

F. No. 9-10/2018-EE-6 (MDM -3-1)
Government of India
Ministry of Human Resource Development
Department of School Education & Literacy
MDM Division


Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi-110001

Dated 1st August, 2018

Subject: Minutes of the meeting of Programme Approval Board – Mid-Day Meal Scheme in respect of State of Tripura held on 23rd May, 2018.

The meeting of Programme Approval Board-Mid-Day Meal Scheme to consider the Annual Work Plan & Budget 2018-19 in respect of **State of Tripura** was held on **23.05.2018** at New Delhi.

2. A copy of the minutes of the above meeting is enclosed for information & necessary action.
3. The Annual Work Plan & Budget 2018-19 has the approval of Secretary (SE&L).


(Arnab Dhaki)

Under Secretary

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Distribution:

(As per list attached)

1.	Shri Alok Kumar, Advisor (Education), NITI Aayog, Yojana Bhawan, New Delhi	2.	Joint Secretary & Financial Advisor, Ministry of HRD, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi.
3.	Joint Secretary, Ministry of Labour Shram Shakti Bhawan New Delhi.	4.	Joint Secretary (ICDS), Ministry of Women & Child Development, A-Wing, 6 th Floor, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi
5.	Joint Secretary, Department of Food & Public Distribution, Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi.	6.	Joint Secretary, Ministry of Rural Development, R.No.162, Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi.
7.	Joint Secretary, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Nirman Bhavan, New Delhi.	8.	Joint Secretary, Ministry of Tribal Affairs, R.No. 722, 7 th Floor, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi.

9.	Joint Secretary, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, R.No. 609, Shastri Bhavan, New Delhi.	10.	Joint Secretary, Ministry of Development of North- Eastern States (NER), Vigyan Bhavan, Annexe, New Delhi – 110003.
11.	Shri Sushil Kumar, Principal Secretary Department of Education Government of Tripura Agartala	12.	Shri Amit Shukla, Director, Department of Education Government of Tripura Agartala
13.	Economic Advisor, SE&L, Shastri Bhavan, New Delhi.	14.	Vice Chancellor, NUEPA, New Delhi Sri Aurobindo Marg,
15.	Director (NCERT), Sri Aurobindo Marg, New Delhi.	16.	Dr.(Mrs.) Prema Ramachandran, Director, Nutrition Foundation of India, C-13, Qutab Institutional Area, New Delhi – 110016.
17.	Shri Biraj Patnaik, Principal Advisor, Office of Supreme Court Commissioner, B-68, 2 nd Floor, Sarvodaya Enclave, New Delhi – 110001	18.	Shri J.H. Panwal, Joint Technical Advisor, Food and Nutrition Board, Ministry of Women and Child Development, R.No. 103, Jeevan Deep Building, Parliament Street, New Delhi – 110001.
19.	Shri O.P. Dani, Chief General Manager (Sales), Food Corporation of India, Barakhamba Road, New Delhi.		

Copy also to:

1. PPS to Secretary (SE&L).
2. PA to Joint Secretary (EE.I).
3. Dir(GVB) / DS(RA).
4. US(RK) / US(SA) / SO(SS) / SO(ST)
5. Dr. Mridula Sirkar, Senior Consultant, MDM, TSG, Ed.CIL.

Government of India
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Department of School Education & Literacy

Minutes of the meeting of Programme Approval Board - Mid Day Meal (PAB-MDM)
on 23.05.2018 – Tripura

The meeting of the Programme Approval Board-Mid-Day Meal (PAB-MDM) was held in New Delhi on 23rd May, 2018. The list of participants in the meeting is enclosed at *Annexure-I*.

The agenda before the PAB-MDM was:

- i. To review the status and progress of the implementation of Mid-Day Meal Scheme for the State of Tripura.
- ii. To consider the Annual Work Plan and Budget (AWP&B) 2018-19 proposal of Tripura for MDM Scheme.

2. Mrs. Ritu Aggarwal, Deputy Secretary, MDM and Member Secretary, PAB, welcomed the members of PAB-MDM and other participants. She requested Shri V.Shashank Sekhar, Joint Secretary (EE.I), D/o SE&L, Government of India to make the opening remarks. Joint Secretary (EE.I) appreciated State Government's good practices/initiatives viz., provision of additional contribution of Rs 500 per cook, additional contribution of Rs. 0.09 per child (primary level) in cooking cost from State's own resources, E-Transfer of funds up to school level and payment of honorarium to all cooks through bank account, translation of MDM Rules 2015 into two local languages i.e Bengali & Kokborak for effective implementation, construction of 250 dining halls in the school premises from State's own resources (Tripura being the first State to do so), Provision of eggs twice a week, Kitchen Gardens being developed in 471 schools for supply of pesticides free vegetables for Mid Day Meal, installation of Group hand washing facilities in 1313 schools and provision of nail cutters to the students.

