

The Agenda points for Secretary Conference are as under:

1. Revision / compilation of the guidelines of the MDMS :

The Mid Day Meal Scheme was revised in December 2009 and a separate provision for payment of honorarium to cook cum helpers @ Rs.1,000/- per month was made. The Transportation Assistance for 11 special category States (8 NER States and 3 Hill Area States) was revised to PDS rates prevalent in these State; The norms for construction of kitchen cum store were also revised to plinth area norms and the assistance for cost of constructions was started at Scheduled Rates approved by the States. The food norms for NCLP school children were revised at Upper Primary norms. The scheme is revised in its content & coverage from time to time.

A committee under the Chairmanship of the then Joint Secretary (EE-I) and now Additional Secretary (EE-I) was constituted to compile the guidelines after incorporating the changes made in the scheme during the period from 2006 to 2012. The committee prepared the draft guidelines and it was placed before National Steering cum Monitoring Committee meeting held on 21 Dec 2012 for approval.

The committee recommended the draft guidelines should be circulated to all honorable members to seek their suggestions within 15 days. The Draft guidelines have been circulated to all the honorable members and their comments / observation are awaited. The Draft guidelines are being circulated to all States / UTS for their comments/observations.

Decision Required: The comments of the States/ UTs are requested.

2. Reimbursement of Additional Funds on account of withdrawal of subsidy on LPG cylinders :

The Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas has withdrawn subsidy on LPG Cylinders and suggested that Ministry of HRD may meet the additional burden from the budgetary resources of the scheme. This Ministry has calculated additional fund required for LPG cylinders and proposal of Rs. 752 Cr. was sent to Ministry of Finance for approval. The Ministry of Finance has approved the proposal 'in-principle' with few suggestions. Accordingly all States/UTs have been requested to furnish the desired information in the prescribed format to enable to reimburse the additional funds to States/UTs. The additional burden could be shared between Centre & States as per the existing ratios.

Decision Required: Submission of Information in the prescribed by 10th January 10, 2013.

3. Proposal for construction of Kitchen Cum Store :

960087 kitchen cum stores sanctioned during 2006-07 to 2012-13. The proposal from few States namely Maharashtra, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Jammu & Kashmir etc are awaited. The Ministry of HRD has requested/reminded the States/UTs to submit the proposal for the remaining the schools to enable this department to release the funds to States/ UTs. As per Right to Education Act 2009 all schools must have all weather building including kitchen cum store by March 2013. The Public Account Committee (PAC) has also recommended early construction of kitchen cum store in the school for proper storage of food grain & preparation of meal at school level with safety & hygiene. In spite of several reminders to the States, the proposals from the States for the gap in the kitchen cum stores are still awaited.

Decision Required: Submission of Construction Kitchen cum store by 15th Feb 2013.

4. Feeding of Data in to MDM-MIS Portal.

Ministry of HRD has launched web enabled MIS and all States/UTs have completed Annual Data entry for more than 11.08 lakh schools and also making data entry for Monthly Data but progress is not so satisfactory. This department has also shared with all States/UTs about entries for Fund Flow Mechanism, Food Grain Management so

that Annual Work Plan & Budget through MIS is generated automatically .The officials of States/UTs have been oriented through Video Conferencing held on 31 Dec & 2 January, 2013 and in the regional workshops held/being held at Madurai, Udaipur, Gangtok & Bhopal. The portal is now ready for Data entry for Fund Flow and Food Grain Allocation.

The MDM MIS will be integrated with IVRS to monitor the scheme on real-time basis through community participation. The RFP for empanelment of service providers for IVRS services has been published after incorporating the States/UTs

Decision Required: Data Entry in to the portal for monthly data, Fund Flow & Food grain management

5. Revision of Norms for MDMS in the light of the recommendation of the Working Group on Elementary Education for 12th Plan.

The Working Group on Elementary Education recommended following suggestions in the MDM.

1. Revision of Cooking Cost as per the MDM Price Index
2. Revision of honorarium to cook cum helpers form Rs. 1000 to Rs. 1500 per month
3. Revision of MME rate from 2 % to 3 %
4. Revision of Transportation Assistance for non NER states
5. Setting up of Model Kitchen cum training centers
6. Coverage of Private unaided schools located in SC, ST & Minority concentrated districts.
7. Revision of Norms for Kitchen Devices from Rs. 5000 / school to 15000 / per school on sharing basis.

To prepare EFC Note for revising the norms for above components ,consultation of States for revision of above norms is required

Decision Required: Approval for above changes is solicited.

6. Release of Minimum Mandatory State Share :

It has been observed that few states namely Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh , West Bengal, Rajasthan , Assam etc. have not released mandatory minimum State Share which has resulted in the delay in release of second Installment of Central assistance during the current year . IFD of MHRD has emphasized on release of minimum mandatory State Share simultancously with Centre assistance to the districts.

Decision Required: Release of minimum mandatory State Share along with Centre Share to District.
