



भारत सरकार
शिक्षा मंत्रालय
स्कूल शिक्षा और साक्षरता विभाग
शास्त्री भवन

नई दिल्ली – 110 115

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION & LITERACY

SHASTRI BHAVAN

NEW DELHI-110 115

R. C. MEENA
Joint Secretary (EE.I)
Tel. No.23389247

D.O.No.9-1/2022-PM POSHAN 2-1

Dated the 13th January, 2022

Respected Sir / Madam ,

As you are aware that the Central Government has approved implementation of Centrally Sponsored Scheme Pradhan Mantri Poshan Shakti Nirman (PM POSHAN) upto 2025-26 with the financial outlay of ₹ 54061.73 crores from the Central Government and ₹ 31733.17 crore from State Govt. & UT Administrations. Government of India will also bear additional cost of about ₹ 45000 crore on food grains through subsidy. All the components under the existing scheme alongwith extension of the Scheme to children of preparatory classes or Balvatika (that is before class I) in primary schools have been approved.

2. You may appreciate the importance of a robust and dynamic management structure at all levels for a Programme of the scale and magnitude of the PM POSHAN Scheme. At the National Level, the Department of School Education and Literacy has established a system of Programme Approval Board- PM POSHAN (PAB - PM POSHAN) under the chairpersonship of Secretary. The PAB - PM POSHAN comprising of experts and representatives from various Ministries/Departments of the Government of India meets every year to

- i. To review the status and progress of the implementation of PM POSHAN Scheme in the respective State / UT.
- ii. To consider and approve the Annual Work Plan and Budget (AWP&B) proposals for implementation of PM POSHAN Scheme for the coming financial year submitted by the State / UT.

3. I would like to inform you that it has been decided to hold the meetings of PAB - PM POSHAN for 2022-23 as per the schedule attached at Annexure. In order to enable us to appraise the AWP&B 2022-23, the States and UTs are required to submit their AWP&B proposals in the prescribed formats within the stipulated time frame.

4. You may appreciate that several new interventions have been envisaged to be rolled out under the revamped scheme to achieve enhanced effectiveness and efficiency gains. Accordingly, the following special nutrition interventions need to be focused upon:

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i) **Bal Vatika:** Provision of hot cooked meal to children studying in Balvatika (that is before class I) in primary schools at the food and nutritional norms applicable for primary classes.

ii) **Tithi Bhojan:** The concept of Tithi Bhojan is being encouraged extensively. The Concept of “Tithi Bhojan”, a community participation programme was originally initiated by the State Government of Gujarat under the erstwhile Mid- Day Meal Scheme by relying on the Indian traditional practice of providing food to large number of people on special occasions such as festivals, anniversaries, birthdays, marriages, and days of national importance etc. Efforts may be made through discussion during the School Management Committee (SMC) meetings regarding the identification of potential donors of the area and to approach them for involvement in Tithi Bhojan.

Tithi Bhojan is completely voluntary, and people in the community contribute either a complete full meal or contribute nutritious food items in the form of sweets, namkeens, fruits or sprouts etc. as an additional item. Tithi Bhojan is not a substitute to school meal. This only supplements or complements the meal provided in the school. Efforts may be made to provide Tithi Bhojan atleast once in a month.

iii) **School Nutrition Gardens:** Strengthen the efforts being made to promote development of School Nutrition Gardens in schools to give children first hand experience with nature and gardening irrespective of availability of land. The produce of these gardens may be used in preparing hot cooked meals in schools. Convergence may be established with Department of Rural Development for labour component, Department of Agriculture, Krishi Vigyan Kendras for seed, seedlings, provision of manure and tools required for setting up of SNGs.

iv) **Social Audit:** The importance of Social Audit has been consistently emphasized by this Department. It is reiterated that under provisions of section 28 of National Food Security Act, 2013 Social Audit of the implementation of the scheme is mandatory. Accordingly, State and UTs are advised to conduct social audit in all districts. It would be financially prudent and administratively advisable to undertake Social Audit of implementation of PM POSHAN Scheme through convergence by utilizing the services of Social Audit Units (SAU) set up under MNREGS. As the process of preparation of AWP&B is about to start, you are advised to closely coordinate with Department of Rural Development for preparing the Annual Social Audit plan for 2022-23.

