F. No. 12-1/2010 MDM 2-1 Government of India Ministry of Human Resource Development Department of School Education & Literacy MDM Division

> Shastri Bhavan, New Delhi Dated 6th July, 2016

Subject: Minutes of the 10th Meeting of the National Steering-cum-(NSMC) for Mid Day Mac Monitoring Committee (NSMC) for Mid Day Meal Scheme held on 22nd June, 2016 under the Chairmanship of Secretary (SE&L).

The 10th meeting of the National Steering-cum-Monitoring Committee (NSMC) for Mid Day Meal Scheme was held on 22nd June, 2016 in Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi under the Chairmanship of Dr Subhash Chandra Khuntia, Secretary (SE&L).

A copy of the minutes of the meeting is enclosed herewith.

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Distribution:

- Financial Advisor, MHRD i)
- Principal Advisor / Advisor, NITI Aayog ii)
- Director, NCERT iii)
- Vice Chancellor, NUEPA iv)
- v) Chairman-cum-Managing Director, FCI
- Secretaries of the following Department with a request to nominate a vi) representative not below the rank of Joint Secretaries:
 - a) Health & Family Welfare
 - b) Food & Public Distribution
 - c) Women & Child Development
 - d) Rural Development
 - e) Housing & Urban Poverty Alleviation
 - f) Youth Affairs & Sports
 - g) Tribal Affairs
 - h) Social Justice & Empowerment
- vii) Director, National Institute of Nutrition, ICMR, Tarnaka Road, Jamai-osmania Post Office, Tarnaka Road Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh -500007.

- Dr Prema Ramchandran, Director, Nutritional Foundation of India, C-13 Qutab Institutional Area, New Delhi -110016.
- Executive (ix) Shri Pawan Kumar Agrawal, Chief Executive Officer and Additional Secretary, Food Safety and Standards Authority of India, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India, FDA Bhavan, Kotla Road, New Delhi-110002.
- Shri Biraj Patnaik, Principal Advisor, Office of Supreme Court Commissioner, New Delhi 18-68, 2nd Floor, Sarvodaya Enclave, New Delhi 110017.
 - Department of Food Science and Nutrition, S.N.D.T. Women's University, Mumbai 400049.
- Dr. Uma Aiyyar, Reader, Food and Nutrition Unit, The M.S. University of Baroda, Pratapgunj, Vadodara 390002, Baroda, Gujarat.
- Representative of Akshaya Patra (Shri Chanchalapati Dasa, Vice President), Shord Road, Road Road Patra Foundation, H K Hill, Chord Road, Bangalore-560 010.
- Education Department, R.No. 641, 6th Floor, M.S. Building, Gate No. 2, Bangalore 560001.
- Ms. Aradhana Patnaik, Secretary, Department of Human Resource Development, Govt. of Jharkhand, MDI Building, Telephone Bhavan, Dhurva, Ranchi 834001.
- Shri Shaleen Kabra, Principal Secretary, School Education Department, Govt. of Jammu & Kashmir, Civil Sectt., Srinagar 190001.
- Secretary (xvii) Shri P. K. Srivastava, Principal Secretary, Education Department, Govt. of Meghalaya, Shillong 796001.
 - xviii) Shri Surjit Gulati, Principal Secretary, Govt. of Gujarat, Education Department, New Sachivalaya, Block No. 5, 7th Floor, Gandhinagar -383010.
- School, Jhargram, West Bengal.
- Smt. D. Sujatha, Secondary Grade Teacher, Mandal Paridshad Primary School, T.M.V. Kandriga, Srikalahasti Mandal, Distt. Chittoor, Andhra Pradesh 517641.
 - xxi) Economic Advisor, SE&L, MHRD
 - xxii) Joint Secretary(EE.I), MHRD Member Secretary.

Copy to:

- i) PPS to Secretary (SE&L).
- ii) PPS to AS(SE).
- iii) PPS to JS(EE-I).
- iv) DS(BDS) / DIR(PV) / DIR(HK).
- v) US(RK) / US(SA) / US(AD).