3. Shri. Sushil Kumar, Principal Secretary, Education (School) Department, Government of Tripura briefed the PAB about the technological solutions adopted by the State under MDM. Shri. Amit Shukla, Director of Elementary Education, Government of Tripura made a presentation on the performance of Mid-Day Meal Scheme during 2017-18 and the initiatives taken by the State Government for improving the effectiveness of the scheme along with proposals for 2018-19. Dr. Mridula Sircar, Senior Consultant, TSG-MDM also presented an analysis of the performance of the State in the implementation of Mid-Day Meal Scheme during 2017-18.

4. The following issues were discussed during the meeting:

4.1 Delay in Release of Funds: Joint Secretary(EE.I), MHRD observed that there is a delay of three months in transferring of funds (balance of 1st instalment 2017-18) to the implementing agencies in the State. He advised the State to take necessary steps so that the funds reach schools on time. Principal Secretary, Government of Tripura informed that the Finance Department is very strict in the State. As soon as the funds are received, the same is released within a month by the Finance Department. During 2017-18, procedural delay resulted in delayed release of Central Assistance, however, the serving of MDM was not affected anywhere in the State (no interruption has been reported). He, however, assured to streamline the fund flow mechanism so that the funds reach in time for smooth implementation of MDMS.

4.2 Coverage of children: Joint Secretary(EE.I) raised concern over the low coverage of children i.e. 71% against enrolment at Upper Primary stage which is below the National Average of 76% and advised the State to take necessary corrective measures to check the drop in coverage and give special focus on increasing the coverage at Upper primary level. Director, Govt. of Tripura informed that it is the average attendance and all children attending the schools are availing meals every working day. He further informed that the average attendance rate of children in the schools is gradually increasing. In 2014-15, the attendance rate was 64% which has increased to 71% in 2017-18. He assured to take up the issue with the SMCs so that intense monitoring can be done through them in order to increase the coverage against enrolment under the scheme.

4.3 Testing of food samples: Dr. Mridula Sircar, Senior Consultant, TSG MDM informed that only one sample of cooked food has been sent to lab for testing during 2017-18 and the report is still awaited. Joint Secretary(EE.1) informed about the provision of National Food security Act 2013 which envisage that hot cooked meal provided to children shall be evaluated and certified by the Government Food Research Laboratory or any laboratory accredited or recognized by law so as to ensure that the meal meets the nutritional standards and quality specified in Schedule II to the Act. He further informed that at least 10% of the food samples must be under taken by the State Govt. for Lab testing. Principal Secretary, Govt. of Tripura informed that there are no NABL labs available in the State. So the Department has started the Micro-Biological examination of cooked food samples under MDMS at the Regional Food Testing Laboratory under Health Department, Government of Tripura. Another five samples of

cooked food have been sent to the laboratory for testing. He assured to speed up for the reports of food testing and also try to test atleast 10% of the food samples from Govt. labs.

4.4 Aadhaar seeded enrolment under MDMS:

95% of children covered under MDMS have been enrolled under Aadhaar. This should be utilized to check duplication, if any.

4.5 Usage of LPG: State of Tripura has reported that firewood is used as a mode of cooking in 74% schools as LPG refilling is difficult in hilly regions and firewood is easily available. LPG based cooking system has been introduced in 1711 (26%) school units from State's own resources. It was discussed that in hilly areas there are issues relating to refill of LPG.

4.6 Social Audit. State Officials of Tripura informed that Social Audit Unit under Audit Directorate, Govt. of Tripura has been requested to conduct Social Audit of the Scheme. An "MOU" has also been signed between the Director, Elementary Education and the Director, Social Audit unit for conducting Social Audit in 208 schools at West Tripura District and Dhalai District at the cost of Rs. 14,70,000/-. Now, the work of Social Audit is going on.

4.7 Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram (RBSK) : Joint Secretary(EE.I) mentioned that in Tripura during the year 2017-18, the health checkup of only 33% children was done and 67% children could not be screened under RBSK. Principal Secretary, Govt. of Tripura informed that the efforts are being made to cover all the children under RBSK but due to shortage of medical staff, medical teams could not reach remote areas. He further added that the State Govt. will request Health Department to issue health cards for all children so that effective monitoring of health could be done.

