

3rd HALF YEARLY MONITORING REPORT OF MDM FOR THE STATE OF MIZORAM

Period: 1st October 2011 to 31st March 2012

Districts Covered 1. Lawngtlai 2. Saiha

Nodal Officer: Prof.R.P.Vadhera

Department of Education, Mizoram University, Aizawl

3rd Half Yearly Monitoring Report of Mizoram University on MDM for the State of Mizoram (Period of 1st October 2011 to 31st March 2012)

1. General Information

Sl	Information	Details
No		
1.	Name of the Monitoring Institute	Mizoram University
2.	Period of the report	1 st October, 2011 to 31 st March, 2012
3.	Fund Released for the period	75% of the funds released for the period 1^{st} October, 2011 to 30^{th} September, 2012
4.	No. of Districts allotted	2 (Two) Districts
5.	Name of Districts Covered	1.Lawngtlai 2.Saiha
6.	Dates of visit to the Districts / Schools	 1.Lawngtlai District: (a) First team consisting of 5 members visited the District/Sample schools from 6th to 10th February, 2012. (b) Second team consisting of 4 members visited the District/Sample schools from 11th to 14th February, 2012. (c) Third team consisting of 4 members visited the District/Sample schools from 12th and 13th March, 2012. (a) First team consisting of 4 members visited the District/Sample schools from 6th to 10th February, 2012. (b) Second team consisting of 4 members visited the District/Sample schools from 6th to 10th February, 2012. (c) First team consisting of 5 members visited the District/Sample schools from 11th to 16th February, 2012. (b) Second team consisting of 4 members visited the District/Sample schools from 11th to 16th February, 2012. (c) Third team consisting of 4 members visited the District/Sample schools from 14th to 17th March, 2012. Note: The remaining mandays were used for the development of (i) Master tables, (ii) data entry tables, (iii) data analysis, (iv) visit to SPD's office etc.

		Cate	egor	у	Kolasib	N	lamit
	Number of elementary	Primary			20	21	
7.	schools monitored	Upper Primary			20	19	
		Tota	al		40		40
			Туј	pes of school vis	ited		
			Sr. No	Types of schoo		Lawngtlai	Saiha
			a	Special train (Residential)	ing centers	1	2
			b	Special training Residential)	centers (Non	Nil	Nil
8.	Types of school visited		С	Schools in Urban	Areas	15	21
0.	Types of sensor visited		d	School sanction Works	ed with Civil	6	7
			e	School from NPEGI	EL Blocks		EL Blocks in ets covered
			f	Schools having C	WSN	6	5
			g	School covered u	nder CAL	5	6
			h	KGBVs		No KG	
9.	Number of schools visited by	20 Sc	choo	ls (10 School	s in Lawng	tlai Dist	rict and 1
	Nodal Officer of the	Schoo	ols ir	n Saiha Distric	t)		
	Monitoring Institute				,		
10.	Whether the draft report has been shared with the State Nodal Officer, MDM : YES / NO				YES		
11.	After submission of the draft report to the State Nodal Officer, MDM whether the MI has received any comments from the SPO: YES / No	Still waiting for comments					
12.	Before sending the reports to the GOI whether the MI has shared the report with State Nodal Officer, MDM	YES					

14. **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, 25th May 2012 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 ______. The officials of the MDM Cell were satisfied with the field observations and felt that no separate comments were required for the report of field observations.

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

16. Items to be attached with the report:

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY (Mid Day Meal)

A. LAWNGTLAI DISTRICT

	1. As per information given by teachers and students, and verification of records relating to MDM, only 15% 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 not monthly basis, which was by and large regular.
	3. The MI team visited the school during February-March and majority of the schools did not have buffer stock of rice for 1 month.
District 1 (Lawngtlai)	4. Food grain was not delivered to the schools. The schools had to make their own arrangement for picking of the food grains from godown or retailer.
	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 October 2011 only.
	6. Roster for parents and community members for day-to-day supervision of the MDM was not prepared by any of the school visited by the MI
	7. As there was irregularity in the receipt of cooking cost, schools had to either purchase the required ingredients on credit by paying higher price or have to use funds from other resources.
	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

10. The daily menu in majority of the sample schools was mainly rice preparation with dal or potato. At the same time, nutrela, green leaves, cabbage, brinjals, pumpkin, eggs tin fish and chicken(in some schools) were also served occasionally. Few schools were also found to serve bananas to their children based on the season.

11. Weekly menu for MDM was not displayed in any of the sample schools visited.

12. All the sample schools have 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 of rice with dal/potatoes/pumpkin/nutreala/green vegetables available as per season. Eggs/tin-fish/chicken were occasionally served to students in some of the schools.