Government of India Ministry of Human Resource Development Department of School Education and Literacy Mid- Day Meal Division

Minutes of the meeting of National Steering-cum-Monitoring Committee held on 22nd June 2016 at Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi

The 10th meeting of the National Steering-cum-Monitoring Committee (NSMC) on Mid-Day Meal Scheme (MDMS) was held on 22nd June, 2016 under the Chairmanship of Shri Subhas Chandra Khuntia, Secretary, Department of School Education & Literacy (SE&L), Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD). The list of participants is enclosed at Annexure-I.

- 2. Secretary (SE&L) welcomed the NSMC members and other participants.
- 3. Joint Secretary (EE.1) apprised the Hon'ble members that since no comments were received on the minutes of the last NSMC meeting held on 05.05.2015, the minutes may be treated as confirmed. A detailed presentation was made on various agenda items and performance of the Scheme during 2015-16.
 - 4. Action Taken Report (ATR) was presented on the decisions of the 9th meeting of NSMC held on 05.05.2015 as per details given below:-
- 4.1. Consultation with States/ UTs and experts on the parameters of ranking method Shri Gaya Prasad, Director (MHRD) informed that the preliminary ranking methodology has been prepared by the Expert Committee under the chairmanship of Shri Biraj Patnaik, Principal Adviser, Office of the Supreme Court Commissioner and the Department of SE&L has given certain comments on the basis of which Expert Committee is in the process of finalization of report. Secretary (SE&L) opined that instead of preparing a composite ranking based on a basket of indicators of MDMS, it would be better to rank the States/ UTs separately on each of the indicators, as the combined ranking would change based on weight assigned to each indicator. He opined that the basic objective of this ranking exercise is to provide an idea to States/ UTs about their performance on different indicators of MDMS which will motivate States/ UTs to improve on indicators which are not satisfactory. He suggested that a few indicators viz. percentage of coverage of children against enrolment, cleanliness of kitchen cum stores, usage of LPG in the States/UTs for the cooking of mid-day meal, health check-up of children covered under RBSK, fund flow at the State/ UT level etc. may be considered for this ranking exercise. Shri J Alam, Joint Secretary (EE-1) mentioned that States/UTs are providing additional food items/nutrients which can also be considered as an indicator for the ranking.

Secretary (SE& L) further requested the NSMC members to suggest other indicators for this ranking exercise.

Dr. T. Longvah, Director, NIN mentioned that the Status of nutritional status may also serve as an indicator. In this context, JS (EE.1) mentioned that as Mid-day meal is the only one meal given to the children, therefore, it's difficult to assess the impact of MDM separately on children. Secretary (SE&L) also opined that separate health check-up can be carried out and status of stunting and undernourished children can be assessed, without linking with MDM which may not signify the contribution of MDM.

Dr. Shila Deb, Deputy Commissioner (Child Health) Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, and availability of that availability of Hand washing facility and availability of clean water for the cooking of Mid-day meals can also serve as an indicator for the ranking.

Secretary (SE&L) advised to constitute a sub-committee to consider different indicators of ranking of States/ UTs and to finalize the same within two months.

st practices 4.2 Finalization of compendium of best practices

Director, MHRD mentioned that state-wise best practices have been compiled and was sent to Mr. D. Chakrapani, Director of Centre for Innovations in Public Systems (CIPS), ASCI, Hyderabad for documentation as per the decision of the Committee and the final version is awaited. Secretary (SE&L) asked for a fixed deadline for finalization of compendium of best practices. He further advised that the compendium of best practices may be prepared and shared with States/ UTs.

4.3. Letter to be written to all States/ UTs regarding FCI outstanding and to conduct a video conferencing with defaulter States.

