools (27.5%) having a dining hall for MDM.

6 **VARIETY OF MENU:**

i) Has the school displayed its weekly menu at a place noticeable to community, and is it able to adhere to the menu displayed?

Only 10% (4) of the sample schools in the district had displayed their weekly menu and out of these, only 50% (2) reported that they were able to adhere to it. The remaining 90% (36) did not display their MDM menu.

ii) Who decides the menu?

The decision with regard to the day-to-day menu in 100% of sample schools is taken solely by the teacher in-charge of MDM.

iii) Is there variety in the food served or is the same food served daily?

After discussions with the teacher in-charge MDM, headmaster, members of VEC and interaction with children as well as verification of records relating to the utilization of cooking cost, it was found that all the 40 sample schools (100%) serve a variety of food such as rice preparation with dal, potatoes, cabbage and other green vegetables, brinjals, pumpkin, eggs (occasionally), tin fish/chicken/ (in some schools).

iv) Does the daily menu include rice/wheat preparation, dal and vegetables?

Yes, the daily menu in all the sample schools (100%) included rice preparation with dal, and green vegetables.

QUALITY & QUANTITY OF MEAL:

Feedback from children on quality and quantity of meal (If children were not happy please give reasons and suggestions to improve.)

After interacting with the children in all sample schools, the MI observers found that the children were happy and satisfied with the quality and quantity of food served. At the same time, many of them suggested that they would like it very much if items like eggs, meat, fried rice, etc. are served more frequently.

8. SUPPLEMENTARY:

7

i) Is there school Health Card maintained for each child?

As per the report of the Headmasters of the sample schools and a spot verification, it was found that 70% (28) of sample schools maintained health cards/registers for each child, and the remaining 30% (12) of sample schools did not maintain health record of children in any form.

ii) What is the frequency of health check-up?

a) Monthly Health Check-up: 2.5% (1) of the 40 sample schools reported to

have conducted the monthly health check-up of children. However, after discussion with the Headmasters and teachers of this school, their claim of monthly health check-ups was not a complete health check up in the truest sense as it was done by the teachers themselves in connection with their height and weight alone.

- **b) Quarterly Health Check-up:** Out of the 40 sample schools, 5% (2) reported that they have conducted quarterly health check-up of children.
- c) Half Yearly Health Check-up: Only 26 (65%) out of 40 sample schools reported to have conducted the health check-up of children on half yearly basis.
- **d) Annual Health Check-up:** According to the report of the sample schools, 30% (12) have conducted the health check-up of children on yearly basis.
- e) No health Check-up: All sample schools conducted health check up at-least once in a year.
- iii) Whether children are given micronutrients (Iron, folic acid, vitamin-A dosage) and de-worming medicine periodically?

100% of the schools in Serchhip District had given micronutrients (excluding Vit. A) and de-worming medicines to their students.

iv) Who administers these medicines and at what frequency?

The aforesaid medicines were administered by teachers in all sample schools.

9 STATUS OF COOKS :

i) Who cooks and serves the meal? (Cook cum helper appointed by the Department/VEC/PRI/Self Help Group/NGO/Contractor)

None of the sample schools had ever engaged any NGO/SHG/Contractor for this purpose. Food for MDM in all of the 40 sample schools (100%) was cooked and served by the cooks appointed for this purpose.

ii) Is the number of cooks and helpers engaged in the school as per GOI norms?

The number of cooks engaged in all sample schools was according to the norms of GOI. Schools having less than 25 students were given 1 cook, those with 25 to 100 students were given two cooks and those having more than 100 students but less than 200 were given 3 cooks. The number of cooks increased accordingly.

iii) What is remuneration paid to cooks cum helpers and mode of payment?

All cooks in sample schools were paid remuneration of Rs.1500/-per month. The mode of payment was Cash.

iv) Are the remuneration paid to cooks cum helper regularly?

The remuneration paid to the cooks was not regular. All of the cooks in sample schools reported that they did not get their remuneration on monthly basis as it was always released quarterly with the conversion cost. At the time of MI visit, the last remuneration received by most cooks was only upto June 2014.

v) Social Composition of cooks cum helpers ?(SC/ST/OBC/Minority)

All of the cooks in all sample schools were Scheduled Tribe. None of these

cooks belonged to SC or OBC.

10 **INFRASTRUCTURE:**

i) Is a pucca kitchen shed-cum-store constructed and in use?