v) **Provision of Fortified Rice:** Consumption of fortified food items reduces the risk of **Hidden Hunger** (deficiency of micronutrients). As you are aware FCI has already started supplying fortified rice. The cost of fortification is borne by the Govt. of India. Please ensure that Fair Average Quality fortified rice is lifted regularly as per the State's Foodgrain lifting schedule duly following the extant guidelines in this regard like joint inspection at the time of lifting of foodgrains, keeping of 3 samples etc.

vi) **Varied menu under PM POSHAN:** You may encourage and empower school managements to seek local support for drawing out varied, but wholesome and nutritious menus. You are also requested to adopt ways to develop a varied menu that uses local

produce reflecting local taste. It is also important to choose a variety of food items from within each food group in Menu because different foods provide different types and amounts of key nutrients. Choosing a variety of foods will help to make meals interesting, thereby encouraging the children to enthusiastically partake the meal. Inclusion of green leafy vegetables in the meal is of utmost importance to reduce the prevalence of anaemia. Superfoods like Drumstick (Moringa), Spinach leaves etc may be included in the meal as these are good sources of iron that help reduce levels of anaemia.

vii) Vocal for Local: You are requested to promote the concept of Vocal for local by encouraging the following:

- a. Usage of locally grown food items like millets, vegetables, condiments etc. may be systematically undertaken by States/UTs under the Scheme.
- b. Enhanced involvement of Farmers' Producers Organizations, Women's Self-Help Groups etc. in implementation of the Scheme.
- c. Empowerment of District Collector / District Magistrate to decide menu suitable to the local conditions within the prescribed nutrition and food norms and to procure locally grown food items from Farmers Producers Organizations, Women's Self-Help Groups etc. so as to promote local employment generation and economic development while simultaneously improving the nutrition standards of students.

viii) Ensure timely and regular payment of honorarium to Cook-cum-Helpers in the lines of DBT directly into their bank accounts from State level.

ix) Ensure transfer of cooking cost directly to the school's bank account in the lines of DBT through State Government directly from State level.

x) Initiate measures to map Nutrition and Health parameters of children at District and Block levels in convergence with Ministry of Health & Family Welfare alongwith extensive monitoring through IT intervention and other methods.

xi) Training of all cook-cum-helpers involving Institutes of Hotel Management & Food Craft Institutes of Ministry of Tourism, Food Safety and Standards Authority of India, etc.

xii) Organize Cooking Competitions in order to motivate cook-cum-helpers towards use of locally available food material and to promote variety menu.

xiii) Make adequate provision for supplementary nutrition in aspirational districts / tribal districts / districts with identified high cases of malnutrition etc. using Flexi Component.

xiv) To prepare annual calendar of activities for **PM POSHAN** Scheme for dissemination of information to popularize the benefits of the Scheme and to make people aware of their rights under the Scheme.

xv) Ensure that every school has a disaster management plan and the same is functional.

xvi) Provision of hot cooked meal or Food Security Allowance to children when schools are closed due to a disaster impacting the state/UT, part of state/UT, some states/UTs or whole country as maybe declared by the state/central government under its powers as Disaster Management Authority.

xvii) Financial Management: As you are aware the new Public Financial Management System (PFMS) is operational regarding release and utilization of funds. You are requested to ensure that all the requisite conditionalities and activities envisaged under the new system, as per the directions of Ministry of Finance, are complied with for smooth and seamless implementation of the scheme. You are also requested to ensure that the Central Assistance alongwith matching State share is released within stipulated time lines to the State Nodal Agency (SNA), and further to all Implementing Agencies (IA) for effective implementation of the scheme. You may appreciate that such timely action would help the Central Government to process timely releases of grants.