Shri Gaya Prasad, Director MDM mentioned that a letter has been written to all the States/UTs in this regard and video conferencing was also conducted besides regular follow up with States. Further, detailed review on payment to FCI has also been undertaken with all States/ UTs during Regional Workshops and other meetings. He further mentioned that, the outstanding dues of FCI has gone down from Rs. 508.77 crore as on 31st December, 2015 to Rs 368.41 crore as on 31st March, 2016. The pendency as on 30th April, 2016 is Rs. 311.26 crore which is much below than revolving funds of Rs. 400 crore kept with FCI by the Ministry. Secretary (SE&L) directed that the pending FCI bills should be cleared within the stipulated time i.e. 20 days by all States/ UTs. He further asked that monthly internal review should be done in this regard and letter should be written to the Principle Secretaries of State Nodal Department of MDMS which have pendency towards FCI payment. JS (EE.1) mentioned about the delay in make a control of information submission by FCI and mismatch of information on pendency of bills submitted by FCI and the information received from States/ UTs. The representative from FCI mentioned that the information is collated from the data received from the States which takes time. Secretary (SE&L) mentioned that a mechanism should be developed so that at the end of the month the data may be exported to MDM MIS system. He also advised FCI to take corrective measures for timely submission of correct information to this Department.

4.4 Consultation with States/ UTs for finalization of recommendations on draft rules on provision of food security allowances to the children as per NFSA 2013.

Director (MHRD) informed that a National level Consultation was held with States/ UTs on 1st - 2nd June 2015 under the chairpersonship of the then Secretary (SE& L). The Mid Day Meal Rules, 2015 had been notified on 30th September 2015 with approval of Competent Authority.

4.5 Engagement of SSA Data Entry operators at the District/ Block level for data entry into the MDM MIS portal

Director (MHRD) informed the NSMC that a letter in this regard had been issued to all States/ UTs on 12.10.2015.

4.6 To conduct an independent study for MDMS

Director (MHRD) informed the NSMC that NUEPA has been requested to conduct the study for evaluation of MDMS. NUEPA has now submitted the proposal of Rs. 17 crore for 'National Evaluation of Mid Day Meal Scheme' and the same is being examined for soliciting approval of competent authority. Prof. Mona Khare, NUEPA mentioned that the proposed study would cover 27 States/ UTs, 130 districts, 5200 schools and 156000 study to the proposed study is from 2016 to 2018. She further added that the proposed study shall be undertaken in consultation/ jointly with few identified State level recognized research institutions/ University departments and centres with the NUEPA as the lead organization.

Secretary (SE&L) felt that the proposed budget of Rs. 17 crore appeared high and the study period of two years would be too long. He suggested that State resources may be used for the collection of data and the analysis part can be done at the NUEPA headquarter at Delhi. He also felt that survey work could be completed within 2 to 3 months. Dr. P.C. Jaffer, Commissioner for Public Instruction, Govt. of Karnataka suggested that the training of the ground personal could be done by video conferencing so that expenses on travelling could be minimized. Dr. Prema Ramachandran, Director NFI, stated that there are almost 400 Home Science Colleges all over the country and these colleges are well versed with functioning of MDMS. She suggested that, once the study protocol is prepared nearest colleges can be roped in for the purpose of data collection of nutritional parameters in the States/UTs.

Secretary (SE&L) suggested NUEPA to resubmit the study proposal after re-casting the proposal and with revision of the budget in the light of the suggestions.

5. Review of the performance of the Scheme during 2015-16

Director (MHRD) presented a brief on performance of the scheme based on different components during 2015-16. He informed NSMC that the performance has improved in the areas like payment of honorarium to CCHs, construction of kitchen cum stores, utilization of transport assistance health check- up of children, use of LPG in schools etc. compared to 2014-15.

5.1. Coverage of children under MDMS

Secretary (SE&L) expressed concern over the fall in coverage of children under MDMS. Commissioner, Govt. of Karnataka mentioned that there is an increasing trend of more children studying in private schools. Shri Gaya Prasad, Director MDM informed that 111 districts have been identified as poorly performing districts in terms of coverage of children. Regarding the coverage of children Secretary (SE&L) stated that a DO letter should be sent to those States/UTs where the percentage coverage of children against enrolment is going down.

5.2. Use of LPG in schools

Director (MHRD) mentioned that use of LPG in schools have increased compared to 2014-15 and all the States/ UTs have given commitment to increase it further during 2016-17. Secretary (SE&L) directed that the target of States/UTs where the coverage is less than 75% should be enhanced to 75% and the target for States/UTs having more than 75% usage of LPG may be set at 100% coverage during 2016-17.

