F.No.9-8/2019 MDM 2-1
Government of India
Ministry of Human Resource Development
Department of School Education & Literacy
MDM Division
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Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi
Dated 9th August, 2019

Subject: Minutes of the meeting of Programme Approval Board – Mid Day Meal held on 02.05.2019.

The meeting of Programme Approval Board Mid-Day Meal to consider the Annual Work Plan & Budget 2019-20 in respect of NIC was held on 02.05.2019 at New Delhi.

2. A copy of the minutes of the above meeting is enclosed for information & necessary action.

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21. Sh. Rajender Sethi,
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22. Sh. Vishnu Chandra,
DDG,
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23. Sh. V. Udaya Kumar,
Sr. Tech. Director,
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24. Sh. K. Balasubramanian,
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27. Shri J. H. Panwal,
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28. Shri O.P. Dhani,
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Copy also to:

1. PPS to Secretary (SE&L).
2. PPS to Joint Secretary (MDM).
3. Dir(GVB) / DS(RA) / DS(DA).
4. US(AD) / US(SA).
5. Shri Rajat Gupta, Chief Consultant, TSG-MDM, Ed.CIL.
6. Shri Dinesh Pradhan, Senior Consultant, TSG-MDM, Ed.CIL for uploading on mdm website.

Government of India

Ministry of Human Resource Development

Department of School Education& Literacy

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Minutes of the Meeting of Programme Approval Board (PAB) held on 02.05.2019 to consider the Annual Work Plan and Budget (AWP&B) of National Informatics Centre(NIC) under Mid Day Meal Scheme for 2019-20

The meeting of the PAB to consider the AWP&B 2019-20 pertaining to various management initiatives under Mid Day Meal Scheme (MDMS) to be implemented with support of NIC was held on 2nd May, 2019. The list of participants is at *Annexure-I.*

2. Keeping in view the critical role of IT interventions to ensure a robust, credible and efficient data collection and data analytics system to monitor one of the largest school feeding programme covering over 12 crore children in more than 11 lakh schools, NIC has a very important role to play in the Department. The work plan of NIC included a) Maintenance and enhancement of Management Information System (MIS) portal which captures information on critical indicators of MDMS on Annual and Monthly Basis with a significant improvement and additional features over and above the existing system viz. monitoring of development of school nutrition gardens, implementation of school health proagramme and other related parameters, b) Redesigning and revamping of existing MDM website which contains all important documents related to release of central assistance to States/UTs, allocation of food grains, Programme Approval Board meetings, MDMS guidelines, joint review mission reports, important notifications, circulars, office orders etc., c) Increasing coverage of schools under Automated Monitoring System (AMS) which is being used for near real time monitoring of MDMS at grassroot level., d) Linking of database of Mid Day Meal with Samagra Shiksha for better monitoring and seamless convergence.

3. **The proposals submitted by NIC are as follows:**

- **MDM-MIS portal:**
  - Maintenance and enhancement of portal used for collection of data on Annual and Monthly basis
  - Collection of data on Development of School Nutrition Gardens
  - Collection of Data on Health and Nutrition Components
- **MDM website:**
  - Redesigning of website for increasing user-friendliness
  - Linking with MHRD and Samagra Shiksha Websites
- **Automated Monitoring System:**
  - Sending of auto email alerts to States and UTs
  - Benchmark based SMS notifications
  - Training and review of officials at various levels
  - Bulk SMS to teachers using SMS gateway
- **Linking of database of Mid Day Meal and Samagra Shiksha for better monitoring and seamless convergence**

4. Details of the major initiatives which were presented by NIC are as follows:

4.1 MDM-Management Information System (MIS) portal: The portal captures monthly data, which helps in monitoring the critical components/ indicators of the MDMS such as no. of days mid day meal served, no. of children served meals, honorarium paid to cook-cum-helpers etc. The portal also captures information on important parameters like no. of cook-cum-helpers engaged, availability of Infrastructural facilities like Kitchen-cum-stores & Kitchen devices, mode of cooking etc. on annual basis. The data entered into MDM-MIS portal is automatically compiled and all the relevant reports are made available to users at various levels.

4.1.1 Collection of data on Development of School Nutrition Gardens

Development of School Nutrition Gardens in the schools is a major focus area this year. Hence it becomes very important to monitor the progress of development of School Nutrition Gardens in the schools. In order to monitor the same, a functionality will be

developed in the existing MDM-MIS which would capture school wise relevant information on the type of School Nutrition Garden viz. land, rooftop, container etc., convergence with line departments (mapping of Krishi Vigyan Kendras), amount of harvest/produce from garden, availability of fencing, crop calender etc. along with photos of School Nutrition Gardens.