xviii) Convergence:

a) Strengthen the existing system of health check-ups, immunization and health cards for 100% school going children in convergence with Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. Also prepare detailed month wise calendar for health checkups and distribution of IFA tablets, de-worming tablets etc.

b) Undertake convergence with Ministry of Women and Child Development with reference to Bal Vatika and co-located schools.

c) The States and UTs may procure pulses as per their local taste for the **PM POSHAN** scheme from the Central buffer stock created by the Government of India.

xix) Community mobilization:

a) Encourage and promote community participation in the lines of concept of Tithi Bhojan.

b) Strengthen the existing system of tasting of meals by parents / teachers / community members before serving to children.

xx) Monitoring:

a) Ensure proper management structures at different levels i.e. State, districts and blocks within the existing available funds.

b) Develop an institutionalized mechanism for systematic monitoring and implementation of Scheme including dietary intake, nutrition status, health parameters and Body Mass Index of children. Institutions with domain expertise in nutrition like Food & Nutrition Departments of Central/ State Universities, National Institute of Nutrition etc. may be engaged.

- c) Strengthen the existing IT enabled MIS system using latest digital technologies to closely monitor the programme. The system may also include seamless tracking of health and nutritional status of children from pre-school to elementary school.
 - d) Strengthen IT based grievance redressal system / suggestion system, which empowers parents / students to upload evidences of their experiences with the scheme.
 - e) Take adequate measures for conduct of field inspections by students of eminent Universities / Institutions and also trainee teachers of District Institute of Education Training (DIET) and Regional Institutes of Education (RIE), for enhanced monitoring of implementation of scheme at field level.
 - f) Ensure 3rd party independent monitoring through Food & Nutrition Departments of Central Universities, Agriculture Universities and eminent institutes like National Institute of Nutrition etc. The reports will be share with the Central Government before allocation of resources for the next year.
5. As you are aware, the States and UTs, in the AWP&B provide comprehensive proposals based on number of children to be covered, number of working days, number of Cook-Cum-Helpers to be engaged, requirement for kitchen cum stores, kitchen devices, repair of kitchen cum stores, supplementary nutrition items and School Nutrition Gardens under flexi component etc.

In the AWP&B, States and UTs also provide detailed information on fund flow mechanism, supply chain management of food grains, Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram (RBSK), payment to Food Corporation of India towards the cost of food grains, management structure, payment of honorarium to cook-cum-helpers, testing of meals, Management Information System, best practices followed by the States/UTs etc. in the write up portion of the AWP&B. This year, we have comprehensively revised the formats by suitably adding parameters to capture detailed plan of action for newly envisaged interventions as elucidated above including coverage of children studying in Bal Vatika (i.e. just before class I) in primary schools. You are requested to ensure that the information and plan of action provided by State in these formats adequately reflect the State's commitment and vision to achieve the objectives of the **PM POSHAN** scheme, which is the world's largest school nutrition programme. The information provided in the writeup portion should be elaborate and in sync with the information given in the tables.

In the tabular formats of AWP&B, the States and UTs are required to submit information on the implementation of the scheme during 2021-22 and proposals for 2022-23 by indicating the coverage of institutions and children against enrolment and PAB approval, utilization of allocated funds for i) food grains; ii) cooking cost; iii) transport assistance; iv) honorarium to cook-cum-helpers; v) Management, Monitoring and Evaluation (MME); vi) kitchen-cum-stores; vii) kitchen devices; viii) testing of meals; ix) coverage of institutions through centralized kitchens of civil society organizations; x) conduct of Social Audit; xiii) Capacity building of various stake holders; xiv) Community participation; xv) Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram (RBSK)

of Ministry of Health & Family Welfare; xvi) action taken for operationalization of MDM Rules; xvii) Development of School Nutrition Gardens etc.