5.3. Health check-up of children under RBSK

Secretary (SE&L) stated that 100% enrolled children should be screened under RBSK and the State Nodal Department of MDMS should take a proactive role in this regard. Director NFI, was of the view that as the data of health check-up is quite decent and the BMI can be calculated at the school level and the thin child can be given a second helping which they can consume after some time as for a thin child its difficult to consume it at once. Secretary (SE&L) suggested that identification of the thin child can be done with the data available at school level as the height and weight are already being measured, and special attention may be given to the identified malnourished child. In each school a teacher can be dedicated for the Health check-ups issues. He desired that a letter may be send to all States/ UTs for this purpose.

5.4. Serving of MDM to children in drought affected districts of different States

Director (MHRD) informed that a total of Rs. 44042.99 lakhs have already been released to 10 droughts affected States and release to 2 more States are in process. Secretary (SE&L) suggested that the at the end of the summer vacation information from the States/UTs should be obtained and compiled on the number of children covered, number of meals served and number of days meal was served.

5.5 Construction of kitchen-cum-stores:

Director (MHRD) mentioned that out of 10.06 lakh sanctioned kitchen-cum-stores, construction of 1.18 lakh (12%) units have not yet started by different States/ UTs. JS (EE1) mentioned that out of 1.18 lakh units many units were sanctioned earlier at a rate of Rs.60000.00 per unit. Secretary (SE& L) mentioned that additional funds to complete these unconstructed kitchen-cum-stores may be arranged from other sources like from Gram Panchayat etc. by States/ UTs. JS (EE1) mentioned that the construction of kitchen-cum-stores has not yet been included as a component under MGNREGA and the Department may request Ministry of Rural Development to include the same under MGNREGA and to issue a corrigendum to notify it. Secretary (SE& L) suggested that a letter may be send to Ministry of Rural Development in this regard.

6. Notification of Mid Day Meal Rules 2015

Director (MHRD) mentioned the Mid Day Meal Rules, 2015 have been notified under the National Food Security Act, 2013 and the same are effective from the date of its publication i.e. 30th September, 2015. All the States/UTs have been advised to disseminate and enforce the MDM Rules 2015 in all eligible schools. They were also advised to take necessary action to operationalize these rules and lay down a set of instructions for their effective implementation in all the schools so as to ensure adherence to the changed norms for serving quality meals to children covered under Mid Day Meal Scheme.

Secretary (SE& L) desired to know whether that States/ UTs are fully aware about the provisions of MDM Rules, 2015. JS (EE 1) mentioned that the implementation of MDM Rules, 2015 have been reviewed during the workshops held in Kolkata, Delhi and Thiruvanthapuram. He further mentioned that, few States/UTs have translated MDM Rules, 2015 in their local languages and have distributed it to all the field functionaries.

7. Implementation of Automated Monitoring System for real time monitoring of MDMS

JS (EE.I) informed that the master data has been shared by 35 States/UTs and three States are already sharing the daily data. Secretary (SE& L) advised that the States/UTs which have shared the master data should be requested to share the daily data before 1.07.2016 and the system should go-live showing the data of those States/UTs which start sharing the daily data. Rest of the States/UTs may get the system implemented by 31.07.2016. JS (EE.I) informed that documents related to U.P. and Bihar model have already been shared with all States/UTs and that the SMS based model of Himachal Pradesh would be shared with other States/UTs so that the States/UTs may choose appropriately. He added that depending upon the availability, multiple modes could be used for data capturing i.e. email, mobile app, SMS and IVRS etc.