14. An interaction with the children on the day of visit revealed that in 85% of the schools, children were happy and satisfied with the quantity and quality of MDM served to them in schools.

15. All the sample schools have cooks specifically appointed for MDM service.

16.None of the sample schools have engaged SHG or NGO or contractors for cooking or serving of MDM.

1718. In every sample schools cooks are paid remuneration of Rs.1500/- per month.

19. Remuneration to all cooks in the sample schools was paid quarterly, not monthly.

20. In terms of gender composition, more than 70% of the cooks in the sample schools were female.

21. In terms of social composition, all the cooks in the sample schools belong to ST category.

22. Kitchen sheds – cum – store for MDM service was constructed in 92.5% of the schools visited by MI.

23. Only 30% of the schools had potable water for cooking and drinking purpose.

24. 77.5% of the sample schools had adequate utensils for cooking and service of MDM.

25. All the schools were using firewood for cooking of the MDM.

26. The process of cooking and storage of fuel is safe in only 55% of sample schools whereas it was not safe in rest of the schools.

27. Discipline and order is maintained by 100% of the sample schools with children while taking MDM.

28. All the schools reported that participation of parents in supervision and management was poor.

29. Participation of members of VECs in the inspection and supervision of MDM was fair in 37.5% and poor in 62.5% of the sample schools.

30. None of the sample schools maintained health cards/registers for their students.

31. Micronutrients such as Iron and folic acid, were not given to children by any of the sample schools.

32. As per the information received from the teachers of the sample schools 75% of the sample schools were never monitored by State Level Officers. At the same time 25% reported that they were rarely inspected by the State Level Officers.

33. 12.5% of sample schools reported that they had never been inspected by District Level Officers in relation to MDM while 80% reported that the visit was very rare. Only 7.5% of the schools reported frequent visit of the District Level Officers.

34. Block Level Officers, as reported by 40% headmasters of sample schools, had never visited them for inspection and monitoring of MDM. At the same time, 22.5% said that such visits were rare and the rest 37.5% reported that they were frequently visited by the BRCCs.

35. Frequent inspection of MDM service was done by Circle Level Officer in 45% of the sample schools while the visit was reported to be rarely and frequently by 27.5% each of the sample schools.

36. As per the inputs received from 55% of the headmasters and teachers of the sample schools, the introduction of MDM has improved the enrollment. In 67.5% of the schools, there was an improvement in attendance as a result of MDM while as many as 97.5% reported an improvement in the nutritional status of the children..

37. Other incidental benefits of MDM reported by few schools were :

a) Parents who have to go to jhum everyday were reported to be relieved and

happy of the introduction of MDM as they do not have to cook morning
meal for their children which enable them to not only save food grains, but
time also.
b) Teachers of all sample schools reported that children become more active
with the serving of nutritious meals on a regular basis.
c) Poor parents feel happy as they do not have to pay for the Tiffin of their
children.
38. Health Check – up for students was not done by 62.5% of the schools. At
the same time, even the schools that reported to have done so did it only once
last year.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY MID DAY MEAL

A. SAIHA DISTRICT

	1. In Saiha District, only 50% of the sample schools were serving hot cooked meal on a daily basis.
	2. The supply of food grains to schools in the state is done on quarterly not monthly basis, which was by and large regular.
	3. According to the reports of the schools visited and spot verification, none of the schools were maintaining buffer stock of rice for one month. In fact, the schools were not able to serve MDM from February 2012.
District 2: (Saiha)	4. All the schools 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.
	5. None of the sample schools had ever received cooking cost for MDM in advance. The latest receipt of cooking cost, at the time of visit of MI to the district was upto October 2011 only.
	6. With the non release of cooking cost in advance, schools had to either purchase the required ingredients on credit by paying higher cost or have to use funds from other resources.
	7. There was no case of discrimination on the basis of gender or caste in cooking and serving of MDM.

8. 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).

9. Weekly menu for MDM was displayed by only 7.5% of the schools visited by MI.

10. All sample schools have been provided with at least two cooks. Schools with large enrollments have been provided with more cooks.

11. Responses of the teachers and students revealed that 100% of the sample schools served a variety of food. The daily menu comprised of rice with dal/potatoes/ pumpkin/nutrela/green vegetables available as per season. Eggs/tin-fish were occasionally served to students in some of the schools.

12. Children from some of the sample schools were neither happy nor satisfied with MDM. The reason cited by them were irregularity and same menu served for long periods of time although some variety was served occasionally. Moreover, many of them suggested that they would be further pleased if items like eggs, meat, fried rice, potatoes etc. are served more frequently.