6. Under flexibility component States and UTs may utilize, 5% of their Annual Work Plan & Budget for new interventions i.e. supplementary nutrition and School Nutrition Gardens etc., provided they are not included under any other Central or State Schemes and there is no overlapping of activities. However, as availability of funds under flexi component is limited, States and UTs may give priority to supplementary nutrition in aspirational districts / tribal districts / districts with identified high cases of malnutrition etc. under flexi component. Development of School Nutrition Gardens may preferably be undertaken through convergence with Department of Rural Development, Department of Agriculture etc. You are requested to submit detailed information on the proposed interventions as required in write up portion of AWP&B.
7. You may agree that continuous monitoring is very crucial for the smooth implementation of the scheme. Similarly, wider awareness generation is of utmost importance. Several innovative practices have been adopted in different States. Good quality short videos, documentation of such innovations and other important aspects i.e. display of entitlements of children, training of stakeholders etc. of scheme may be prepared and the same may be disseminated across the State for wider benefits. This will also help in awareness generation among masses and make stakeholders aware of their rights. States and UTs are advised to prepare a comprehensive Plan for Management, Monitoring and Evaluation (MME) component under the scheme. For achieving better outcomes, States and UTs are also advised to prepare an Annual calendar of activities clearly laying down timelines for different activities. In order to strengthen the existing monitoring apparatus, you may also constitute Multi Level Monitoring Teams drawing personnel from State level to school level for effective monitoring including visits to districts for cross pollination of best practices. State specific ToRs may be appropriately designed for this purpose.
8. Please ensure that the AWP&B for 2022-23 is submitted after due approval by the **State Level Steering-cum-Monitoring Committee (SSMC)**. As per the extant guidelines you are also requested to invite representative of this Department for meeting of SSMC. A confirmation may also be made in respect of the following:
 - i. The State is e-transferring the funds to all schools.
 - ii. 100% payment of cost of food grains has been made to Food Corporation of India up to the previous month.
 - iii. All bills of FCI for the previous years have been paid. If the payment of these bills are pending with the States/UTs, the reasons for the same may be indicated.
 - iv. All the cook-cum-helpers have been paid honorarium on monthly basis through e-transfer in to their bank accounts. If bank accounts of CCH have not been opened, the reasons for same may be given.
 - v. Quarterly Progress Reports of first three quarters of 2021-22 are submitted.
 - vi. Automated Monitoring System (AMS) has been operationalized in 100% schools.
 - vii. Annual and Monthly data entry for 2021-22 has been completed in MIS.
 - viii. Emergency Medical Plan as well as disaster management plan is in place in all schools.
 - ix. Action Taken Note on the commitments given by the State during PAB meetings of 2021-22 has been furnished to Ministry of Education.

- x. Comprehensive MME Plan has been submitted by the State.
- xi. Action Taken Report on all pending complaints / grievances.

9. Please ensure that the AWP&B is submitted duly signed by the State/UTs Secretary, Education/Nodal Department for implementation of **PM POSHAN** Scheme on or before the scheduled date of submission. The State Plan along with all District Plans should also be **uploaded on the MIS portal** as per extant practice.

10. You may advise the concerned officers to go through the formats of the State/District Plans for preparing a comprehensive Annual Work Plan & Budget 2022-23. The blank copies of the formats may be downloaded from our official website. These formats should be filled carefully by providing all the relevant information envisaged thereunder. Any incomplete information in the write up portion or formats would delay the appraisal of the AWP&B 2022-23. In case any guidance is required, the concerned officers may contact the respective Director / Deputy Secretary or other members of respective appraisal teams. You are also requested to submit the AWP&B 2021-22 in digital mode /electronic mode after ensuring that the plan has been approved by SSMC.

11. Lastly, you are requested to ensure that regular sanitization of the cooking area and proper cleaning of the edible items are made duly following the protocols of COVID-19 before and during cooking, at the time of serving and for sitting arrangement of students during eating. The children may be encouraged to wash their hands before and after meal. In this context you may also refer to, detailed guidelines on 'Health and Safety Protocols to be followed for providing hot cooked meals during the pandemic times' issued by Government of India.