4.8 Provision of safe drinking water: Joint Secretary (EE.I) observed that 6109 (93%) schools in the State have safe drinking water facility and the same also have water filtration facility. He inquired from the State officials whether these schools are having candle filter purifier also as reported in AWP&B 2018-19. He advised the State officials to revisit the data and ensure that these schools may also explore the options for use of advanced technology for water filtration. He further advised the State Govt. to share the report with this Ministry. State officials assured to relook the data of safe water facility as well as filtration facility in the schools and share the report with MHRD.

- 4.9 Meeting of District level Steering cum Monitoring Committee:** 16 meetings of District Level Steering cum Monitoring Committee under the chairpersonship of the District Collector have taken place as reported by the State for 8 number of districts. As per MDM guidelines at least one meeting per month should be held. JS (EE.I) expressed his concern on this and advised the State to ensure that these meetings are held regularly. Principal Secretary, Govt. of Tripura assured to take necessary steps in this regard.
- 4.10 Use of Millets:** JS(EE.I) mentioned that Ministry of Agriculture has decided to celebrate 2018-19 as 'Year of Nutri cereals (Millets)'. He further suggested the State to explore the possibilities to introduce millets or any other traditional locally available nutritional grains in Mid Day Meal Scheme.
- 4.11 Automated Monitoring System(AMS):** Dr. Mridula Sircar, Senior Consultant, TSG-MDM informed that only 47% schools reported daily beneficiary data in the month of March 2018. She informed that all the schools in the State are on AMS dashboard, but still 53% schools are not reporting on AMS. Director Government of Tripura assured to look into the issue of non-reporting for the month of March, 2018.
- 4.12 Ayushman Bharat:** Joint Secretary(EE.I) mentioned about the importance of School Health component of recently launched programme of Ayushman Bharat. Dr Anindita Shukla, Senior Consultant, TSG-MDM, informed that under Ayushman Bharat, identified school teachers will be trained as 'Health and Wellness Ambassadors' who in turn will train the school children on Yoga & Meditation, health & hygiene, cleanliness and adolescent issues etc. She further added that provision of water purification systems of appropriate technology, Yoga & Meditation and provision of sanitary napkins for girl child in the schools are very important components in the service delivery part of School Health Component of Ayushman Bharat. Funds are also available in the programme of Menstrual Hygiene, a Programme of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. JS(EE.I) advised the State to coordinate the efforts in this regard with the concerned departments and share the status with Dr Anindita Shukla.
- 4.13 Kitchen Garden:** Principal Secretary, Govt. of Tripura informed that in 471 schools, kitchen gardens are available for providing pesticide free vegetables for Mid Day Meal. The work for developing kitchen gardens is under progress in 205 schools. State Govt. informed that there is a proposal of setting up of kitchen garden in 600 schools during 2018-19. Joint Secretary (EE.I) appreciated the efforts made by the State and advised to set up kitchen gardens in all schools

where land is available. He further suggested that the State Horticulture Department, Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVK) etc. may also be roped in for this purpose.

4.14 Other proposals made by the State. The State Govt. submitted the following proposals to MHRD:

- **Enhancement of cooking cost:**

State informed that the cooking cost presently being provided @ Rs.4.22 (Central share Rs. 3.72 & State share Rs. 0.50) for primary stage and Rs. 6.18 (Central share Rs.5.56 & State share Rs.0.62) for upper primary, is not sufficient. State govt. has proposed to increase the same to Integrated Child Development Scheme(ICDS) rates (as per M/o WCD), the cooking cost to Rs. 9/-(CSS:Rs.8.10/- & State Share: Rs.0.90/-) for primary and Rs.13.18 (CSS: Rs.11.86 & State Share: Rs.1.32/-) for Upper Primary. JS(EE-I) has sought a report on the same before arriving at any further decision.

- **Enhancement of honorarium of cook-cum-helpers**

State informed GOI that at present the cook-cum-helpers engaged under MDMS are getting Rs.1,500/- per month (Central share@ Rs.900 & State share@ Rs.600). The honorarium may be enhanced to Rs. 3000/- per month (Central Share@ Rs.2,400 & State Share@Rs.600/-).

- **Management Monitoring Evaluation (MME):**

The MME fund is being sanctioned on the basis of 1.8% of total recurring fund, whereas in SSA, the percentage is 6%. Considering the present price index of essential commodities, it is proposed to be Rs. 30 lakh per district for the small States like Tripura or may be increased by at least 3% of total recurring fund.

- **Fund provision for LPG:**

As there is no fund provision for LPG under MDM Scheme, the State has provided funds in 1711 school units for procurement of LPG connection. Therefore, it is requested to provide funds for procuring LPG connection in remaining 4857 school units @ Rs. 9,000/-.