13. None of the sample schools had ever engaged any SHG or NGO or contractors for the cooking of MDM.

14. All sample schools have the required number of cooks as per the norms of GOI. The number of cooks increased with students' enrolment.

15. Food for MDM in all of the 40 sample schools is cooked and served by the cooks appointed for this purpose.

16. All the cooks were paid remuneration of Rs.1500/- per month.

17. Remuneration to all cooks in the sample schools was paid on a quarterly basis and not monthly.

18. In terms of gender composition, almost all cooks, except a negligible percentage were female.

19. In terms of social composition, all the cooks in the sample schools belong to ST category as well as religious minority (Christian).

20. In 87.5% of the sample schools, Kitchen shed for MDM was found to be available and in use. These Kitchen sheds were constructed out of funds received under SSA.

21. In the 40 sample schools visited by MI for monitoring MDM, 70% had potable water for cooking and drinking purpose.

22. 77.5% of the schools were having adequate utensils for cooking MDM.

23. Majority of the sample schools (97.5%) were using only firewood for cooking of MDM while only 2.5% were using LPG.

24. The spot verification by MI revealed that the process of cooking and storage of fuel is safe in only 57.5% of sample schools whereas it was not safe in 42.5 % of the schools.

25. Discipline and order was maintained by children while taking MDM in all sample school with.

26. Participation of parents in the day to day management, monitoring and supervision is fair in15% of the schools visited while it was poor in as many as 85% of the sample schools.

27. Participation of members of VECs in the day to day management,

monitoring and supervision is fair in 50% and poor in the other 50% of the sample schools.

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

29. Only 7.5% of sample schools maintained health cards/registers for each child, and the remaining 92.5% of sample schools did not maintain the health record of children in any form.

30. Micronutrients such as Iron, folic acid, vitamin-A and de-worming medicines were never given to children of the sample schools visited by MI.

31. Out of the 40 sample schools visited by MI, 67.5% reported that their MDM programme was never monitored by State Level Officers. The rest 32.5% reported that they were rarely visited by the State Level Officers in connection with MDM.

32. No visit of the District level officers was reported by 40% of headmasters of sample schools whereas 60% reported that the visit of district Level Officers was very rare.

33. Around 25% of the headmasters of sample schools responded that they had never been inspected by Block Level Officer, whereas 42.5% reported that their visits were very rare. At the same time, 32.5% of the schools reported frequent visit of their schools by the Block Level Officers.

34. Frequent visit of the Cluster Level Officers was reported by 50% of the sample schools. On the other hand, 17.5% reported that they were never visited by the cluster level officers while 32.5% reported that the visit was very rare.

35. As many as 85% of the headmasters claimed that MDM has positive effect on students' enrollment, while the remaining 15% were not sure about its

impact on enrollment.

36. 80% of the headmasters reported positive effect of MDM on students' attendance, and the remaining 20% reported not to have noted any impact of MDM on attendance.

37. 95% of the headmasters reported positive effect of MDM on students general well being while 5% could not give a definite opinion regarding the positive effect of MDM on the nutritional status of their students.

38. Other incidental benefits of MDM reported by few schools were :

- a) Students were more regular.
- b) Poor parents feel happy as they do not have to pay for the Tiffin of their children.
- c) Students were more energetic.

39. Regular health check up was not organised by any of the schools. However, 30% of sample schools reported that health check up was organised for their students two times last year while 12.5% reported to have organised it once during 2011.

MDM MONITORING REPORT (LAWNGTLAI 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? The MI observers after interacting with the headmasters, teachers and children, and verification MDM registers relating to stock of food grains and conversion cost found that as many as 85% of sample schools, were not serving hot cooked food on daily basis. At the time of visit of the MI (February and March) majority of the schools had not even started cooking MDM. This interruption, as per their report and verification of data was due to the non-receipt of foodgrains as well as cooking cost. The latest receipt of cooking cost was upto October 2011 only. 				
2.	TREN Extent	DS : of variation (As per school records vis-à-vis Actual on t	he day of visit)		
	No.	Details			
	i	Enrollment	2280		
	ii	No.of children opted for Mid Day Meal	2280		
	iii	No.of children attending the school on the day of visit	1976		
	iv	No.of children availing MDM as per MDM Register	Not maintained		
	v	No.of children actually availing MDM on the day of visit	391**		
		1	<u> </u>		