Out of the 40 sample schools visited by MI, All the 40 schools (100%) have constructed their kitchen shed (18 pucca, 22 semi pucca) and were using it for cooking and service of MDM as well as the storage of food grain and other materials relating to MDM, including service utensils.

ii) Scheme under which Kitchen sheds constructed MDM/SSA/Others.

Kitchen sheds in the sample schools had been constructed under the MDM scheme.

iii) Kitchen shed constructed but not in use (Reason for not using)

All the sample schools that received funds for construction of Kitchen Shed had constructed it thus this question becomes irrelevant.

iv) Kitchen shed under construction

All the sample schools that received funds for construction of Kitchen Shed had constructed it thus this question becomes irrelevant.

v) Kitchen shed Sanctioned, but construction not started

All the sample schools that received funds for construction of Kitchen Shed had constructed it thus this question becomes irrelevant.

vi) Kitchen shed not sanctioned:

All the sample schools that received funds for construction of Kitchen Shed had constructed it thus this question becomes irrelevant.

viii) Whether potable water is available for cooking and drinking purpose?

All the 100% (40) of sample schools from the district had potable water for cooking and drinking purpose. It was pleasing to know that 70% (28) of sample schools had PHE connection for water that is considered to be relatively safe for cooking and drinking. However, large percentages of such schools were from the urban areas. The remaining 30% (12) of sample schools were solely dependent on rain water harvesting and public well.

ix) Whether utensils are available for cooking food? If,. Available is it adequate?

The MI observers after having discussion with the cooks and visit to the kitchen shed in each sample school found that 97.5% (39) of the sample schools had adequate utensils for cooking and service of MDM. However, it was found that 2.5% (1) of the schools did not have adequate utensils for preparation of MDM.

x) What is the kind of fuel used? (Gas based/firewood etc.)

After discussion with the cooks, and headmaster, and visit to the kitchen shed, the MI observers found that 100% (40) of sample schools were using firewood, and out of these, 10% (4) were also using LPG for cooking of MDM.

11 SAFETY & HYGIENE:

i) General Impression of MI about hygiene:

- **a) Good**: In terms of environment and hygiene 80% (32) of sample schools were good.
- **b) Fair:** In terms of environment and hygiene 17.5 % (19) of sample schools were fair.
- c) **Poor**: In terms of environment and hygiene 2.5% (1) of the sample school was found to be poor.

ii) Are children encouraged to wash hands before and after eating?

All of the sample schools (100%) claimed that they encourage children to wash hands before after eating of MDM

iii) Do the children take meals in an orderly manner?

The spot verification of MI revealed that children in all sample schools take meal in a very disciplined and orderly manner. Cooks and teachers play an important role in maintenance of such discipline by children.

iv) Conservation of water

Like all other districts, the children of schools visited by MI in Serchhip District were well aware of the general scarcity of water in the state, and therefore, they were accustomed to use it carefully.

v) Is the cooking process and storage of fuel safe, not posing any fire hazard?

The cooking process and storage of fuel is safe in 100% of sample schools.

12 **COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION:**

i) Extent of participation by Parents in daily supervision, monitoring, participation.

Participation of parents in the day to day management, monitoring and supervision is good in 17.5% (7) schools, fair in 32.5% (13) and poor in as many as 50% (20) of the sample schools.

ii) Extent of participation by VECs/Panchayats/Urban bodies in daily supervision and monitoring of MDM.

Participation of members of VECs in the day to day management, monitoring and supervision is good in 5% (2), fair in 15% (6) and poor in 80% (32) of sample schools.

iii) Is any roster being maintained of the community members for supervision of the MDM?

None of the 40 sample schools has ever prepared any roster for parents and community members for day-to-day supervision of the MDM.

13 INSPECTION & SUPERVISION:

- i) Has the Mid day meal programme been inspected by any state/district/block level officers/officials? What is the frequency of such inspections?
 - a) Inspection and Supervision of MDM by State Level Officer:

100% of the sample schools reported that their MDM programme was never monitored by State Level Officers.

b) Inspection and Supervision of MDM by District Level Officers:

50% (20) of headmasters of sample schools reported that District Level Officers have never visited their school for monitoring of MDM, at the same time 50% (20) reported that the visit of district Level Officers was very rare.

c) Inspection and Supervision of MDM by Block Level Officers:

As many as 67.5% (27) of the headmasters of sample schools responded that they have rarely been inspected by Block Level Officer, whereas 32.5% (13) reported that MDM program was never monitored by Block Level Officer.

d) Inspection and Supervision of MDM by Cluster Level Officers:

The members of MI are pleased to learn that all the 100% (40) of sample schools, as reported by their headmasters/teachers, were frequently inspected and monitored by the cluster level officers.

