



Anandrao V. Patil
Joint Secretary
Tele:- 011-23383226

DO. No: 9-9/2023-PMP-4

Dated the 29th November, 2023

Subject: PAB-PM POSHAN Meetings regarding AWP&B 2024-25 from January, 2024

Dear Ma'am/Sir,

You may be aware that Government of India implements the Centrally Sponsored Scheme Pradhan Mantri Poshan Shakti Nirman (PM POSHAN) in partnership with States and UTs. The scheme benefits about 12 crore children studying in Bal Vatika (just before class I) and Classes I-VIII in 10.76 lakh Government and Government-Aided Schools.

2. For a scheme of such humongous reach where meals are to be cooked and provided to all eligible children on all school days in every school across the country, a comprehensive plan with clearly laid down procedures and activities is of paramount importance. Accordingly, PM POSHAN Scheme assigns importance to the preparation of Annual Work Plan & Budget (AWP&B) by States & UTs based on information maintained at school level and aggregated at Block, District and State levels. The Scheme emphasises on bottom-up approach of planning. The AWP&B framework is designed in such a manner that on one hand it covers aspects of current status of implementation of scheme and on the other hand it provides space for proposal of State for the coming year highlighting their vision on various important aspects like monitoring mechanism, fund flow mechanism, supply chain management of foodgrains, social audit, development of school nutrition gardens, community involvement, management structure, implementation processes, innovative interventions etc.

3. As you are aware AWP&B is very important core aspect of PM POSHAN Scheme and you are requested to give high priority to the same. At the National Level the **Programme Approval Board - PM POSHAN** under the chairmanship of Secretary, Dept of School Education & Literacy and comprising representatives from various Ministries/Departments of the Government of India meets every year :



- 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 AWP&B proposals submitted by the State / UT for implementation of **PM POSHAN** Scheme for the ensuing financial year.

4. As you are well aware that the Public Financial Management System (PFMS) is operational regarding release and utilization of funds. States & UTs are requested to ensure that all the requisite conditionalities and activities envisaged under PFMS, as prescribed by Ministry of Finance and shared with you earlier, are complied with for smooth and seamless release of funds facilitating better implementation of the scheme. During 2023-24 considerable delay has been observed in submission of proposals by States, complete in all respects as envisaged under PFMS, causing avoidable delay in release of central assistance. In order to avoid this delay and further streamline the process of release of funds in a smooth and timely manner, it has been decided to advance the meetings of PAB – PM POSHAN in a manner that proceedings for all States and UTs are completed before 31st March, 2024. This will facilitate States & UTs to submit proposals for release of central assistance and subsequent release of first installment in the month of April, 2024 itself in view of the fact that the system of release of ad-hoc grant has been discontinued.

5. I am happy to inform you that the meetings of the PAB-PM POSHAN for FY 2024-25 will be conducted early in January, 2024 for finalizing the AWP&B and smooth release of funds and implementation of the scheme as per the schedule attached (Annexure). You are requested to submit AWP&B proposals in the prescribed formats on or before 27.12.2023 in order to enable us to complete the appraisal process in time for further action. Any delay in submitting proposals may also delay further process and will hamper release of funds.

6. The following interventions / activities need special attention and detailed planning of activities alongwith specific time lines for clearly laid out milestones to be achieved :

- i. **Social Audit** is a very effective tool to promote transparency and accountability in the implementation of the scheme by informing and educating people about their rights and entitlements. Social Audit of the implementation of the PM POSHAN scheme is mandatory as per the provisions of section 28 of National Food Security Act, 2013. Accordingly, comprehensive guidelines have been issued to conduct social audit by States / UTs in each district in atleast 20 schools or 2% schools,