	vi No.of children availed MDM on the previous day 271**
	** In Lawngtlai district, cooking and serving of MDM has not yet been started by majority of the schools due to one or another reason. Out of the 40 schools visited by MI, 72.5% of the schools did not serve MDM on the day of MI's visit while the number of schools that did not serve MDM on the day previous to MI's visit was 75%.
3	REGULARITY IN DELIVERING FOOD GRAINS 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. However, foodgrains for 2012 was
	not released yet, at the time of visit of MI. As a result of this, the schools had not started cooking MDM.
	ii) Is buffer stock of one-month's requirement maintained?
	At the time of visit of members of MI, none of the sample schools were
	having buffer stock of rice for one month. In fact, they were not able to start
	cooking MDM in 2012.
	iii) Is the food grains delivered at the school?
	All the sample schools reported that foodgrains was not delivered at their
	door step. Rather the schools have to transport their food grain from the retailer
	shop either by hiring of taxi or children have to carry the same on their heads.
	iv) Is the quality of food grain good?

When the headmasters/teachers were asked about the quality of food grains (rice) received by school, 80% of them reported it to be good quality and the remaining 20% reported it to be of an average quality. Spot verification on this issue could not be done as the schools were not keeping stock of foodgrains at the time of visit of the schools by the members of MI during February-March 2012.

REGULARITY IN DELIVERING COOKING COST TO SCHOOL LEVEL:

4

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. As per the report of the Headmasters and the teachers as well as spot verification of cashbooks, it was found on the day of visit to the schools that the schools had received cooking cost for the period upto October 2011 only.

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

All the schools (100%) visited by MI reported that they took every possible measures (taking commodities on credit at shops and also donating money at the beginning of the month etc.) to see that there is no disruption of MDM service. However, for those schools at interior places, it was not possible to rely on Credit system as the shops would not allow them for a long period of time. In such cases, there was disruption of the service of MDM.

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

The cooking cost, as and when received by the MDM Cell of SSA was directly released to the school in Cash from the DPO.

SOCIAL EQUITY :

5

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 all the schools visited by MI, it was found that MDM was served by the cooks under the supervision of the teachers - in - charge. In some schools where there are larger numbers of students, the teachers used to help in the distribution of food. Students queue up in front of the kitchen and take food in an orderly manner. There was no separate and formal seating arrangement for eating of MDM. In majority of the schools (60%), children used to take their meal inside their respective rooms. In some schools, children also used to take their their meal in the verandah (42.5%) and surrounding compounds (47.5%) of their school.

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?

Out of the 40 sample schools in the district, only 5% had displayed its weekly menu in the school premises. However, they were not able to adhere to the displayed menu because of irregular receipt of cooking cost.

ii) Who decides the menu?

The day-to-day menu all of sample schools was decided by the teacher in-

	charge of MDM. At the same time, in majority of the schools, decision was taken in consultation with other teachers of the school.
	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, eggs(occasionally), tin fish (in some schools) and meat (in some schools). However, the main menu in all the schools was mainly dal and rice. Variety was found only occasionally.
	iv) Does the daily menu include rice/wheat preparation, dal and vegetables? Yes, the daily menu in all sample schools (100%) included rice preparation with dal, and potatoes, cabbage, brinjals, pumpkin, eggs, tin fish (in some schools) occasionally.
7	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 in 85% of the schools visited by MI, children expressed their happiness and satisfaction with the quality and quantity of food served. However, children of 15% of the schools were not as happy and satisfied and suggested that they would like it to be served daily and also if variety could be served more frequently.

SUPPLEMENTARY :

8.

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

It was surprising to know that only 5% of sample schools maintained health cards/registers for each child, and the remaining 95% 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**: 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**: Only 37.5% of the schools had organised health check-up for their children annually.

e) **No health Check-up**: As many as 62.5% of the schools had not organised any health check – up for their students.

iii) Whether children are given micronutrients (Iron, folic acid, vitamin-A dosage) and de-worming medicine periodically.

a) Iron: None of the schools had given Iron tablets to their children.

b) Folic Acid: Folic Acid was given to children only by 5% of sample schools.

c) Vitamin A dosage and De-worming medicines: None of the schools had given Vitamin dosage or De-worming medicines 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, were administered

STATUS OF COOKS :

9

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 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. 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 My 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 regularly?

No, 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 along with the conversion cost. At the

time of MI's visit to the district during Feb-Mar 2012, the last remuneration received by the cooks was up to the month of October 2011.

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?

92.5% of the sample schools have constructed their kitchen shed 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 shed in the sample schools have been constructed under the SSA scheme.