14 IMPACT OF MDM:

i) Has the mid day meal improved the enrollment of children in school?

12.5% (5) of the headmasters reported positive effect of MDM on students' enrollment, and the remaining 87.5% (35) were not sure about its impact on enrollment..

ii) Has the mid day meal improved the attendance of children in school?

100% (40) of the headmasters reported positive effect of MDM on students' attendance.

iii) Has the mid day meal improved general well being (nutritional status) of children in school?

On the impact of MDM on improvement of general well being (nutritional status) of children in schools, 100% (40) of the headmasters reported positively.

iv) Is there any other incidental benefit due to serving of cooked meal in schools?

Other incidental benefits of MDM reported by few schools were :

- a) Improves energy level of children and keep them active.
- b) Poor parents feel happy as they do not have to pay for the Tiffin of their children.

List of Schools with DISE code visited by MI (Serchhip)

Sl.	Name of the school	Primary/Upper	Date of the	DICE Code
No.	including block name	Primary School	visit of the	
			school	
1.	Khumtung MS	Upper Primary	27 th Jan 2015	15050301504
2.	Chhuanthar MS	Upper Primary	27 th Jan 2015	15050301402
3.	St. Peter MS	Upper Primary	27 th Jan 2015	15050300305
4.	Chhingchhip PS I	Primary	27 th Jan 2015	15050300301
5.	Chhiahtlang PS I	Primary	28 th Jan 2015	15050100601
6.	Khawlailung MS II	Upper Primary	30 th Jan 2015	15050201107
7.	Khawlailung MS I	Upper Primary	30 th Jan 2015	15050201106
8.	Khawlailung PS I	Primary	30 th Jan 2015	15050201101
9.	Lungkawlh MS	Upper Primary	30 th Jan 2015	15050200202
10.	N. Vanlaiphai MS	Upper Primary	30 th Jan 2015	15050200109
11.	Oriental MS	Upper Primary	30 th Jan 2015	15050200110
12.	E. Lungdar MS I	Upper Primary	31 st Jan 2015	15050200503
13.	E. Lungdar PS I	Primary	31 st Jan 2015	15050200501
14.	Mualcheng MS	Upper Primary	29 th Jan 2015	15050200403
15.	Bungtlang MS II	Upper Primary	29 th Jan 2015	15050201407
16.	Chhiahtlang PS III	Primary	28 th Jan 2015	15050100603
17.	N. Serchhip PS	Primary	28 th Jan 2015	15050100503
18.	Chanmari PS, Serchhip	Primary	28 th Jan 2015	15050100403
19.	Darnam P/S, Serchhip	Primary	28 th Jan 2015	15050100202
20.	Khumtung PS I	Primary	27 th Jan 2015	15050301501
21.	Baktawng PS I	Primary	27 th Jan 2015	15050301401
22.	Chhingchhip MS II	Upper Primary	28 th Jan 2015	15050300403
23.	Chhiahtlang MS	Upper Primary	28 th Jan 2015	15050100607
24.	Chhiahtlang PS II	Primary	27 th Jan 2015	15050100602
25.	Khawlailung PS IV	Primary	30 th Jan 2015	15050201104
26.	Chekawn PS	Primary	30 th Jan 2015	15050200901
27.	Lungkawlh PS	Primary	30 th Jan 2015	15050200201
28.	N. Vanlaiphai PS III	Primary	30 th Jan 2015	15050200105
29.	N. Vanlaiphai PS I	Primary	30 th Jan 2015	15050200102
30.	E. Lungdar PS II	Primary	31 st Jan 2015	15050200502
31.	E. Lungdar MS II	Upper Primary	31 st Jan 2015	15050200504
32.	Mualcheng PS I	Primary	29 th Jan 2015	15050200401
33.	Keitum MS	Upper Primary	29 th Jan 2015	15050201304
34.	Keitum PS I	Primary	29 th Jan 2015	15050201301
35.	Bungtlang PS IV	Primary	29 th Jan 2015	15050201404
36.	Chhiahtlang National MS	Upper Primary	27 th Jan 2015	15050100608
37.	New Serchhip MS	Upper Primary	29 th Jan 2015	15050100504
38.	Ramlai MS	Upper Primary	29 th Jan 2015	15050101704
39.	Model MS	Upper Primary	29 th Jan 2015	15050100408
40.	LM MS	Upper Primary	29 th Jan 2015	15050100204