- whichever is higher. You are requested to submit details of social audit conducted in your State / UT and also the action plan for FY 2024-25.
- ii. **Health Checkup** of all students covered under PM POSHAN Scheme is important not only from scheme aspect but also for overall development of children. The health checkup is to be conducted through Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram (RBSK) in coordination with Health & Family Welfare Department at State level. It is important to have 100% school children immunization and periodical update of health cards. You are requested to submit details of health checkups carried out at school level and monthly action plan for health checkups in FY 2024-25.
 - iii. **School Nutrition Gardens** (SNG) promotes first hand experience with nature and gardening among children while also providing additional micro nutrients in the school meal. For developing SNGs States & UTs are encouraged to establish convergence with Department of Rural Development for labour component; Department of Agriculture & Krishi Vigyan Kendras for seed, seedlings, provision of manure and tools. You are requested to provide details on how many school nutrition gardens have been developed / under progress and the action plan for FY 2024-25.
 - iv. Dept. of Consumer Affairs, Govt of India has offered to supply **Chana Dal** under centrally sponsored scheme at highly subsidized rates. States and UTs are encouraged to use pulses for the PM POSHAN scheme sourced at a subsidized rate from the Central buffer stock created by the Government of India.
 - v. **Farmers Producers Organizations** and **Women's Self-Help Groups** may be encouraged by sourcing locally grown food items from them. This will promote local employment generation and economic development while simultaneously improving the nutrition standards of students. You are requested to submit a status report on this and action plan for FY 2024-25.
 - vi. Promote the concept of **Vocal for local** by encouraging the usage of locally grown food items like millets, vegetables, condiments etc. You may apprise us about the progress in this regard.
 - vii. **Organize Cooking Competitions** in order to motivate cook-cum-helpers towards use of locally available food material and to promote variety menu. The winners of these competitions may be suitably rewarded. You are requested to provide details on organization of cooking competitions at various levels and action plan for FY 2024-25.
 - viii. **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. You are requested to provide details on how many cooks have been trained and the action plan for FY 2024-25.

- ix. **Tithi Bhojan** is a community participation programme in which additional food items/full meal is provided on special occasions such as festivals, anniversaries, birthdays, marriages, and days of national importance etc. to school children by community. This is an initiative to provide supplementary nutrition and also serves as a good means to build immunity and to help reduce the levels of malnutrition among school children. This concept is being implemented in various States under distinct local names. In order to encourage more donors, an IT based solution may be designed to supplement the community based initiatives.
- x. States are encouraged to develop **varied menu under PM POSHAN** that uses local produce reflecting local taste. As different foods provide different types and amounts of key nutrients it is pertinent to include a variety of food items from each food group in the menu. Serving a variety of food items 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 they are good sources of iron that help reduce levels of anaemia. You are requested to share details of menu under PM POSHAN Scheme in your State / UT.
- xi. **Supplementary Nutrition items as** approved by the PAB need to be provided in the current year while making adequate provision for supplementary nutrition in aspirational districts / tribal districts / districts with greater prevalence of malnutrition etc. during 2024-25 under flexibility component. You are requested to provide details on provision of supplementary nutrition during FY 2023-24 and action plan for FY 2024-25.
- xii. **Strengthen the monitoring** of the scheme implementation by involving eminent Institutions with domain expertise in nutrition like Food & Nutrition Departments of Central / State Universities, National Institute of Nutrition etc. Develop system for seamless tracking of health and nutritional status of children from pre-school to elementary school. You are requested to provide details of monitoring activities carried out during FY 2023-24 and the action plan for FY 2024-25.

7. The AWP&B comprises of two distinct parts i) writeup part and ii) tables. In the write up portion of AWP&B, States and UTs provide detailed information and processes on all aspects of implementation of scheme like fund flow mechanism, supply chain management of food grains, system for cooking and serving of meals, menu, Social Audit,

School Nutrition Garden, testing of meals, MIS, best practices followed by the States/UTs etc.

In the tabular formats of AWP&B, the States and UTs are required to submit data on the implementation of the scheme this year during **April to November, 2023** and proposals for FY 2024-25 by indicating the coverage of institutions and children against enrolment and PAB approval, utilization of allocated funds for i) food grains; ii) Material 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) conduct of Social Audit; x) RBSK; xi) School Nutrition Gardens etc.

It is requested to ensure that the information and action plan provided by State sufficiently reflect their commitment to achieve the objectives of the PM POSHAN scheme. Adequate attention may be given to ensure that the information provided in the writeup portion is self-explanatory and in sync with the data given in the tables.

8. You are also requested to ensure the following before final submission of the AWP&B FY 2024-25 :

- i. 100% completion of Annual and Monthly data entry in MIS upto November, 2023.
- ii. Operationalization of Automated Monitoring System (AMS) in 100% schools.
- iii. Submission of Quarterly Progress Reports (April to June, July to Sept. & Oct – Nov) of FY 2023-24.
- iv. Emergency Medical Plan as well as disaster management plan is in place in all schools.
- v. Action Taken Note on the commitments given by the State during PAB meetings of FY 2023-24.
- vi. Submission of Comprehensive MME Plan.
- vii. Action Taken Report on all pending complaints / grievances.

Further, you are also requested to ensure that AWP&B for FY 2024-25 complying with the above points is submitted after due approval by the State Steering-cum-Monitoring Committee (SSMC). As per the extant guidelines it is requested to invite representative of this Department to attend meeting of SSMC.