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

This question becomes irrelevant since all sample schools which had constructed their kitchen shed were using the same for MDM service.

iv) Kitchen shed under construction

Since all sample schools which had been sanctioned Kitchen Shed had constructed their kitchen shed and were using the same for MDM service, this question also becomes irrelevant.

v) Kitchen shed Sanctioned, but construction not started

Since all sample schools which had been sanctioned Kitchen Shed had constructed their kitchen shed and were using the same for MDM service, this question also becomes irrelevant.

vi) Kitchen shed not sanctioned

There were 3 schools (7.5%) in the sample which did not have Kitchen Shed. These schools however reported that although they had received grants for construction of Kitchen Shed and had already constructed it, it was demolished when new bigger school buildings were constructed.

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.

In the case of schools where pucca Kitchen Shed was not available, foods were cooked in a kuccha shed temporarily made and foodstuffs were stored in the teachers' common room or in a nearby teachers' house.

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

Out of the 40 sample schools from the district, only (30%) had potable water for cooking and drinking purpose. The remaining 70% 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% the sample schools had adequate utensils for cooking and service of MDM.

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

All the sample schools visited by MI were using Firewood for cooking MDM.

SAFETY & HYGIENE :

11

i) General Impression of MI about hygiene:

a) Good: In terms of environment and hygiene 22.5% of sample schools were good.
b) Fair: In terms of environment and hygiene 52.5 % of sample schools were fair.
c) Poor: 25% of the sample schools were poor in terms of hygiene.

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

97.5% of the sample schools claimed that they encourage children to wash hands before and after eating of MDM. However, 2.5% of the schools admitted that they did not particularly teach their students regarding washing of hands before and after eating meal.

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

It is encouraging to report that children in all sample schools take meal in a very disciplined and orderly manner. Students queue up in front of the Kitchen Shed and the students of lower classes were made to line up first.

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 80% of sample schools, and it was not so in only 20% 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 90% of sample schools while it was fair in 10% of the schools visited. ii) Extent of participation by VECs/Panchayats/Urban bodies in daily supervision and monitoring of MDM. The extent of the participation of members of VEC in the day to day management, monitoring and supervision is poor in 62.5% of the sample schools while 37.5% reported fair participation. 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 anv 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 75% of the sample schools were never monitored by State Level Officers. At the same time 25% reported that they were rarely inspected by the State Level Officers.

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

12.5% of sample schools reported that they had never been inspected by District Level Officers in relation to MDM while 80% reported that the visit was very rare. Only 7.5% of the schools reported frequent visit of the District Level Officers.

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

When asked about the inspection and supervision of their MDM programme by block level officers, Block Level Officers, as reported by 40% headmasters of sample schools, had never visited them for inspection and monitoring of MDM. At the same time, 22.5% said that such visits were rare and the rest 37.5% reported that they were frequently visited by the BRCCs.

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

Frequent inspection of MDM service was done by Cluster Level Officer in 45% of the sample schools while the visit was reported to be rarely and never by 27.5% each of the sample schools.

IMPACT OF MDM :

14

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

While responding to the question relating to the impact of MDM on improvement of enrollment of children in schools, 55% of the headmasters reported a positively. On the other hand, 45% reported not to have observed any particular impact of MDM on enrolment of students.

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, 62.5% of the headmasters reported positively, while 32.5% of the headmasters were not sure about its impact.

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

While responding to the question relating to the impact of MDM on improvement of general well being (nutritional status) of children in schools, 97.5% 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) Parents who have to go to jhum everyday were reported to be relieved and happy of the introduction of MDM as they do not have to cook morning meal for their children which enable them to save not only food grains, but time also.

b) Teachers of all sample schools reported that children become more active with the serving of nutritious meals on a regular basis.

c) Poor parents feel happy as they do not have to pay for the Tiffin of their children.