5. PAB-MDM approvals for the year 2018-19

It was clarified that the quantification of resources is only an estimate for release of Central Assistance during 2018-19 under the MDM Scheme. The MDM Guidelines provide that every child attending an eligible institution is to be covered under the Scheme and shall be served mid-day meal on all school days. In case, the State Govt. finds that the average number of children availing mid-day meal and/or if the working days are more than the approved numbers by PAB-MDM, they may approach the GOI at any time with justification for additional Central Assistance.

After discussions with State officials and based on the performance during 2017-18 the PAB-MDM approved the following number of children, number of school days etc. for quantifying the Central assistance for Tripura:

5.1 State Govt.'s Proposals and PAB -MDM Approvals for 2018-19

S. No.	Component	PAB Approval 2017-18	Proposal for 2018-19	PAB Approval for 2018-19
1	Institutions			
1.1	Primary	4471	4471	4471
1.2	Upper Primary	2097	2097	2097
2	Children			
2.1	Primary	235810	233725	233725
2.2	Upper Primary	130385	134228	134228
2.3	NCLP	0	0	0
3	Working Days			
3.1	Primary	230	230	230
3.2	Upper Primary	230	230	230
3.3	NCLP	0	0	0
4	Cook cum Helper			
4.1	Primary	7287	7287	7287
4.2	Upper Primary	3741	3741	3741
5	Drought			
5.1	Children (Pry)	0	0	0

5.2	Children (U Pry)	0	0	0
5.3	Working days	0	0	0
5.4	Cook-cum-helpers	0	0	0
6	Non Recurring			
6.1	Kitchen cum Store	NIL	NIL	NIL
6.2	Kitchen Devices	NIL	NIL	NIL
6.3	Kitchen Devices (Replacement)	881	1999	1999
7	Central Assistance (Rs in Lakh)			
7.1	Regular	Rs. 5255.58 Lakh	Rs. 5291.66 lakh	Rs. 5291.66 lakh
7.2	Drought	0	0	0
7.3	Kitchen cum Store	0	0	0
7.4	Kitchen Devices	0	0	0
7.5	Kitchen Devices (Replacement)	Rs. 44.05 Lakh	Rs. 99.95 lakh	Rs. 99.95 lakh
7.6	Grand Total	Rs. 5299.63	Rs. 5391.61 lakh	Rs. 5391.61 lakh

6. The State is advised to disseminate the approvals of the resources to all the field functionaries in the State and districts so as to enable all the eligible institutions to ensure that every child attending an eligible school must be served hot cooked midday meals on all school days irrespective of the approvals of PAB-MDM.
7. The quantification of central assistance of **Rs. 5391.61 lakh** has been done as per existing norms on the basis of number of children and working days approved by PAB-MDM for the year 2018-19. The Component- wise approval of funds for 2018-19 is enclosed at Appendix-1.

TRIPURA

QUANTIFICATION OF CENTRAL ASSISTANCE FOR 2018-19

A Food grains:

S.No	Stage	PAB-MDM Approvals		Quantity in MTs.
		No. of Children	No. of Working days	Rice Total (MTs)
1	Primary (@ 100 gms)	233725	230	5375.68
2	Upper Primary (@150 gms.)	134228	230	4630.87
3	NCLP (@150 gms.)	0	0	0
4	Drought	0	0	0
4.1	Primary (@ 100 gms)	0	0	0
4.2	Upper Primary (@150 gms.)	0	0	0
	Total	367953		10006.55

B Cost of Food Grains, Cooking cost, Hon. to CCH, MME and Transport Assistance

Sl. No.	Component/norm	Amount admissible (Rs. In lakhs)
i.	Primary	
1	Cost of Foodgrains @Rs. 3000/- per MT for Rice	161.27
2	Unit cooking cost Rs.4.13 per day / per child for 233725 for 230 days	
2.1	Central share - Cooking cost @ Rs. 3.72 per child/day (233725 X 230 days x Rs. 3.72)	1999.75
2.2	State Share - Cooking cost @ Rs.0.41 per child/day (233725 X 230 days x Rs 0.41)	220.40
3	Transportation Cost @ Rs. 1890.00 MT (233725 X 230 days x 0.0001 MT x Rs. 1890.00)	101.60
4	Honorarium to Cook-cum-Helpers	
4.1	Central Share - Payment for Honorarium to 7287	655.83