Let us join hands to prepare Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic, Time bound (SMART) action plans and actively implement them towards achieving the objectives of the scheme with sustained improvements in nutritional status of children.

With regards,

Yours Sincerely,



(R. C. MEENA)

To

1. The Additional Chief Secretaries / Principal Secretaries / Secretaries Education or the Nodal Department for implementation of **PM POSHAN** scheme in all States and UTs.
2. Administrative Head of NIC and TSG-PM POSHAN, EdCIL

Copy to:

- i. Commissioner / Director (**PM POSHAN**) of all States/UTs.
- ii. PPS to Secretary (SE&L).
- iii. Dir(GVB) / Dir(RA) / DS(DA).

Pradhan Mantri Poshan Shakti Nirman (PM POSHAN)

Annual Work Plan & Budget (AWP&B) – 2022-23

Schedule of Appraisal and PAB-PM POSHAN meetings

S. No.	Name of State/UT	AWP&B Submission Date	Appraisal Window		PAB-MDM Meeting Date	Meeting Time	Appraisal Team
			Commencement	Completion			
	NIC	01.02.2022	02.02.2022	06.02.2022	08.02.2022 (Tuesday)	10:00 to 11:00 Hrs	Mr G Vijaya Bhaskar - Director
	TSG-PM POSHAN					11:00 to 12:00 Hrs	Mr G Vijaya Bhaskar - Director
1	Andhra Pradesh	01.02.2022	02.02.2022	08.02.2022	11.02.2022 (Friday)	10:00 to 11:00 Hrs	Mr G Vijaya Bhaskar - Director Mr Bhupendra Kumar - Chief Consultant
2	Kerala					11:00 to 12:00 Hrs	Mr G Vijaya Bhaskar - Director Dr Anindita Shukla - Chief Consultant
3	DNH & DD					12:00 to 12:30 Hrs	Ms Ritu Aggarwal - Director Mr Dinesh Pradhan - Senior Consultant
4	A&N Islands					12:30 to 13:00 Hrs	Ms Ritu Aggarwal - Director Dr Mridula Sircar - Chief Consultant
5	Chandigarh					13.00 to 13.30 Hrs	Ms Ritu Aggarwal - Director Mr Sunil Sinha - Chief Consultant
6	Odisha	05.02.2022	06.02.2022	13.02.2022	15.02.2022 (Tuesday)	10:00 to 11:00 Hrs	Mr G Vijaya Bhaskar - Director Mr Bhupendra Kumar - Chief Consultant
7	Haryana					11:00 to 12:00 Hrs	Ms Deepa Anand - Deputy Secretary Mr Davander Kumar - Consultant
8	Puducherry					12:00 to 12:30 Hrs	Ms Ritu Aggarwal - Director Dr Mridula Sircar - Chief Consultant
9	Ladakh					12:30 to 13:00 Hrs	Ms Ritu Aggarwal - Director Mr Dinesh Pradhan - Senior Consultant
10	Lakshadweep					13.00 to 13.30 Hrs	Ms Ritu Aggarwal - Director Dr Mridula Sircar - Chief Consultant