8. Social Audit of the Scheme

Director (MHRD) informed the NSMC that the Department had issued detailed guidelines vide letter dated 3rd July, 2014 for conducting of social audit under Mid Day Meal Scheme. The States / UTs were advised to select the eminent institute available in their respective States and sign the MOU to carry out the social audit of the Mid Day Meal Scheme initially in two districts. He further mentioned that so far 9 States viz. Bihar, Maharashtra, Odisha, Karnataka, Punjab and Uttar Pradesh, Telangana, Nagaland and Andhra Pradesh have completed the social audit and the work of social audit is in progress in Madhya Pradesh, West Bengal, Rajasthan and Tamil Nadu. During 2015-16, reports of five States have been received so far viz Bihar, Maharashtra, Odisha, Punjab and Uttar Pradesh. Some of the positive findings of the social audit are viz.MDM is being served in almost all the visited schools and Students are satisfied over the quantity and quality of food served, no discrimination on the basis of caste, gender and community in cooking or serving or seating, quality of food grain was found to be of satisfactory quality in maximum schools in the States etc. Some of the areas of concern as per the study are like delay in reaching cooking cost from State to school levels in some schools in Bihar, Maharashtra and Punjab, delay and irregular payment to cook-cum-helpers in Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh, fire wood as fuel is mainly used and LPG supply is generally inadequate and irregular, monitoring and supervision by the state and district officials of the scheme is minimal in majority of the visited schools etc.

Any other item with the permission of the Chair.

9.1 Use of double fortified salt (DFS) in MDM:

Dr. T. Longvah, Director, NIN mentioned that DFS (Double fortified salt, Iron & Iodine) salt should be made mandatory for the cooking of MDM. JS (EE 1) mentioned about price and availability issues of DFS in all States/ UTs. Dr. Shila Deb, Deputy Commissioner (Child Health), MoHFW informed that a letter has be already sent to the States/UTs for the use of DFS salt in all the Angan wadi Centres. Secretary (SE&L) desired that a status may be prepared on the usage of DFS salt in the states/UTs under MDM. He further desired that a letter may also be sent to the States/UTs in the light of the letter sent by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare on the usage and benefits of DFS.

9.2 Preparation of guidelines for functioning of centralized kitchens

Representative of Akshay Patra Foundation mentioned that there are no separate guidelines on functioning of centralized kitchens working under MDMS. In this connection, Mr. Rajendra Trivedi, Commissioner – MDM, Govt of Gujarat mentioned that Hon'ble High Court in Gujarat has given an order regarding functioning of centralized kitchens working under MDMS. Commissioner, Govt. of Karnataka opined that infrastructural parameters may also be considered during preparation of guidelines for centralized kitchens. Secretary (SE &L) suggested that a committee may be set up for preparation of guidelines for the centralized kitchens in a time bound manner. He further suggested that best practices on the functioning of centralized kitchens may also be compiled and shared with the States.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

List of Participants

- 1. Dr. Subhash Chandra Khuntia, Secretary, Ministry of Human Resource Development, Development, Department of School Education & Literacy, Shastri Bhavan, New Delhi.
- SENT AND VIDIO. Shri Jan & Alam, Joint Secretary (SE-II and MDM), Ministry of Human Resource Development, Department of School Education & Literacy, Shastri Bhavan, New Delhi.
- Ensired of Go-3. Dr. P. C. Jaffer, Commissioner, Public Instruction, Government of Karnataka.
- 4. Shri Rajendra Trivedi, Commissioner, MDM, Government of Gujarat.
- Monistry of 5. Shri Gaya Prasad, Director (MDM), Ministry of Human Resource Development, beautiful Bray Department of School Education & Literacy, Shastri Bhavan, New Delhi.
- 6. Shri Jagjit Singh, Director (MDM), Department of School Education & Literacy, Government of Jharkhand.
- 7. Smt. V. Sumangala, Joint Director, MDM, Government of Karnataka.
- Shri Anil Kakria, Deputy Secretary (Finance), Ministry of Human Resource Development, Department of School Education & Literacy, Shastri Bhavan, New Delhi.
- 9. Shri B.D. Shivani, Deputy Secretary (MDM), Ministry of Human Resource Development, Special Blass Department of School Education & Literacy, Shastri Bhavan, New Delhi.
 - 10. Smt. Sudha P. Rao, Chief Economic Advisor, Ministry of Rural Development, Krishi Bhavan.
- Malanda Malanda Dr. Sila Deb, Deputy Commissioner, Child Health, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare.
- Ministry of Women & Child Development.
- Ashava Patra F13. Shri Bharatarshabha Dasa, Director, Akshaya Patra Foundation, Mathura.
- 14. Shri Gaurav Agarwal, Director, Ministry of Youth Affairs, Shastri Bhavan, New Delhi.
- Core 4 A, Upper Ground Floor, Lodhi Road, New Delhi -110003.
- 16. Shri T. Longyah, Director, National Institute of Nutrition, Hyderabad.
 - 17. Professor Hrushikesh Senapaty, Director, NCERT, Sri Aurobindo Marg, New Delhi.
 - 18. Shri Harshit Mishra, Senior Research Officer, Niti Aayog.
 - 19. Smt. V. Minj, Under Secretary, Ministry of Housing Urban & Poverty Alleviation.
 - 20. Shri Sandeep Saxena, Under Secretary, Department of Food & Public Distribution, Krishi Bhavan.
- 21. Shri Rajeev Kumar, Under Secretary (MDM 2-1), Ministry of Human Resource Development, Department of School Education & Literacy, Shastri Bhavan, New Delhi.
 - 22. Shri K.L. Ahuja, Section Officer (MDM 2-1), Ministry of Human Resource Development, Department of School Education & Literacy, Shastri Bhavan, New Delhi.
 - 23. Smt. Sunita Sharma, Section Officer (Desk (MDM)), Ministry of Human Resource Development, Department of School Education & Literacy, Shastri Bhavan, New Delhi.