List of Sample Schools from Lawngtlai District

Sl.No	Name of School	DISE Code	Sl.No.	Name of School	DISE Code
1	Govt. M/S, Thingkah	15070200101	21	Govt. Mampui M/S	15070200501
2	Govt. P/S I, L-III	15070200302	22	Govt. P/S I, Mampui	15070200502
3	Govt. Model English School P/S	15070200402	23	Govt. P/S II, Mampui	15070200503
4	Govt. Model English School M/S	15070200401	24	Govt. Ngengpui, M/S	15070105403
5	Govt. P/S L-I	1507020	25	Govt. Ngengpui P/S	15070105404
6	Govt. Bazar P/S, Lawngtlai	15070200602	26	Govt. P/S I, Diltlang	15070100302
7	Govt. Electric M/S	15070200301	27	Govt. M/S I, Diltlang	15070100301
8	Southern Standard M/S	15070201001	28	Govt. P/S, Dinthar	15070100303
9	Govt. P/S I, L-VI	15070201005	29	Rosebud M/S	15070200701
10	Govt. P/S I, AOC	15070200202	30	Govt. M/S Chanmari	15070200806
11	Govt. P/S – II, Thingkah	15070200103	31	Govt. UPS, Hmunnuam	15070100201
12	Govt. P/S I, Thingkah	15070200102	32	Govt. P/S Hmunnuam	15070100202
13	Govt.P/S I, Council Veng	15070200702	33	Govt. P/S II, Bungtlang 'S'	15070100103
14	Govt. M/S, AOC	15070200201	34	Govt. P/S I, Bungtlang 'S'	15070100102
15	Govt.P/S, Kawlchaw 'W'	15070201702	35	Govt. M/S Bungtlang 'S'	15070100101
16	Govt. M/S, Kawlchaw 'W'	15070201701	36	Exodus UPS, Saizawh	15070202002
17	Govt.M/S, Sihtlangpui	15070201601	37	Govt. P/S Saizawh East	15070202001
18	Govt. P/S, Sihtlangpui	15070201602	38	Govt. Rulkual M/S	15070201901
19	Govt. P/S, Chawntlangpui	15070201502	39	Govt. Rulkual P/S I	15070201902
20	Govt. M/S, Chawntlangpui	15070201501	40	Govt. Saikah 'U' P/S	15070201402

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?					
	The MI observers after interacting with the headmasters, teachers and childred and verification MDM registers relating to stock of food grains and conversi- cost found that as many as 50% of sample schools, were not serving hot cook food on daily basis. At the time of visit of the MI (February and Marci majority of the schools had not even started cooking MDM. This interruption, per their report and verification of data was due to the non-receipt of foodgrain as well as cooking cost. The latest receipt of cooking cost as per their report we upto October 2011 only in majority of the schools while some schools even claimed that their last receipt was in July 2011.					
2. TRENDS : Extent of variation (As per school records vis-à-vis Actua			he day of visit)			
	No.	Details	2016			
	i	Enrollment	2916			
	11	No.of children opted for Mid Day Meal	2916			
	iii	No.of children attending the school on the day of visit	2537			
	iv	No.of children availing MDM as per MDM Register	Not maintained			
	v	No.of children actually availing MDM on the day of visit	853**			
	vi	No.of children availed MDM on the previous day	708**			
	yet bee	he district under reference, regular cooking and serving n started due to one or another reason. Out of the 40 % of the schools did not serve MDM on the day of M	schools visited by			

	number of schools that did not serve MDM on the day previous to MI's visit was 82.5%.
3	REGULARITY IN DELIVERING FOOD GRAINS 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. However, foodgrains for 2012 was
	not released yet, at the time of visit of MI. As a result of this, the schools had
	not started cooking MDM.
	ii) Is buffer stock of one-month's requirement maintained?
	At the time of visit of members of MI, none of the sample schools were
	having buffer stock of rice for one month. In fact, they were not able to start
	cooking MDM in 2012.
	iii) Is the food grains delivered at the school?
	All the sample schools reported that foodgrains was not delivered at their
	door step. Rather the schools have to transport their food grain from the retailer
	shop either by hiring of taxi or children have to carry the same on their heads.
	iv) Is the quality of food grain good?
	When the headmasters/teachers were asked about the quality of food grains
	(rice) received by school, 80% of them reported it to be good quality and the
	remaining 20% reported it to be of an average quality. Spot verification on this
	issue could not be done as the schools were not keeping stock of foodgrains at
	the time of visit of the schools by the members of MI during February-March

4

REGULARITY IN DELIVERING COOKING COST TO SCHOOL 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. As per the report of the Headmasters and the teachers as well as spot verification of cashbooks, it was found on the day of visit to the schools that majority of the schools (90%) had received cooking cost for the period upto October 2011 only. At the same time, there were also few schools (10%) which claimed that their latest receipt of cooking cost was in July/August 2011.

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

All the schools (100%) visited by MI reported that they took every possible measures (taking commodities on credit at shops and also donating money at the beginning of the month etc.) to see that there is no disruption of MDM service. However, for those schools located at remote places, it was difficult to depend on the petty shopkeepers who would not allow them to take on credit continuously for a long period of time. In such cases, disruption of the service of MDM could not be prevented.

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

The cooking cost, as and when received by the MDM Cell of SSA was released to the SMC DPO which was paid to the schools in cash.

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 all the schools visited by MI, it was found that MDM was served by the cooks under the supervision of the teachers - in - charge. In some schools where there are larger numbers of students, the teachers and sometimes even the older students used to help in the distribution of MDM. Students queue up in front of the kitchen and take food in an orderly manner. There was no separate and formal seating arrangement for eating of MDM. In 45% of the schools, children used to take their meal inside their respective rooms. In some schools, children also used to take their meal in the verandah (30%) and surrounding compounds (72.5%) of their school.