S. No.	Name of State/UT	AWP&B Submission Date	Appraisal Window		PAB-MDM Meeting Date	Meeting Time	Appraisal Team
			Commencement	Completion			
11	Telangana	07.02.2022	08.02.2022	15.02.2022	17.02.2022 (Thursday)	10:00 to 11:00 Hrs	Mr G Vijaya Bhaskar - Director Mr Bhupendra Kumar - Chief Consultant
12	Gujarat					11:00 to 12:00 Hrs	Ms Deepa Anand - Deputy Secretary Dr Anindita Shukla - Chief Consultant
13	Himachal Pradesh					12:00 to 13:00 Hrs	Ms Ritu Aggarwal - Director Mr Sunil Sinha - Chief Consultant
14	Nagaland					13:00 to 13:30 Hrs	Ms Ritu Aggarwal - Director Mr Sunil Sinha - Chief Consultant
15	Madhya Pradesh	12.02.2022	13.02.2022	20.02.2022	22.02.2022 (Tuesday)	10:00 to 11:00 Hrs	Mr G Vijaya Bhaskar - Director Mr Davander Kumar - Consultant
16	Assam					11:00 to 12:00 Hrs	Ms Ritu Aggarwal - Director Dr Mridula Sircar - Chief Consultant
17	Sikkim					12:00 to 12:30 Hrs	Ms Ritu Aggarwal - Director Dr Mridula Sircar - Chief Consultant
18	Jammu & Kashmir					12:30 to 13:00 Hrs	Ms Ritu Aggarwal - Director Mr Dinesh Pradhan - Senior Consultant
19	Mizoram					13:00 to 13:30 Hrs	Ms Ritu Aggarwal - Director Mr Sunil Sinha - Chief Consultant
20	Bihar	14.02.2022	15.02.2022	22.02.2022	24.02.2022 (Thursday)	10:00 to 11:00 Hrs	Ms Deepa Anand - Deputy Secretary Dr Anindita Shukla - Chief Consultant
21	Maharashtra					11:00 to 12:00 Hrs	Mr G Vijaya Bhaskar - Director Mr Bhupendra Kumar - Chief Consultant
22	Tripura					12:00 to 12:30 Hrs	Ms Ritu Aggarwal - Director Dr Mridula Sircar - Chief Consultant
23	Arunachal Pradesh					12:30 to 13:00 Hrs	Ms Ritu Aggarwal - Director Mr Dinesh Pradhan - Senior Consultant
24	Meghalaya					13:00 to 13:30 Hrs	Ms Ritu Aggarwal - Director Dr Mridula Sircar - Chief Consultant
25	Chhattisgarh	18.02.2022	19.02.2022	26.02.2022	28.02.2022	10:00 to 11:00 Hrs	Mr G Vijaya Bhaskar - Director

S. No.	Name of State/UT	AWP&B Submission Date	Appraisal Window		PAB-MDM Meeting Date	Meeting Time	Appraisal Team
			Commencement	Completion			
					(Monday)		Mr Bhupendra Kumar - Chief Consultant
26	Tamil Nadu					11:00 to 12:00 Hrs	Mr G Vijaya Bhaskar - Director Dr Anindita Shukla - Chief Consultant
27	West Bengal					12:00 to 13:00 Hrs	Ms Deepa Anand - Deputy Secretary Mr Dinesh Pradhan - Senior Consultant
28	Delhi					13:00 to 13:30 Hrs	Ms Ritu Aggarwal - Director Dr Mridula Sircar - Chief Consultant
29	Rajasthan	23.02.2022	24.02.2022	01.03.2022	03.03.2022 (Thursday)	10:00 to 11:00 Hrs	Mr G Vijaya Bhaskar - Director Mr Bhupendra Kumar - Chief Consultant
30	Karnataka					11:00 to 12:00 Hrs	Mr G Vijaya Bhaskar - Director Dr Anindita Shukla - Chief Consultant
31	Jharkhand					12:00 to 13:00 Hrs	Ms Deepa Anand - Deputy Secretary Mr Dinesh Pradhan - Senior Consultant
32	Uttar Pradesh	05.03.2022	06.03.2022	12.03.2022	15.03.2022 (Tuesday)	10:00 to 11:00 Hrs	Mr G Vijaya Bhaskar - Director Mr Davander Kumar - Consultant
33	Punjab					11:00 to 12:00 Hrs	Mr G Vijaya Bhaskar - Director Mr Davander Kumar - Consultant
34	Uttarakhand					12:00 to 13:00 Hrs	Ms Ritu Aggarwal - Director Mr Sunil Sinha - Chief Consultant
35	Goa					13:00 to 13:30 Hrs	Mr G Vijaya Bhaskar - Director Mr Davander Kumar - Consultant
36	Manipur					13:30 to 14:00 Hrs	Ms Ritu Aggarwal - Director Mr Sunil Sinha - Chief Consultant
	Reserve Day				24.03.2022 (Thursday)		