- 24. Smt. Neelam Rani, Section Officer (MDM 1-1), Ministry of Human Resource Development, Department of School Education & Literacy, Shastri Bhavan, New Delhi.
- 25. Shri V.K. Jha, Section Officer (MDM (EE.6)), Ministry of Human Resource Development, Department of School Education & Literacy, Shastri Bhavan, New Delhi.
- 26. Ms. Bhardwaj Yukti Narender, Assistant Section Officer (MDM 2-1), Ministry of Human Resource Development, Department of School Education & Literacy, Shastri Bhavan, New Delhi.
- 27. Shri Randhir Singh Yadav, Assistant Section Officer (Desk (MDM)), Ministry of Human Resource Development, Department of School Education & Literacy, Shastri Bhavan, New Delhi.
- 28. Ms. Neha Dudija, Assistant Section Officer (MDM (EE.6)), Ministry of Human Resource Development, Department of School Education & Literacy, Shastri Bhavan, New Delhi.
- 29. Shri Shashank Srivastava, ASO, Ministry of Housing Urban & Poverty Alleviation.
 - 30. Shri Biswaji Kumar, Senior Secretariat Assistant (Desk (MDM)), Ministry of Human Resource Development, Department of School Education & Literacy, Shastri Bhavan, New Delhi.
 - 31. Smt. Rashmi Gulati, General Manager, Food Corporation of India, 16-20, Barakhamba Lane, New Delhi- 110001.
 - 32. Dr. Mona Khare, Professor (Educational Finance), NUEPA, New Delhi.
 - 33. Dr. Naresh Kumar, Assistant Professor, NUEPA, New Delhi.
 - 34. Shri P.N. Khorwal, Manager (Accounts), FCI, New Delhi.
 - 35. Dr. S. C. Khurana, Consultant, FSSAI, New Delhi.
 - 36. Shri Rajat Gupta, Senior Consultant (MIS), TSG-MDM, Ed.CIL.
 - 37. Shri Tanmoy Ghatak, Senior Consultant (Plan Monitoring), TSG-MDM, Ed.CIL.
 - 38. Shri Sunil Kumar Sinha, Senior Consultant (MIS), TSG-MDM, Ed.CIL.
 - 39. Shri K.K. Sharma, Consultant, TSG-MDM, Ed.ClL.
 - 40. Dr. Anindita Shukla, Consultant, TSG-MDM, Ed.CIL.
 - 41. Shri Bhupendra Kumar, Consultant, TSG-MDM, Ed.CIL.
 - 42. Dr. Mridula Sircar, Consultant, (Plan Monitoring), TSG-MDM, Ed.CIL.
 - 43. Shri Dinesh Pradhan, Consultant, TSG-MDM, Ed.CIL.
 - 44. Shri Lokendra Mahavar, Consultant (Capacity Building), TSG-MDM, Ed.CIL.