9. Please ensure that the AWP&B is submitted duly signed by the State/UT Secretary, Education/Nodal Department for implementation of PM POSHAN Scheme **on or before 27.12.2023**. Detailed appraisal would be conducted with State teams as per the schedule

(Annexure). On need basis, pre-PAB meetings may also be held within the appraisal window.

10. The AWP&B 2024-25 formats may be downloaded from 'PAB-PM POSHAN Meetings' tab on our official website i.e. <https://pmposhan.education.gov.in/>. These formats are required to be filled carefully by providing all the relevant information envisaged there under. Any incomplete information in the formats would hinder the appraisal of the AWP&B 2024-25. In case any guidance is required, the concerned officers may contact the respective Director / Deputy Secretary or Principal Chief Consultant / Senior Consultant. The State AWP&B along with all District Plans are also required to be uploaded on the Scheme's MIS portal i.e. <https://pmposhan-mis.education.gov.in/>.

In view of the above you are requested to bestow your personal attention and prepare comprehensive AWP&Bs for providing nutritious hot cooked meals to all eligible children in a healthy and safe manner.

With Regards.

Yours Sincerely,

Anand Patil
29th Nov 23

(Anandrao V. Patil)

Encl.: As above

To,

The Additional Chief Secretaries / Principal Secretaries / Secretaries Education or the Nodal Department for implementation of PM POSHAN scheme in all States and UTs.

Copy to:

- i) Commissioner / Director (PM POSHAN) of all States/UTs.
- ii) DS / Director in PM POSHAN, Dept. of School Education & Literacy, MoE

Pradhan Mantri Poshan Shakti Nirman (PM POSHAN)

Annual Work Plan & Budget (AWP&B) – 2024-25

Schedule of Appraisal and PAB - PM POSHAN meetings

S. No.	Name of State/UT	Appraisal Window		PAB Meeting Date	Meeting Time
		Commencement	Completion		
1	Andhra Pradesh	28.12.2023	06.01.2024	09.01.2024 (Tuesday)	10:30 to 11:30 Hrs
2	Tamil Nadu				11:30 to 12:30 Hrs
3	Goa				12:30 to 13:30 Hrs
4	Uttar Pradesh				14:30 to 15:30 Hrs
5	Jharkhand				15:30 to 16:30 Hrs
6	Kerala	29.12.2023	07.01.2024	10.01.2024 (Wednesday)	10:30 to 11:30 Hrs
7	Punjab				11:30 to 12:30 Hrs
8	Arunachal Pradesh				12:30 to 13:30 Hrs
9	Odisha				14:30 to 15:30 Hrs
10	J & K				15:30 to 16:30 Hrs
11	Gujarat	02.01.2024	12.01.2024	16.01.2024 (Tuesday)	10:30 to 11:30 Hrs
12	Assam				11:30 to 12:30 Hrs
13	Uttarakhand				12:30 to 13:30 Hrs
14	Sikkim				14:30 to 15:30 Hrs
15	West Bengal				15:30 to 16:30 Hrs
16	Maharashtra	03.01.2024	13.01.2024	17.01.2024 (Wednesday)	10:30 to 11:30 Hrs
17	DNH&DD				11:30 to 12:00 Hrs
18	Ladakh				12:00 to 12:30 Hrs
19	Delhi				14:30 to 15:30 Hrs
20	Lakshadweep				15:30 to 16:00 Hrs
21	Rajasthan	21.01.2024	02.02.2024	05.02.2024 (Monday)	10:30 to 11:30 Hrs
22	Karnataka				11:30 to 12:30 Hrs
23	Telangana				12:30 to 13:30 Hrs
24	Mizoram				14:30 to 15:30 Hrs
25	Chandigarh				15:30 to 16:00 Hrs
26	Manipur	22.01.2024	03.02.2024	06.02.2024 (Tuesday)	10:30 to 11:30 Hrs
27	Nagaland				11:30 to 12:30 Hrs
28	Tripura				12:30 to 13:30 Hrs
29	Meghalaya				14:30 to 15:30 Hrs
30	A&N Islands				15:30 to 16:00 Hrs
31	Puducherry				16:00 to 16:30 Hrs
32	Bihar	29.01.2024	10.02.2024	13.02.2024 (Thursday)	10:30 to 11:30 Hrs
33	Himachal Pradesh				11:30 to 12:30 Hrs
34	Madhya Pradesh				12:30 to 13:30 Hrs
35	Chhattisgarh				14:30 to 15:30 Hrs
36	Haryana				15:30 to 16:30 Hrs