VARIETY OF MENU :

6

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

Out of the 40 sample schools in the district, only 7.5% had displayed its weekly menu in the school premises and 92.5% had not displayed it. However, even the schools that displayed it were not able to adhere to the displayed menu because of irregular receipt of cooking cost.

ii) Who decides the menu?

5

	The day-to-day menu all of sample schools were decided by the teacher in-
	charge of MDM. At the same time, in majority of the schools, decision was
	taken in consultation with other teachers of the school.
	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,
	eggs(occasionally), tin fish (in some schools) and meat (in some schools).
	However, the main menu in all the schools was mainly dal and rice. Variety was
	found only occasionally.
	iv) Does the daily menu include rice/wheat preparation, dal and vegetables?
	Yes, the daily menu in all sample schools (100%) included rice preparation
	with dal, and potatoes, cabbage, brinjals, pumpkin, eggs, tin fish (in some
	schools) occasionally.
	schools) occasionally.
7	QUALITY & QUANTITY OF MEAL:
	Factback from skildren on suclity and suggitter of most (If skildren more
	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 seconds aske also and eaking them should
	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 in 100% of the schools visited by MI, children expressed their
	happiness and satisfaction with the quality of food served. However, in 5% of
	the sample schools, children were not happy and satisfied with the quantity of
	food and suggested that they would like it to be served daily and also if variety
	could be served more frequently.
	<u> </u>

SUPPLEMENTARY :

8.

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

The MI team was disappointed to learn that only 7.5% of sample schools maintained health cards/registers for each child, and the remaining 92.5% did not maintain health record of children in any form.

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**: 30% of the sample schools visited by MI reported that they had organised medical check-up of their students twice last year.

d) **Annual Health Check-up**: Only 12.5% of the schools had organised health check-up for their children annually.

e) No health Check-up: As many as 57.5% of the schools had not organised any health check – up for their students.

iii) Whether children are given micronutrients (Iron, folic acid, vitamin-A dosage) and de-worming medicine periodically.

None of the schools (0%) had given Iron tablets, Folic Acid, Vitamin dosage or De-worming medicines to their students.

iv) Who administers these medicines and at what frequency?

As reported by the headmaster and teachers, none of the schools had ever given any micronutrients to their students. As such, the question becomes irrelevant.

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 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. 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 My 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 regularly?

No, 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 were always released quarterly along with the conversion cost. At the time of MI's visit to the district during Feb-Mar 2012, the last remuneration received by the cooks was up to the month of October 2011.

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?

87.5% of the sample schools have constructed their kitchen shed 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 shed in the sample schools have been constructed under the SSA scheme.

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

This question becomes irrelevant since all sample schools which had constructed their kitchen shed were using the same for MDM service.

iv) Kitchen shed under construction

Since all sample schools which had been sanctioned Kitchen Shed had constructed their kitchen shed and were using the same for MDM service, this question also becomes irrelevant.

v) Kitchen shed sanctioned, but construction not started

Since all sample schools which had been sanctioned Kitchen Shed had constructed their kitchen shed and were using the same for MDM service, this question also becomes irrelevant.

vi) Kitchen shed not sanctioned

There were 5 schools (12.5%) in the sample which did not have Kitchen Shed. These schools however reported that although they had received grants for construction of Kitchen Shed and had already constructed it, it was no longer fit for using as the quality of construction at the time was very poor.

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.

In the case of schools where pucca Kitchen Shed was not available, foods were cooked in a kuccha shed temporarily made and foodstuffs were stored in the teachers' common room or in the Headmaster's/ nearby teachers' house.

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

Out of the 40 sample schools from the district, only (70%) had potable water for cooking and drinking purpose. The remaining 30% 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 although cooking utensils were available in all the schools, only 22.5% the sample schools had adequate utensils for cooking and service of MDM.

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

Majority of the sample schools (97.5%) visited by MI were using Firewood for cooking MDM and only 2.5% were using LPG for cooking of MDM.

11 SAFETY & HYGIENE :

i) General Impression of MI about hygiene:

a) Good: In terms of environment and hygiene 32.5% of sample schools were good.
b) Fair: In terms of environment and hygiene 27.5 % of sample schools were fair.

c) Poor: 40% of the sample schools were poor in terms of hygiene.

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

97.5% of the sample schools claimed that they encourage children to wash hands before and after eating of MDM. However, 2.5% of the schools admitted that they did not particularly teach their students regarding washing of hands before and after eating meal.