	Cooks-cum-helpers @ Rs. 900/- per month per cook-cum-helper (for 10 months)	
4.2	State Share - Payment for Honorarium to 7287 Cooks-cum-helpers @ Rs. 100/- per month per cook-cum-helper (for 10 months)	72.87
5	Management Monitoring and Evaluation (MME) @ 1.8% of the 1) Cost of Food Grains 2) Cooking cost 3) Cost of Transportation 4) Honorarium to cook-cum-helpers	52.53
TOTAL Primary {1+2.1+3+4.1+5}		2970.98

ii Upper Primary		
6	Cost of Foodgrains @Rs. 3000/- per MT for Rice	138.93
7	Unit cooking cost Rs.6.18 per day / per child for 134228 for 230 days	
7.1	Central Share - Cooking cost @ Rs. 5.56 per child/day (134228 x 230 days x Rs. 5.56)	1716.51
7.2	State Share - Cooking cost @ Rs. 0.62 per child/day (134228 x 230 days x Rs. 0.62)	191.41
8	Cost transportation @ Rs. 1890.00 MT (134228 x 230 days x 0.00015 x Rs.1890.00)	87.52
9	Honorarium to Cook cum helpers	
9.1	Central Share - Payment for Honorarium to 3741Cooks-cum-helpers @ Rs. 900/- per month per cook-cum-helper (for 10 months)	336.69
9.2	State Share - Payment for Honorarium to 3741 Cooks-cum-helpers @ Rs. 100/- per month per cook-cum-helper (for 10 months)	37.41
10	Management Monitoring and Evaluation (MME) @ 1.8% of the	41.03

	1) Cost of Food Grains 2) Cooking cost 3) Cost of Transportation 4) Honorarium to cook-cum-helpers	
TOTAL Upper Primary {6+7.1+8+9.1+10}		2320.68
Grand Total (Primary + Upper Primary)		5291.66

C: Drought

:NIL

D	Non –Recurring Central Assistance	
i	Kitchen cum Store	NIL
ii	Kitchen Devices new (0) X Rs.5000	NIL
iii	Kitchen Devices (1999) X Rs.5000 units for replacement (21 replacement for 2012-13) 1978 (replaced in 2012-13 and again eligible for 2018-19)	99.95
	Total non recurring	99.95

E. Total Requirement of Funds for 2018-19

(Rs. In lakh)

Component		As per existing norms 90/10 ratio	
		Centre	Minimum State share
Recurring	Normal	5291.66	522.09
	Drought	0.00	0
Non-Recurring		99.95	0
Total		5391.61	522.09

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Annexure-I

List of Participants

1. Sh. V. Shashank Shekhar, Joint Secretary (EE.I), Department of School Education & Literacy, Ministry of Human Resource Development Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi.
2. Shri. Sushil Kumar, Principal Secretary, Education (School) Department, Government of Tripura.
3. Sh. G. Vijaya Bhaskar, Director (MDM), Department of School Education & Literacy, Ministry of Human Resource Development Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi.
4. Sh. Amit Shukla, Director Elementary Education, Government of Tripura.
5. Smt. Ritu Aggarwal, Deputy Secretary, Department of School Education & Literacy, Ministry of Human Resource Development Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi.
6. Sh. Pradip Acharjee, Joint Director, Department of Elementary Education, Government of Tripura.
7. Sh. Kamlesh Das, MDM-MIS, Directorate of Elementary Education, Government of Tripura.
8. Sh. P. K. Srivastava, AFA, IFD, Department of School Education & Literacy, Ministry of Human Resource Development Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi.
9. Sh. Arnab Dhaki, Under Secretary (MDM), Department of School Education & Literacy, Ministry of Human Resource Development Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi.
10. Shri Sachin Arora, Under Secretary, (MDM), Department of School Education & Literacy, Ministry of Human Resource Development Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi.
11. Smt. Sunita Sharma, Section Officer (Desk-MDM), Department of School Education & Literacy, Ministry of Human Resource Development Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi.
12. Ms. Neha Dudeja, Assistant Section Officer (MDM), Department of School Education & Literacy, Ministry of Human Resource Development Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi.
13. Sh. Rajat Gupta, Senior Consultant, TSG-MDM, Ed.CIL.
14. Sh. S. K. Sinha, Senior Consultant, TSG-MDM, Ed.CIL.
15. Sh. Bhupendra Kumar, Senior Consultant, TSG-MDM, Ed.CIL.
16. Dr. Anindita Shukla, Senior Consultant, TSG-MDM, Ed.CIL.
17. Dr. Mridula Sircar, Senior Consultant, TSG-MDM, Ed.CIL.
18. Sh. K. K. Sharma, Senior Consultant, TSG-MDM, Ed.CIL.
19. Sh. Dinesh Pradhan, Consultant, TSG-MDM, Ed.CIL.
20. Sh. Lokendra Mahavar, Consultant, TSG-MDM, Ed.CIL.