4.1.2 Collection of Data on Health and Nutrition Components:

In order to validate and authenticate the data submitted by States and UTs in Annual Work Plan & Budget, the portal will capture information on number of children screened and referred by mobile health teams, number of children who received IFA tablets, de-worming tablets periodically.

4.2 MDM website: Since MDMS is a daily running scheme, it is of immense importance that various stakeholders of the scheme right from Centre to State to school level are aware of the norms of the scheme as well as modifications/changes made in the scheme as and when they happen. In order to achieve this MDM website is available in public domain without requirement of any login credentials. The website contains documents related to release of central assistance to the States and UTs; State and UT wise allocation of food grains; best practices followed by States and UTs in implementation of the scheme; documents related to Programme Approval Board meetings; guidelines for implementation of Mid Day Meal scheme; relevant reports on observations of joint review mission, important notifications, circulars, office orders. The website will be revamped and the user interface of the website will be improvised in order to make it more user-friendly. Further, in order to monitor the various schemes under Department of School Education and Literacy, the MDM website will be linked with the websites of MHRD as well as Samagra Shiksha.

4.3 Automated Monitoring System (AMS): The Automated Monitoring System (AMS) is in place to monitor the scheme on near real time basis. AMS is used to report and monitor online, the daily number of meals served at School level and the reasons, if meals are not served. The data is being collected by States and UTs by different communication modes (like SMS, IVRS, Mobile APPs, Online web applications) and

then sent to NIC central server in a predefined format which is shown on the portal being maintained by NIC. Based on the data collected, various drill down dashboard reports are made available for real time monitoring of the scheme at National/State/District/Block level. In order to improve the proportion of coverage of schools under AMS, email alerts are also being sent to States and UTs regarding implementation of AMS. Further State and UT wise automatic alerts are also being sent about the implementation of MDMS on daily basis. Following steps are being taken to improve the percentage of schools reporting daily data on AMS:

S. No.	Proposed strategy to increase the coverage	Action Plan
1.	Benchmark based SMS notifications.	Based on the level of performance of States as per AMS, SMS may be sent to officers right from the level of MDM coordinators to State Secretaries.
2.	Training and review of district level officials (on the lines of MDM-MIS) in poor performing (below 40%) States/UTs	• Collation of data on mode of data collection by States i.e. SMS/IVRS/Mobile/Web App. And agencies involved in data collection i.e. State-NIC/ HP-NIC/Other agencies • Ensuring preparation of State specific training modules/ review proforma as per agency/mode of data collection. • Training of district level officials. • Discussion on technical issues faced by States/UTs & districts. • Resolution of issues.
3.	Bulk SMS to teachers.	Periodic bulk SMS to teachers using NIC-SMS gateway to ensure that they send daily data.

4.4 Integration of database of Mid Day Meal Scheme with Samagra Shiksha:

In order to monitor various schemes under Department of School Education and Literacy uniformally, the database of Mid Day Meal Scheme needs to linked with Samagra Shiksha. Following activities are proposed to be carried out for the linking purpose:

a) UDISE +

i) Mapping of school directory available in MDM-MIS with UDISE+

ii) Sharing the data of major indicators viz. coverage of children, working days, availability of kitchen-cum-stores, kitchen devices with UDISE+.

iii) GIS mapping: GIS school mapping is new feature of UDISE+ which integrates Geo-spacial database with UDISE+ data. This application is already being developed under Samagra Shiksha. Under this application, along with attributes of Samagra Shikshka, identified parameters of MDMS viz. coverage of children, working days, availability of kitchen-cum-stores, kitchen devices, availability of kitchen gardens (mapping with Krishi Vigyan Kendras) will also be added. This will enable the department to categorize, locate, identify the schools, villages, blocks, districts, States and UTs on the basis of their performance as per various parameters of MDMS.