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

It is encouraging to report that children in all sample schools take meal in a very disciplined and orderly manner. Students queue up in front of the Kitchen Shed and the students of lower classes were made to line up first.

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 57.5% of the sample schools while it was not so in only 42.5% 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 85% of sample schools while it was fair in 15% of the schools visited. ii) Extent of participation by VECs/Panchayats/Urban bodies in daily supervision and monitoring of MDM. The extent of the participation of members of VEC in the day to day management, monitoring and supervision is poor in 50% of the sample schools while the other 50% reported fair participation. 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 anv 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 67.5% of the sample schools were never monitored by State Level Officers. At the same time 32.5% reported that they were rarely inspected by the State Level

Officers.

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

40% of the sample schools reported that they had never been inspected by District Level Officers in relation to MDM while 60% reported that the visit was very rare. None of the schools (0%) reported frequent visit of the District Level Officers.

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

When asked about the inspection and supervision of their MDM programme by block level officers, 25% of the Headmasters of sample schools reported that they had never been visited for inspection and monitoring of MDM. At the same time, 42.5% said that such visits were rare and the rest 32.5% reported that they were frequently visited by the BRCCs.

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

Frequent inspection of MDM service was done by Cluster Level Officer in 50% of the sample schools while the visit was reported to be rarely by 32.5% and never by 17.5% of the sample schools.

14 **IMPACT OF MDM :**

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

While responding to the question relating to the impact of MDM on improvement of enrollment of children in schools, 85% of the headmasters reported a positively. On the other hand, 15% reported not to have observed any particular impact of MDM on enrolment of students.

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

On the question relating to the impact of MDM on improvement of attendance of children in schools, 80% of the headmasters reported positively,

while 20% of the headmasters were not sure about its impact.

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

While responding to the question relating to the impact of MDM on improvement of general well being (nutritional status) of children in schools, 95% 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 some schools were :

a) Parents who have to go to the forest everyday were reported to be relieved and happy with serving of MDM as they do not have to cook morning meal for their children which enable them to not only save food grains, but time also.

b) Teachers of all sample schools reported that children become more active with the serving of nutritious meals on a regular basis.

c) Poor parents feel happy as they do not have to pay for the Tiffin of their children.

List of Sample Schools from SAIHA District

Sl.No	Name of School	DISE Code	Sl.No.	Name of School	DISE Code
1	Govt. Model M/S, New	15080100601	21	Govt. M/S,	15080102301
	Saiha			Niawhtlang	
2	Govt. UPS Old Saiha	15080103101	22	Govt P/S I, Lungbun	15080102202
3	Govt. P/S Old Saiha	15080103102	23	Govt. UPS, Lungbun	15080102204
4	Govt. M/S New Colony	15080102901	24	Govt. P/S, KM 10	15080104002
5	Auxilium M/S	15080102902	25	Govt. UPS, KM 10	15080104001
6	Govt. M/S Council Vaih	15080100901	26	Govt. M/S, Dairy, Tuipang	15080200201
7	Govt. P/S Council Vaih	15080100902	27	Govt. P/S I, Tuipang 'V'	15080203802
8	Govt. P/S I New Saiha	15080100604	28	Govt. UPS, Tuipang 'V'	15080203801
9	Govt. Vengthar M/S, Maubawk, Saiha	15080102001	29	Govt. M/S, Theiva	15080101801
10	Govt. Vengthar P/S II, Maubawk	15080102003	30	Govt. P/S, Theiva	15080101802
11	Govt. P/S, Zero Point	15080102002	31	Govt. M/S, Maubawk	15080101601
12	Govt. P/S Amobyiu, 'CH'	15080101603	32	Govt. P/S II, Maubawk	15080101603
13	Govt. M/S Amobyiu 'CH'	15080101701	33	Govt. M/S, Education Vaih	15080103601
14	Lorraine English M/S, Saiha	15080103604	34	Govt. P/S, College Vaih	15080104101
15	Beulah English Medium School	15080100702	35	Govt. P/S I, Meisavaih	15080100202
16	Govt. P/S, ECM Vaih	15080100102	36	Govt. M/S, Meisavaih	15080100201
17	Govt. M/S, ECM Vaih	15080100101	37	Govt. UPS, Siahatlah	15080103701
18	Govt. M/S, Meisatla	15080100301	38	Govt. P/S II, Siahatlah	15080103702
19	Govt. P/S, Meisavaih	15080100202	39	Govt. Eastern M/S	15080103802
20	Govt. P/S II, Niawhtlang	15080102303	40	Govt. P/S I, New Siaha	15080100604