iv) Data captured through MDM-MIS and AMS will be verified using Third Party verification mobile app by officers at National (MHRD) level, Autonomous bodies under department of School Education and Literacy i.e. CBSE, NCERT, NVS, JVS etc. and organizations involved in education, State, District and Block level departments. In addition, the App will be used by the Principlas/Headmsters/Headteachers, School Management Committees, Cluster Resource Centres, Block Resource Centres, District Education Officers. The responses received from all these sources would be stored in the database for purpose of comparison with data collected through MIS and AMS. This will help in ensuring accuracy and validity of data uploaded. NIC has already been entrusted to develop this application for Samagra Shiksha. The same application will also capture data on parameters related to Mid Day Meal.

b) **Performance Grading Index (PGI):** MDM parameters

The PGI is an analysis of the performance of States and UTs based on specific indicators. Two parameters of MDM i.e. coverage of children against PAB

approval and coverage of working days are already part of 70 parameters under PGI on the basis of which States and UTs are graded. In order to generate district wise PGI reports, district wise data of these two MDM related parameters will also be provided.

c) **Shagun Repository:**

The Shagun portal encapsulates all facets of school education and is a one stop shop portal for all information this regard. High quality videos, images, testimonial depicting best practices related to MDM received from State and UTs will also be uploaded on Shagun website after requisite approval process.

d) **Shagunotsav:**

In addition to Automated Monitoring System (AMS) and other regular field visits, an audit of all schools would be carried out sometime from August to September, 2019 titled 'Shagunotsav'. In addition to paramers of Samagra Siksha, this audit will include all aspects of MDM programme. Further all the reports from various persons as decided for 'Samagra Shiksha' will include issues pertaining to the Mid-Day Meal Scheme also.

5. In the PAB meeting held on 2nd May 2019, NIC gave a detailed presentation on each of these items and projected a fund requirement of Rs. 52.56 lakhs. The estimates were based on the requirements of existing man power and additional manpower to be hired from National Informatics Centre Services Inc. (NICSI) at rates approved by NICSI and the hardware and software which would be procured through GeM.

6. DE&IT (now MeitY), vide its dated 18.06.2014 and 10.02.2015 has designated NICSI, a PSU under its administrative control, to undertake paid Information and Communications Technology (ICT) related projects of various Ministries directly or on behalf of NIC. NICSI, as per the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) approved by MeitY, is mandated to empanel consultants by following procedures which are in compliance with the General Financial Rules (GFR).

7. Details of Funds Sanctioned and Releases details during the F.Y.:2018-19 to NIC/NICSI is given as under:

Sr. No.	Component	Rs. In lakhs
1.	Total amount sanctioned during the F.Y. 2018-19	27.80
2.	Total amount released during F.Y. 2018-19	23.20

8. Based on the availability of funds and the justification of rates given at para 6 above, PAB approved an amount of Rs. 52.56 lakhs for 2019-20 with project-wise details for Software Design, Development, Maintenance, Enhancement and Support. The details are as under:

Sr. No.	Component	Activity*	Estimated Cost (Rs. In Lakhs)
1.	**For redesign of MDM website and interlinking with Samagra Shiksha Website**	Development of Content management system and integration	12.00
		Compliance to Guidelines of Indian Government Websites (GIGW)	
2.	**AMS, MIS portal and integration with UDISE+**	Maintenance of portal	24.77
		Aligning master and transaction data with UDISE+	8.75
		Hardware	1.18
		Security audit	2.50
		Capacity building/ training modules/ training and orientation for onboarding of States/UTs	1.00
3.	**SMS Services**	SMS Services for : a) Benchmark based SMS notifications for AMS b) National Award to Teachers	2.36
	Total		52.56**

*** includes NICSI administrative charges @7% and GST@18%*

**The projects will be executed through NICSI empaneled Vendors, empaneled for the application, website development and enhancement, consulting services, implementing*

agencies, cloud support, certifications agency for security and quality in manpower or outsource model. The rate of manpower per man months is based on the currently applicable rates for NICSI empaneled agencies.

9. The fund requirement for 2019-20 is Rs. 52.56 lakhs which includes NICSI administrative charges @7% and Goods & Services Tax(GST) @18%. Fund release will be subject to adjustment of unspent balance available with NICSI. The funds are to be released in favour of NICSI, New Delhi.

10. NIC will follow the procedures for execution of the above projects as governed by office order dated 18th June, 2014 and 10th February, 2015 of DE & IT (now MeitY). Also NIC to follow SOP dated 26th April, 2016 of NICSI for assigning work to Empaneled Consultancy Agencies.

11. The requirement of fund for these projects will be met from Professional Services head of account under National Component.

The meeting ended with vote of thanks to the chair.

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